A volunteer walked out the front doors of Community Hospital to view the new abstract sculpture rising out of the garden. She studied the stainless steel rectangular frame, its open interior like pieces pulled apart or coming together, and said, “I think it’s a couple in love.”

The piece, titled “Spill Proof,” was conceived by artist Matthew Gil, specifically for the garden setting at the entrance to the hospital. He sees it as a vessel, open to all manner of interpretations, including the human body, and all it carries or contains.

“Any time someone looks at the sculpture and finds it gives them something to focus on, helps allow their emotions, or just makes their day a little better, we find that very gratifying,” says Harry Kohn, who, with wife Sunny, made a donation to Montage Health, which made the purchase of the sculpture possible. “Years from now, we will be gone, and the sculpture will still be there, continuing to affect people, who will glance down to see who gave it to the hospital. I think that’s cool.”

After the Kohns learned of the sculpture concept, they met with Gil and Montage Health Art Curator Amy Essick at the garden site where the piece would reside. Gil presented his sketches of the sculpture and they discussed the aesthetics of the space and the feelings it generated in them. The Kohns were enamored with the drawings and felt the artist truly understood the sensibilities of the couple, the community, and the hospital.

“We have long admired Matt Gil’s sculpture, for his uplifting modern aesthetic and high quality craftsmanship,” says Essick. “As we originally considered a Gil sculpture for our Ryan Ranch campus, our priority shifted to honoring the entry to our hospital. For this important welcoming space, Matt designed the perfect piece to greet our community.

“The Kohns immediately understood the happy feeling of Matt’s design and his choice of materials that integrate so well with our mid-century modern building. We are extremely grateful for their enthusiasm and generous gift in bringing this sculpture to our community-donated art collection.”

Harry and Sunny Kohn, whose roots remain in Ohio, have had a home in Pebble Beach since 1997. The couple met in Cleveland 50 years ago and were married months later.

See Harry and Sunny Kohn . . . page 3
Stephen and Patsy Schulte were looking for a change of pace. They just needed to figure out where. An attorney, he was a founding partner with the firm Schulte, Roth & Zabel, and an adjunct professor at Columbia, Fordham and Cardozo schools of law. She was an investment banker at First Boston before becoming deputy controller of finance for New York City. She later earned her law degree at Cardozo School of Law and, after passing the Bar exam, went into education. They didn’t consider Carmel because they didn’t play golf. Until they saw it. They didn’t consider Carmel because they didn’t think they could get used to having an excellent hospital and healthcare system in my area. I am now in my eighth year as a member of the board of trustees of what is now Montage Health.

Last year, I was asked to serve as chair of Montage Health Foundation Board; an affiliate of the Montage Health family. I find this a very exciting challenge and another means by which I can participate in the growth, the range, and the impact of Montage Health — all of which are integral to the community’s vitality.

Why was the Montage Health Foundation created?

The foundation is a stand-alone entity, so we have moved the fundraising, planning, and activities from what was Community Hospital Foundation to a separate affiliate organization, which puts it in alignment with the hospital, Aspire, Community Health Innovations (CHI), Montage Medical Group, and Montage Wellness Center, all part of a network devoted to delivering exceptional care in the community.

Montage Health Foundation is an excellent vehicle for invigorating the culture of philanthropy and increasing support for Montage Health and its related entities. Through new leadership and volunteer opportunities, we can increase our visibility in the community, and augment the importance of fundraising for the Montage Health family. Reports indicate that more than 70 percent of healthcare organizations across the country are using affiliate fundraising entities, which yields a higher and more efficient return on efforts.

What is its mission?

Montage Health Foundation seeks to advance the vision and strategic priorities of Montage Health by inspiring and enhancing philanthropic support for Montage Health and its related entities. Organizing and operation fundraising activities, including strategies, priorities, and programs, all within the new foundation, will permit a greater concentration on fundraising while enabling Montage Health and its other entities to focus on their services.

What do you hope the board will accomplish in its first year?

