



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL PARTNERS WITH JACK SCHMITT
CHEVROLET OF O'FALLON FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS**

O'Fallon, IL – Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of O'Fallon wants area women to be in the drivers seat when it comes to their health. The dealership is partnering with St. Elizabeth's Hospital to support breast cancer awareness during the month of October with special events and education.

The public is invited to **Jack Schmitt Chevy of O'Fallon's first ever "Pink-a-Palooza"** event running October 24 through November 5. For every test drive during "Pink-a-Palooza," Jack Schmitt Chevy of O'Fallon will make a donation to breast cancer research.

"It seems everyone knows someone who has been touched by breast cancer – be it a family member or friend - and Chevrolet and Jack Schmitt feel strongly about supporting breast cancer research efforts," said Kathy Federico, Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of O'Fallon.

The dealership is also encouraging women to schedule their yearly mammogram. In partnership with St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Jack Schmitt will make a monetary donation for every mammogram appointment made during the Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of O'Fallon "Pink-a-Palooza."

Mammograms play a central part in the early detection of breast cancer because they can detect changes in the breast that may be early signs of cancer, but are too small or subtle to be felt. St. Elizabeth's Women's Imaging Center in Belleville and Imaging Services

at the O'Fallon Medical Building has evening appointment times to accommodate the busy schedules of the women in the community.

Visit Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of O'Fallon during "Pink-a-Palooza" and pick up your St. Elizabeth's mammogram reminder card to present at time of your scheduled appointment, to help fund research to find a cure, now through April 2012. Appointments can be made at St. Elizabeth's O'Fallon Medical Building, located at 1512 N. Green Mount Road or at the Women's Imaging Center on the main campus of the hospital. Call **618-222-4639** to schedule an appointment. Extended evening appointment times are available at the Women's Imaging Center Mondays through Thursdays.

A woman's chance of developing cancer in her lifetime is 1 in 8. Women can answer nine assessment questions to know their risk of breast cancer:

- Do you have a family history of breast cancer?
- Do you have a personal history of breast cancer?
- Did your period begin before age 12?
- Have you gone through menopause?
- Are you overweight?
- Do you drink alcohol every day?
- Have you never had children, or did you have your first child after age 30?
- Do you have excess fat around your waist?
- Have you ever taken hormone replacement therapy?

If the answer is YES to any of these questions, results indicate an increased risk of breast cancer. The more YES responses, the greater the risk. Women are encouraged to talk to their doctor about breast cancer risks at their next appointment.

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About Hospital Sisters Health System

Hospital Sisters Health System is a Roman Catholic health care mission founded to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Sponsored by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, HSHS provides state-of-the-art health care framed in traditional values taught by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. It is dedicated to serving all people, including the poor and the needy, at each of its 13 Local Systems and physician practices in Illinois (Belleville, Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Highland, Litchfield, Springfield and Streator) and Wisconsin (Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Sheboygan and two in Green Bay). For more information about HSHS, visit www.hshs.org.