



Jessica Maher/Recorder staff

St. Mary's Hospital received a \$5,000 donation from The Galway Co-op Thursday. From left: St. Mary's Director of Surgical Services Theresa DeCarlo, The Galway Co-op President Ben Neri, Co-op founder Michael Casadei, St. Mary's Vice President for Development and Planning Al Turo, Vice President of Operations Scott Bruce and Vice President of Nursing Michele Walsh pose outside of the Wilkinson Center in the town of Amsterdam.

Donation to help buy equipment

By JESSICA MAHER
Recorder News Staff

TOWN OF AMSTERDAM — The Galway Co-op presented St. Mary's Hospital with a \$5,000 contribution on Thursday that to help pay for new operating room equipment.

"Unfortunately in this economy, hospital funding is being cut the same way other entities have been," said Galway Co-op founder Michael Casadei.

The Galway Co-op is a nonprofit organization that negotiates with propane and oil vendors for its customers. A portion of the revenue the co-op receives is donated to charitable organizations, which in the past has included food pantries and breast cancer awareness organizations.

But Thursday's donation, which was made in honor of Casadei's brother-in-law, St. Mary's Hospital Dr. Ronald Marsh, marks Galway Co-op's first donation to the hospital.

"This is the beginning of a relationship," said Al

Turo, St. Mary's vice president for development and planning, who said he was informed of the donation last week. "Often people would approach our CEO with an intent to make a contribution and it's a relationship with donors that understand the needs of our hospital."

The \$5,000 contribution will go towards the eventual purchase of high definition laparoscopic processions, light sources, cameras and monitors. Casadei said he wanted the money to go there after being told it was where he would get "the most bang for his buck."

"We're very excited about the opportunity to enhance services in our operating room," said Vice President of Nursing Michele Walsh.

In addition to the contribution, the Galway Co-op also provided for a day of entertainment for residents of the Wilkinson Center and participants of the adult day care center, bringing musicians to the facility.