Our number-one priority was to secure a dynamic chief development officer and we have now done that with the hiring of Kevin Causey. In addition, we currently have a board of 25 members, which we want to build to 33. I want an energized, collaborative, and productive board — people who are committed to board objectives, and are prepared to invest time and energy into making them happen. By year-end, we should have formulated a new fundraising plan, including priorities and objectives.

Our principle objectives are to increase access to healthcare through recruitment of doctors, plus expansion of offices and related facilities. We will recruit primary care physicians and specialists, and are building the new Montage Medical Group clinical center at Ryan Ranch (see story opposite page). This facility is scheduled to open in early 2018. Another aspect of access to care will be a mobile healthcare program for the homeless. If we can accomplish all that in the first year, we will have done a good job.

Who serves on the board?

We seek a diversity of skill sets, experience, and backgrounds — gender, age, occupation, profession, community leadership, and other special criteria. Our board currently includes five members of the Montage Health board, and two of our members are senior administrative staff, including Dr. Steve Packer. Additionally, we have two doctors affiliated with the hospital.

Montage Health Foundation and its predecessor have been quite successful in building philanthropic support. Why should people give to Montage Health Foundation?

The health of the people in this area, not just on the Monterey Peninsula, is critical in maintaining the vitality and visibility of our community. To support Montage Health is to become involved in the provision of what’s really essential — preventive, restorative, and palliative healthcare, with an emphasis on access for everyone. Every gift to Montage Health enhances the margin of excellence in providing optimal healthcare. And there are many ways of giving.

I am extremely thankful for being born in a country that provides us freedoms, and I want to give back. All of us should want to give back to our community, our society, our country. I don’t think we should just take.
Montage Medical Group building flagship office in Ryan Ranch

Montage Medical Group is building its seventh office on the Monterey Peninsula, helping to increase access to healthcare for our community.

The two-story, 60,000-square-foot building is under construction at Ryan Ranch, on the outpatient campus of Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, a sister company to Montage Medical Group.

The practice, originally called Peninsula Primary Care, was started in 2009 to help alleviate a severe shortage of doctors on the Monterey Peninsula.

It has grown from four doctors at one site to more than 40 providers in six offices. With the new Ryan Ranch site, the number of doctors is expected to more than double in five years.

“the expansion of Montage Medical Group will increase access to primary care physicians and specialists in a ‘patient-centered medical home’ model, which emphasizes coordination of care,” says Anthony Chavis, MD, chief medical officer of Montage Health, the group’s parent company. “The goal is to help ensure that people get care when they need it, in the appropriate setting, whether that’s Community Hospital or a doctor’s office.”

That goal is already being achieved, with more than 91,000 patient visits to Montage Medical Group doctors in 2016. That number will grow significantly after the early-2018 opening of the Ryan Ranch office, the group’s flagship. It will have:

- 91 examination rooms
- 5 family consultation rooms
- 1 conference room
- 4 laboratory blood draw stations

“Philanthropic support has been key to the success of Montage Medical Group since its inception and is necessary to sustain it,” Chavis says. “Gifts from individuals and foundations have been essential to recruit and retain physicians and other clinicians and to provide space for them to practice throughout the Monterey Peninsula.”

To date, recruits have included primary care doctors, urologists, obstetrician/gynecologists, neurologists, pulmonologists, cardiologists, and endocrinologists. Recruitment efforts are ongoing for a variety of doctors, including those in primary care, vascular surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry, and cardiology.

Naming opportunities are available for this new building. For more information, please contact Montage Health Foundation at (831) 658-3630.

Harry and Sunny Kohn . . . from front page

During the buyout of a business begun by Harry’s father, the Kohns moved to Nevada. Yet Harry has been playing golf on the Peninsula for nearly 40 years, and the couple had long appreciated the beauty of the area. So, while vacationing in a home they had rented in Pebble Beach, they purchased a condo at Spanish Bay and began to divide their time between California and Nevada. Eventually, California won out.

In 2010, the Kohns were visiting their Cleveland home when Harry fell ill and required care at a hospital there.

