

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Hopfer School of Nursing Dean, Joanna Scalabrini accepts Education Award from Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce Director

Hopfer School of Nursing Honored

New Rochelle, NY –December 10, 2007 – The Dorothea Hopfer School of Nursing recently received the 2007 Education Excellence Award from the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce.

Last week, the Chamber held its 95th annual anniversary dinner dance. More than 150 individuals gathered at the VIP Club in New Rochelle to celebrate not only the Chamber’s accomplishments but also those of individuals and businesses that make the City a rich tapestry of opportunities. And the Hopfer School of Nursing was acknowledged as an educational beacon, with a long history of preparing nurses to take their place in the healthcare industry.

Along with the Chamber of Commerce award, Joanna Scalabrini, the Dean of the Hopfer School of Nursing, also accepted a Proclamation from the City of Mount Vernon as well as one from New York State Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson. All acknowledged the significant contributions Hopfer has made to the community and beyond. Joining Ms. Scalabrini in the evening’s celebration were faculty members, students, and other administrators from the Sound Shore Health System.

Founded in 1902 as the Mount Vernon Hospital School of Nursing, Hopfer offers a

traditional two- and three-year, full-time study program leading to an Associate of Science in Nursing degree. It also has an innovative 26-month, evening-and-weekend program, and a Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse transition option. A notable feature of Hopfer is that more than half of the curriculum is conducted in Sound Shore Health System facilities. With a program that offers scholarships to qualified applicants and articulation agreements with Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs, prospective students find the gateway to meaningful life work – a career in nursing. Located on the campus of Mount Vernon Hospital, Hopfer School of Nursing has a distinguished history which includes more than 2200 graduates.

For more information about Hopfer School of Nursing, please contact Hopfer Admissions at 914.664.8000 x3472 or visit www.hopfer.org.

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About Sound Shore Health System

In 1997, Mount Vernon Hospital (MVH), Sound Shore Medical Center (SSMC), Hopfer School of Nursing and Schaffer Extended Care Center (SECC) affiliated to create one of the largest private healthcare systems between New York City and Albany – Sound Shore Health System. This association, with the addition of the Visiting Nurse Association of Hudson Valley in 2001, has provided the region with a broader scope of enhanced, quality programs and services. Beds – Mount Vernon Hospital (MVH), 228; Sound Shore Medical Center (SSMC), 321; Schaffer Extended Care Center (SECC), 150 (50 short- and 100 long-term rehabilitation).

MVH – Established in 1891, Mount Vernon Hospital is a New York State Designated: Stroke Center and Transitional Care Unit Demonstration Hospital (one of only five statewide). It is home to the Assertive Community Treatment Program, The Family Health and Wellness Center and Intensive Case Management Program, the Chronic Wound and Hyperbaric Treatment Center and the Westchester Low Back Pain Center. Founded in 1902, the Dorothea Hopfer School of Nursing formerly the Mount Vernon Hospital School of Nursing is located on the grounds of MVH and offers a traditional two- and three-year, full-time study program leading to an Associate of Science in Nursing degree. It also has an innovative 26-month, evening-and-weekend program, and a Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse transition option.

SSMC – Established in 1892, Sound Shore Medical Center is a New York State Designated: Area Trauma Center, Perinatal Hospital and Stroke Center. It is a National Solucient 100 Performance Improvement Leader, a center of excellence for bariatric surgery, awarded a certificate, with commendation, for cancer programs by the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons, and the Antepartum Testing Lab is a Center of Excellence for 1st Trimester Screening. Sound Shore is a recipient of the American Association of Hospital Provider's 2005 and 2006 Hospital of Choice award and is home to the Center for Arthritis and Total Joint Surgery, the Chest Pain Center, Spine Center, Cancer Center, Sleep Center and Breast Center and Center for Sound Aging and the Adult Day Services Center Adult Day Services Center.

SECC – Established in 1971, Schaffer Extended Care Center is a New York State Department of Health-approved 150-bed comprehensive facility, providing short-term rehabilitation/sub acute and skilled long-term care. The short-term rehabilitative program addresses the needs of cardiopulmonary, orthopaedic and surgery patients. The long-term program provides medical, mental health, nursing, pastoral and palliative care, with appropriate support services for patients as well as their families.

MVH, SSMC and SECC are accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the nation's oldest and largest hospital accreditation agency, members of Pinnacle Healthcare and affiliates of New York Medical College. To learn more about SSHA, visit www.soundshore.org

