

# MEDIA **TIPS** SHEET

## Stories and Events for **October 2013**

- **St. Joseph's Surgeons Wield Surgical Tools on Helpless Halloween Pumpkins**

**Reporters and Assignment Desk Editors:** Mark your calendars for the fourth annual St. Joseph's Doc-O-Lantern Pumpkin Carving Contest on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 7 a.m. in St. Joseph's Admitting Circle. This year's spine-chilling event will feature a giant stage to showcase the hospital's top surgeons as they face-off with sharpened surgical tools to prove their superior carving skills. Media is invited to cover the grisly event. Stay tuned for more details.

- **Rock Legend Returns to Stage after Treatment for Brain Disease the Mimics Dementia**

After five years of suffering from dementia-like symptoms and unable to play guitar, Alice Cooper's former bandmate and guitar legend Dick Wagner has returned to music after having been successfully treated for a commonly misdiagnosed brain condition that mimics Alzheimer's. The guitarist, who has written songs for Aerosmith, KISS and Alice Cooper, underwent surgery for normal pressure hydrocephalus (NPH), a condition caused by a build-up of spinal fluid in the brain. The symptoms are similar to Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's, but with NPH, they are reversible. Since his surgery, Wagner, who lives in the Valley, has been able to return to music and is currently touring. An estimated 200,000 to 400,000 Americans suffer from NPH and it's believed 5 percent of all dementia patients actually have NPH. Wagner and his Barrow surgeon are available for interviews Tuesday and Wednesday. Please call 602-406-3319 to schedule interviews.

- **Miss Arizona Aspirant Has Lung Transplant**

An aspiring pageant queen living with Cystic Fibrosis has received a life-saving double lung transplant at St. Joseph's. Feeling grateful and thriving, Miss La Paz County 2012 now aspires to become Miss Arizona. "Now that I have new lungs, I want to make a difference in the community," says 20-year-old Parker, Ariz. resident, Alison Tozer. "My dream is to become the first Miss America who has had a double lung transplant." Tozer and her lung transplant physicians are available for interviews. To schedule, please call 602-406-3312.

- **NFL Appoints Barrow to Provide Medical Services on Sidelines**

Barrow has been selected by the NFL to provide neurological medical services during all home Arizona Cardinals games this season. Three of the nation's top brain injury experts from Barrow — Nicholas Theodore, MD; Javier Cardenas, MD; and Taro Kaibara, MD; — will be on the sidelines at each game to provide neurological specialty support to the physicians of both teams playing in the game. The Barrow physicians were selected as the NFL's unaffiliated neuro trauma specialists based on Barrow's renowned neurological treatment of brain and spinal cord injuries including concussion.

For more information or to schedule a story, call Carmelle Malkovich at 602-406-3319.



**St. Joseph's Hospital  
and Medical Center.**

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