Displeased with the experience, he spoke with the hospital director, who enrolled him in a program through which he would be carefully shepherded through his care. The couple was so pleased with this experience that they pledged an annual donation to the hospital. Upon their return to the Peninsula, the Kohns learned Montage Health offers a similar program, Partners in Caring. They elected to make a donation to Montage Health Foundation, and join the program.

“I was really very ill this past fall,” says Harry, “critically ill, like ‘Do I have my plans in order?’ Community Hospital was very good to me. I credit them with getting me through it, that I’m here, I’m alive. It’s good to contribute to the hospital, and I appreciate the Partners in Caring program.”

Harry, who studied music at New York University, and Sunny, who studied art at the Cleveland Institute of Art, share a great appreciation for a hospital that incorporates art into the healing environment. This prompted their interest in sponsoring the new sculpture for Community Hospital’s entrance.

“About the only thing I notice when coming to a hospital for myself or to visit a friend, is the art,” says Sunny, “I am exceptionally aware of the art, and I like to think other people are, too. I think it’s healing, soothing, compelling for patients, caregivers, and guests. And it has to be worth looking at, something that engages consideration. Spill Proof is like that.”

For information about the Partners in Caring program, call the foundation at (831) 658-3630.

A “topping out” ceremony celebrated the placement of the final beam in the Montage Medical Group office under construction in Ryan Ranch. Among those signing the beam at the event: Stephen Schulte, chair, Montage Health Foundation, Anthony Chavis, MD, chief medical officer, Montage Health, John Mahoney, chair, Montage Health Board of Trustees, and Steven Packer, MD, Montage Health president/CEO.
Tyler Heart Institute turns 10, looks ahead

The eve of Valentine’s Day 2007 marked a major milestone in the evolution of cardiac care on the Monterey Peninsula, with the first two open heart surgeries ever performed at Community Hospital. The two valve replacements that day signified the official start of Tyler Heart Institute and reflected Community Hospital’s commitment to continually moving toward the next level of care.

“Our goal has been to provide cardiac care across the spectrum, from prevention through diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation,” says Richard Gray, MD, medical director of Tyler Heart Institute. “And we want to always be looking to the future — to the next 5 years, the next 10 years — and what will serve our patients best.”

Community Hospital has provided cardiac care since its beginnings, but that care has gotten more sophisticated and more seamless. In 2005, the hospital opened its cardiac catheterization lab and began performing diagnostic cardiac catheterizations, invasive imaging procedures to accurately assess the severity of heart disease and plan appropriate treatment. In 2006, hospital staff began performing emergency cardiac interventions to treat heart attacks in progress. And in 2007, the range of services was pulled together under the Tyler Heart Institute, named for Bill and Susanne Tyler, who made a transformational gift to the hospital after Bill’s own heart issue, an arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat, was successfully treated with a catheter ablation.

“When something’s wrong with your heart, you want to know you’re getting the best possible care,” Bill Tyler said at the time. “We hope that in some way our donation can help people in our community get the cardiac care they need right here at Community Hospital.”

The contribution did make an impact, one that continues to be felt by patients today as the heart program grows and matures. Among the other milestones in the last decade:

Dr. Vincent Gaudiani joined Community Hospital’s team as director of cardiac surgery, bringing a wealth of experience and a reputation for performing particularly complex valve surgeries with superior results.

Dr. Gray joined the team as medical director of Tyler Heart Institute (THI), bringing years of cardiology expertise from Cedars-Sinai, California Pacific Medical Group, University of Minnesota, and University of North Dakota.

Two new cardiac catheterization labs and two dedicated cardiac operating rooms were opened.

With support from a gift by Mike and Ann Lyon, in appreciation for his heart care, a dedicated electrophysiology lab was opened to treat people with irregular heartbeat.

THI began managing the hospital’s countywide automated external defibrillator (AED) program, which places the easy to use, heart-starting devices in organizations and businesses. Today, there are more than 400 AEDs in the program at 290 locations. The AEDs are provided at cost or for free, thanks in part to support from donors, including a gift from Howard Evans, Bill Mitchell, and John Upp.

Dr. Gregory Spowart joined the surgical team, bringing more than two decades of experience in bypass and valve operations.

