

Opportunities

INFORMING YOU OF OPPORTUNITIES
FOR PLANNING YOUR FUTURE

FALL 2012

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El Camino Hospital Opens Senior Health Center

AFTER MONTHS OF PLANNING, EL CAMINO HOSPITAL'S NEW SENIOR HEALTH CENTER OPENED IN FEBRUARY 2012. Designed to provide comprehensive health care to area residents age 65 and older who are insured by Medicare, the center strives to fill gaps in the health care system and better meet seniors' medical needs.

Older adults often have chronic health conditions that require ongoing management and, due to the limitations of a fixed income and a shortage of doctors who will accept Medicare part B, they often have difficulty accessing good quality care. Now they have a place to go that is designed just for them. Built with state-of-the-art technology, the center provides compassionate, coordinated health care that is affordable and comprehensive.

Patients who do not currently have a primary care physician can come to the center to be assessed and assigned to a medical team that will provide wellness and prevention care, chronic disease management, acute illness and injury diagnosis, nutritional assessments and education, medication counseling, and psychosocial evaluations. Patients are able to access their medical records and communicate with their care team online through the "patient portal," which is designed to help them take a more active and responsible role in their health care management.



The new Senior Health Center provides comprehensive health care to area residents age 65 and older.

Community physicians, who care for seniors, can turn to the center for help to stabilize their patients who have difficult-to-manage, chronic conditions that may benefit from the resources the center can provide. Furthermore, the center can work with patients recently discharged from the hospital to ease their transition home in order to avoid readmission into the hospital.

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Make an investment *with healthy returns*

THE CAMPAIGN FOR
EL CAMINO HOSPITAL

El Camino Hospital Opens Senior Health Center

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Finally, the center can also provide comprehensive geriatric evaluations for all geriatric syndromes.

The Senior Health Center is located in an 8,000 square foot outpatient building called Cedar Pavilion, located at 2660 Grant Road, Suite F in Mountain View. The facility is designed to accommodate seniors' special needs. All doors, hallways, exam rooms and bathrooms are oversized to allow for wheelchairs of all sizes. There are specialized chairs for those with limited mobility and all rooms have adjustable exam tables. All care is brought to the patient so the patient doesn't have to move from place to place.

"Our society is in a transition from baby boomers to senior baby boomers," says Dr. Patrick Kearns, Senior Health Center Medical Director. "More than 10,000 of us are crossing the threshold daily. Coordination of care alone, which we are not accomplishing very well in our traditional models of care, will result in better care for the patient as well as fewer readmissions to the hospital or trips to the emergency department."

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 650-962-4360.

Is 2012 the Best Year to Plan Important Gifts?

SUNSETS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE THINGS OF BEAUTY, BUT NOT WHEN IT COMES TO TAX LEGISLATION. On January 1, 2013, many favorable income tax provisions are due to expire, leaving taxpayers with higher tax rates, fewer tax breaks and the return of various penalties. Taxes on capital gains and dividends would go up, as well.

What will Congress do? The answer to that question probably won't be known until after the November elections – possibly worked out during a "lame duck" session of Congress toward the end of the year.

The June 9 *Wall Street Journal* contained a long article suggesting that, in view of the "sunsets," the tax rewards for charitable giving may never be better than they are right now. Furthermore, the incentives for giving could decline considerably after 2012 under legislative proposals that could:

- Limit the tax savings of donors in high tax brackets;
- Permit deductions only above a certain floor (similar to medical expense deductions);
- Replace the charitable deduction with a less generous tax credit;
- Calculate donors' tax savings under a lower "flat tax" rate.

With all that in mind, 2012 may be the best time to follow through with important contributions you may have been considering to El Camino Hospital Foundation, including gifts of stocks that have grown in value (and that you have owned more than one year). Charitable gift annuities, which make lifetime payments, to one or two people of your choice, can be especially attractive. The payments will be 70% to 85% tax free during recipients' life expectancies; donors qualify for large deductions, and capital gains tax savings also are possible. Charitable remainder trusts may appeal to friends who wish to "custom design" gifts that provide them with lifetime income.

Our staff would be pleased to assist you in planning any gift to the Foundation. Our goal is to ensure that your generosity provides you with the maximum in tax rewards – and personal satisfaction.



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What Will Happen to Estate Taxes After 2012?

The good news is that the exemptions from federal gift and estate tax were “inflation-adjusted” from \$5 million in 2011 to \$5,120,000 for 2012. So this year even fewer people will be affected by these taxes.

The bad news is that these high exemptions are due to “sunset” on January 1, 2013, when the sheltered amounts will fall to just \$1 million. Furthermore the top tax rate climbs from 35% to 55%. Many in Washington expect exemptions of \$5 million or higher will be made permanent, but individuals need to be prepared for any legislative changes that may come.

Some advisers are suggesting that clients take advantage of the current \$5.12 million gift tax exemption to accelerate bequests to family members, free of gift or estate tax. If those gift assets should increase in value in future years, no additional gift tax or estate tax would be due. A concern exists, however, about future “clawback” of gift tax savings if the exemptions are reduced after 2012. Clearly, you should follow the advice of your own advisers.

