

**ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER**  
2801 Franciscan Dr. • Bryan, Texas 77802-2544 • (979) 776-3777

May 11, 2005

City of College Station, Texas  
1101 Texas Avenue

Honorable Mayor Silvia and Council Members of the City of Bryan:

On June 13, 2005 Sister Gretchen Kunz, OSF, FACHE, long-time leader of St. Joseph Health System in Bryan, Texas, will step out of her role as President and CEO of the Health System to work more closely with fundraising for St. Joseph Foundation. For more than two decades, Sister Gretchen led the St. Joseph mission to improve the health of the residents throughout the Brazos Valley.

Sister Gretchen, a member of the congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio, leaves a tremendous legacy of leadership. When she arrived in 1981, St. Joseph Hospital was struggling financially and she had to borrow money to make payroll. Determined to make the hospital financially stable and help it grow with the community, Sister Gretchen set to work to recruit quality staff, raise funds, and improve the services available at the hospital. She has not slowed down since that time.

During her leadership tenure, the facility brought in critically important health services to support growth in the community. Services include a cardiac program (named the #1 heart program in the state several years ago); comprehensive cancer services (drawing patients in from 13 surrounding communities); a comprehensive freestanding rehabilitation center; a host of advances in surgical procedures (including the region's most advanced surgical suites which were dedicated earlier this month); and a Level III Lead Trauma Center.

Tremendously important to the development of our community as a regional medical hub was Sister's vision to reach out to the rural communities surrounding Brazos County. Working with each of the rural communities to establish health services has allowed residents greater access to healthcare. Today St. Joseph operates rural hospitals in Navasota, Caldwell, and Madisonville – each with certified Level IV Trauma Centers providing service 24 hours a day. Eight rural health clinics in six surrounding counties offer primary medical care in rural areas of the Brazos Valley.

*A Commitment to Community Service Since 1935*

*A Member of St. Joseph Services Corporation  
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Sister Gretchen's leadership expands beyond healthcare to service with community agencies such as United Way, Habitat for Humanity, and The Rape Crisis Center. Her determination to help improve the lives of residents is as strong today as it was in 1981.

In honor of her spirit and determination, the governance, leadership, and 2,300 Team Members of the St. Joseph Health System will recognize Sister Gretchen's accomplishments in a series of celebration events during June. It is our request that members of the College Station City Council consider approving a temporary name change for Texas Avenue to "Sister Gretchen Kunz Parkway" for the day, on June 13, 2005.

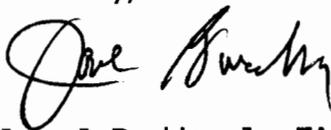
The district office of the Texas Department of Transportation has informed us that this request would meet their approval based on two conditions:

- 1) The cities through which Texas Avenue passes must approve of the temporary name change; and
- 2) The requesting organization (St. Joseph Health System) must pay for any temporary street sign changes made.

Should this request be approved St. Joseph Health System would like to put one "Sister Gretchen Kunz Parkway" street sign up at the corner of University Drive and Texas Avenue on June 13, 2005. The cost of the signs plus installation and removal, would be for paid by St. Joseph Health System.

We look forward to you joining us in honoring Sister Gretchen's accomplishments. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John J. Buckley, Jr., FACHE  
Chief Executive Officer, St. Joseph Regional Health Center  
Executive Vice President, St. Joseph Health System