Cardiac Rehabilitation moved to Community Hospital’s new Montage Wellness Center in Marina, offering extensive medically directed exercise programs for people with heart issues and encouraging their transition to wellness center membership.

In 2013, THI had its 1,000th open heart surgery and had become the local leader in the number of cardiac surgeries; it routinely exceeds national standards for positive outcomes.

Community Hospital became an accredited center for treatment of chest pain, was designated a STEMI receiving center, for patients with the deadliest kind of heart attacks, and was accredited as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center.

Debbie Sober, MSN, RN, former director of Community Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit, became administrative director of Tyler Heart Institute.

Montage Medical Group, a sister company to Community Hospital, opened a cardiology practice, with veteran local cardiologists and new recruits to the area to help ensure continuity of care.

As Tyler Heart Institute moves into its second decade, leadership plans specialization in less invasive procedures, including valve repair and replacement done through a catheter rather than an open heart procedure, an area that will be led by a newly recruited physician, Steven Goldberg. Growth is also anticipated in electrophysiology procedures to treat irregular heartbeat and treatment of vascular disease.

“We will also continue to focus on prevention,” says Sober, THI’s administrative director. “The best time to stop heart disease is before it starts and we do this through classes, community outreach, and accessibility to cardiologists. And, when surgery or other intervention is needed, people can get the treatment and support they need while staying close to home and their support systems — family, friends, and our experienced staff.”

Legacy

Dr. Gregory Spowart and his wife, artist Lesley Anne Spowart, were tucked into their couch at home, enjoying a snack and the excitement of the “Dancing with the Stars” television show. Suddenly, he imagined he would like to be able to dance like the stars. His wife signed them up for ballroom dancing lessons.

Ten years later, the Spowarts aren’t just casual hobbyists; they are competitive ballroom dancers.

“I thought we’d take 10 lessons and learn how to dance,” says Spowart. “That’s like saying, ’I’ll take 10 piano lessons and become a pianist.’ Ballroom dancing requires commitment. It’s not easy. It creates challenges, physically, mentally, and in the relationship, as you figure it out. But it’s a good distraction from everyday life, something social, active, and fun to do together.”

The Spowarts know something about commitment — to each other, to their careers, and to the three children they raised together. Everyday life for Lesley Anne is inspired by fine-art painting. Greg Spowart’s career, as a cardiothoracic surgeon, was inspired by his two older brothers and an accident.

“One brother was a biologist, and the other, an engineer,” he says, “so I thought I’d pursue bioengineering. As a senior in high school, working in a saw mill, I cut off part of my thumb, which was hanging by a thread. I was so impressed by what the surgeon did as he sewed it back on, my brother said maybe I should be a doctor. After studying bioengineering in college, I was accepted to medical school, where I realized I liked surgery. Through my surgical residency, I realized I liked heart surgery.”

After graduating from UC San Diego with a degree in bioengineering, Spowart went on to medical school at UC Davis. Lesley Anne, who graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst with a degree in art history, was pursuing her graduate degree at Davis when the couple met. They were married a year later.

“After doing my residencies in Cleveland, at St. Mary’s Hospital, Mt. Sinai Medical Center, and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, I wanted to get back to California,” Spowart says.

He joined the heart program at Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare. In 2009, he was recruited to the cardiac team at Tyler Heart Institute, led by Dr. Vincent Gaudiani, a surgeon known for doing complex surgeries with successful outcomes. THI performs more heart surgeries than any other area heart program, from coronary bypasses to complex valve replacements. “I think the move has worked out well,” Spowart says. Spowart, who recently became a board member of Montage Health, joined Community Hospital just two years after the establishment of the Tyler Heart Institute, now celebrating its 10th anniversary. Just like his ballroom dancing.
Your gifts at work

Every gift makes a difference in improving the health of our community by helping support programs and services, providing advanced technology, and meeting needs that might otherwise not be addressed.

---

Kids eating right

Encouraging kids to eat more fruits and vegetables and get in more play time are the messages delivered in fun ways to nearly 10,000 children in Monterey County, through our Kids Eat Right program. Fourth-graders make healthy foods, engage in playground games, learn to read food labels, and more. The program, free for elementary schools in Monterey County, recently earned congressional recognition from Rep. Jimmy Panetta.