For now, you might make a rough estimate of your net worth, so that when Congress does act on estate taxes you’ll know if you are covered by the new exemption – and can plan accordingly. Use this occasion also to review your current will and/or living trust, as well as the beneficiary designations on your life insurance,



retirement accounts and other arrangements. Ensure that persons you have named to act as trustees, executors or guardians are still able and willing to serve. Consider whether you now wish to make additional bequests, such as a thoughtful legacy to El Camino Hospital Foundation.

Federal “Transfer Taxes” Remain Unsettled			
	2011	2012	2013
Estate Tax Exemption	\$5 million	\$5,120,000	\$1 million
Top Estate Tax Rate	35%	35%	55%
Gift Tax Exemption	\$5 million	\$5,120,000	\$1 million
Top Gift Tax Rate	35%	35%	55%

In all likelihood, most people will not have a federal estate tax problem, now or in the future, but many states (not including

California) impose state inheritance or estate taxes, often on estates of \$2 million or less. These taxes could impact property you own outside California. Keep in mind that legacies you provide for El Camino Hospital Foundation will escape all state and federal estate taxes. Leaving the Hospital assets such as retirement accounts and U.S. savings bonds will avoid income taxes, as well.

Honor Your El Camino Hospital Caregiver

El Camino Hospital Foundation’s Circle of Caring program enables grateful patients and families to honor a special hospital caregiver by making a donation in his or her honor. The Foundation will notify the physician, nurse, or care provider that the gift has been received (the amount will remain undisclosed) and will convey the donor’s personal message of thanks. The caregiver will also receive a pin and will be publicly acknowledged in the internal hospital e-newsletter. The program allows appreciative patients and families to pass the gift of extraordinary healthcare forward, ensuring others can benefit from the healing and hope El Camino Hospital enables its dedicated caregivers to provide. Brochures are available throughout the hospital with additional information and donation forms.



Phyllis Dorricott: Taking Care of the Hospital that Takes Care of Her Family

After Phyllis Dorricott's beloved husband Bob died in 2002, she made a decision to stay active and make a contribution to her community, and the first place she wanted to volunteer was the hospital that had taken such good care of him and her family over the years.

The couple, who became engaged the night of Phyllis' high school senior ball, moved from Oakland to Los Altos with their three children in 1972, when Bob took charge of the southern distributorship for Van Dyke Valve and Fitting. Six months after they relocated, their 12-year-old daughter Pam was struck by a car while she was riding her bicycle. It was the era before cell phones and neither Phyllis nor Bob could be reached right away. Pam was taken by ambulance to El Camino Hospital where she was diagnosed with a leg broken in multiple places and a concussion. "The hospital chose the doctors for us, all of whom were wonderful. Pam stayed for two weeks and celebrated her 13th birthday there. The care and compassion she received was extraordinary, and I have never forgotten it."

Pam recovered beautifully and the family settled into their new community. In 1977, Bob bought the business. In addition to selling valves from his supplier, he also designed them for all the electronics firms along the Peninsula including Hewlett Packard, Applied Materials, and Varian among many others, growing the company from one of the smallest to one of the largest in the world. Phyllis became the firm's bookkeeper even though she had no prior experience. She learned on the job, which she says was a lot of fun. The couple worked together until Bob retired in 2001.

Outside of work the family's big hobby was car racing. Bob and son Bobby competed all over North America and Bobby won championships in several categories. When they stopped racing themselves they developed a three-car team of other drivers. Phyllis loved to go to the meets and brushed elbows with celebrities like Paul Newman and Lorenzo Lamas over the years.



Phyllis Dorricott and her son Bob Dorricott

In 2001, shortly after he retired, Bob was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He had surgery at El Camino Hospital but the cancer returned after several months. Although his doctor consulted physicians across the United States, there was little he could do.

The Dorricotts had been regular donors to El Camino Hospital Foundation ever since Pam's accident. Foundation staff often visited Phyllis while she was with Bob in the hospital and after he died they gently encouraged her to become involved. She began by making a donation to the golf tournament raffle and then joined the gala committee. One year later she was gala committee chair, a role she reprised with co-chair Bernis Kretchmar the following year, and she has served on the gala and

golf committees ever since. Phyllis joined the Foundation board of directors in 2003 and is completing her ninth year of service, including a two-year term as board chair.

In addition to volunteering Phyllis has continued to philanthropically support El Camino Hospital Foundation. In 2005 she made a generous gift to the Imagine Campaign to name the Cancer Center waiting room in memory of her beloved husband. She has also made an unrestricted planned gift from her 401K.

"I am concerned about the future of health care. Any support we can give is important." Besides, she adds, "It is very easy to make a gift through your 401K without redoing your will or trust and know that the hospital will receive the money."

When asked to explain her extraordinary level of commitment Phyllis simply says, "I love El Camino Hospital and I see the need."

Reflecting back on her life and experience she advises, "If you have the time and ability, do whatever you want to do now, don't put it off. It is important to live your life to the fullest." For Phyllis that means volunteering for and contributing to the hospital that has always taken care of her family and her community.

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