



**Contact: Linda Blauers  
Public Relations Specialist  
St. James Mercy Hospital**  
411 Canisteo Street  
Hornell, NY 14843  
Phone: 1-607-324-8146  
Fax: 1-607-324-8115  
Email: [lblauers@sjmh.org](mailto:lblauers@sjmh.org)

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## **Updated Imaging Equipment on Display During Foundation Visit to St. James Mercy Hospital**

**Hornell, NY** – St. James Mercy Hospital recently hosted members of the Bethesda Foundation for a demonstration of new echocardiographic equipment and a specialized treadmill that represent state-of-the-art updates for patient testing at the Hospital. The equipment, a General Electric Vivid E-95, was obtained and installed earlier this year. Its purchase was largely subsidized by a \$130,000 grant from the Foundation, the group's largest in history.

"This new equipment allows us to see more cardiac anatomy with greater clarity and detail than we have been able to do before," said Dr. Spencer Annabel, Medical Director of Echocardiography Services. "This means better, earlier detection as well as an overall improvement in our ability to treat patients at St. James Mercy Hospital."

The equipment allows for state-of-the-art echocardiography and includes new features such as surface 3D echocardiography, and the ability to assess left ventricular strain, a new method of assessment of left ventricular systolic function.

Dr. Annabel noted that the new model generates improved image quality and an ability to measure many more hemodynamic cardiac measurements than the Hospital's previous equipment allowed.

The specialized treadmill is preprogrammed for a number of different types of stress test protocols, allowing Hospital staff to perform both pre-and post-cardiac rehabilitation stress tests, as well as standard treadmill exercise stress echocardiograms, dobutamine stress echocardiograms, and both types of perfusion nuclear stress tests, including vasodilator stress and treadmill stress. This maintains the local availability of an important series of critical tests.

The Bethesda Foundation was created in 1986, and is a non-profit charitable organization devoted to the funding and support of health-related projects and scholarships in the Hornell area. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded grants totaling more than \$2 million in furtherance of its mission to support community health needs.

Founded in 1890, St. James Mercy Hospital provides compassionate, quality care for the residents of Hornell, NY and the surrounding communities. The Hospital offers a full range of inpatient and outpatient services, including emergency, Express Care, acute medical and surgical, imaging, and laboratory. Specialty services include orthopedics, dialysis, cardiac rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation, physical therapy, and a personal emergency response system (MercyLine). For more information, visit [www.stjamesmercy.org](http://www.stjamesmercy.org).

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PHOTO, left to right: Bethesda Foundation Executive Director Janice Spence, Bethesda Foundation Vice President Lynn Blades, Joe Latham, Dr. Spencer Annabel, Bethesda Foundation Treasurer Allen H. Monaghan, Bethesda Foundation President Phil Loree, Barb Terry, and Duane Heineman.