“Among next steps for Prescribe Safe”

In response to the alarming prescription medication misuse and abuse, the Monterey County Prescribe Safe Initiative was created, bringing together law enforcement, the four hospitals in the county, and local doctors. The initiative is designed to guide, educate, and provide resources for doctors, patients, their families, and the community at large in the safe use of opioids and other prescription medications, and to promote safe and effective pain management.

"The opiate drug-addiction problem in Monterey County is widespread,” says Amy Patterson, deputy district attorney. "The Prescribe Safe Initiative has allowed us to educate the community, to connect with the medical community, and forge relationships, so we can better protect our citizens, and protect citizens from becoming defendants in criminal cases.”

Dr. Reb Close of Community Hospital’s Emergency department, and Dr. Anthony Chavis, chief medical officer for the hospital’s parent company, Montage Health, have been leaders of the effort and can quantify its positive impacts.

“Among next steps for Prescribe Safe”

"A key result we’re proud of is a reduction in recurrent visitors to the emergency room for opioid-related issues, by about 50 percent,” Chavis says. “We also have reduced the number of narcotic prescriptions written by participating doctors, by about half.”

Moreover, Chavis says, between 2013 and 2015, opiate-prescription deaths dropped by 28 percent in Monterey County.

“Among next steps for Prescribe Safe”

Find more information at chomp.org/prescribesafe.

Prescribe Safe brings community together to save lives

Program is finalist for Hospital Quality Institute Vanguard Award

In 2013, one person was dying every week in Monterey County from a prescription drug overdose.

“We were seeing, routinely, 15- and 16-year-olds addicted to prescription medications. We were seeing families torn apart by addiction. It was awful,” says Dr. Casey A. Grover, a physician in Community Hospital’s Emergency department.

In response to the alarming prescription medication misuse and abuse, the Monterey County Prescribe Safe Initiative was created, bringing together law enforcement, the four hospitals in the county, and local doctors. The initiative is designed to guide, educate, and provide resources for doctors, patients, their families, and the community at large in the safe use of opioids and other prescription medications, and to promote safe and effective pain management.

"The opiate drug-addiction problem in Monterey County is widespread,” says Amy Patterson, deputy district attorney. "The Prescribe Safe Initiative has allowed us to educate the community, to connect with the medical community, and forge relationships, so we can better protect our citizens, and protect citizens from becoming defendants in criminal cases.”

Dr. Reb Close of Community Hospital’s Emergency department, and Dr. Anthony Chavis, chief medical officer for the hospital’s parent company, Montage Health, have been leaders of the effort and can quantify its positive impacts.

“A key result we’re proud of is a reduction in recurrent visitors to the emergency room for opioid-related issues, by about 50 percent,” Chavis says. “We also have reduced the number of narcotic prescriptions written by participating doctors, by about half.”

Moreover, Chavis says, between 2013 and 2015, opiate-prescription deaths dropped by 28 percent in Monterey County.

“Among next steps for Prescribe Safe”

“Among next steps for Prescribe Safe”

"What makes me most proud of Prescribe Safe as a collaboration,” Close says, “is we are realizing we all care so much, so we’ve all come together — people I never would have met in any other way — with a common goal, which is the safety of our community.”

Find more information at chomp.org/prescribesafe.
Events and Fundraisers

ANNUAL LUNCHEON Top row (left to right): Clark and Toshia Struve; Stephen Schulte, Ann Mahoney, and Randall Charles Second row (left to right): Mary Castagna and William Young, Dr. Abraham Verghese

VOLUNTEER SPRING LUNCHEON Top row (left to right): Jane and Doug Roberts; Grace Wilcoxin-Rider, Alan Rider, and Marsha Gallegos; Jane Durant-Jones and Mary Young Second row (left to right): Eleanor Fremgen, Bruna Weiland, and Elaina Martin; Joan Nugent, Rougeau McWhorter, and Robin Stoner