



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Princing Receives the Bowl of Hygeia Award**

Dennis R. Princing of Saginaw will receive the coveted Bowl of Hygeia Award during the 2017 Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) Annual Convention & Exposition, Feb. 24-26 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

The Bowl of Hygeia Award, presented in cooperation with the American Pharmacists Association Foundation and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations, is given to a pharmacist who has made outstanding professional contributions and has participated in community or governmental activities that reflect well on the pharmacy profession.

Dennis Princing has undoubtedly devoted his life and career to improving the lives of patients and the community. Princing was a well-known face in the pharmacy setting working for his father, Russel Princing, since 1947. Dennis graduated from Ferris State University with his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1958, beginning his 57 year venture in pharmacy. By 1964, Dennis was co-owner and business partner of Princing's Pharmacy practicing pharmacy alongside his father. Princing is well known in the Saginaw area serving families and businesses for generations. Princing's Pharmacy has been owned and operated by the Princing family for over 86 years. Princing ultimately retired in December 2016.

Throughout Princing's time as a pharmacist, he continually pushed forward and challenged himself to better serve his patients with up-to-date and efficient methods and practices. Princing embraced new products, advanced medication delivery systems and improved packaging for elderly and mentally challenged. With this, Princing continually grew with the community and was better able to serve his daily patients and assist those patients with special needs.

Princing's job did not stop when pharmacy hours ended. He extended himself to those in the community and those most in need. Princing was involved in early emergency medicine regulation standards for Saginaw County. He advocated for updated home medications lists for emergency responders. He implemented drug take-back programs and pressed for inhalers in schools. Princing also saw the need for specialty treatment regimens for pharmacists serving patients with unique medications like post open heart surgery and new diabetic medication protocols. Princing was practicing medication reconciliation and patient education not because it was a standard of care, but he believed it was the expected level of care and what patients deserved.

His community service extended beyond the walls of pharmacy. Princing dedicated much of his time and energy outside the pharmacy to enriching the community and the lives of those around him. He is an active member of MPA, National Community Pharmacists Association and a member of Health Plus Pharmacy Action Committee. He served on the board of directors of the Child Guidance Clinic, was active in many youth and teen programs at the Saginaw YMCA and is past-president, two-term Board of Directors and dedicated member of the Saginaw Exchange Club since 1964.

In the 1970s, Princing and his wife, Nancy, were part of a group of founders of Valley Lutheran High School bringing higher quality Christian education to the Saginaw community. Valley Lutheran High School opened in 1977 and continues to grow today. Princing served as President of the board and on the board of directors.

Princing is a certified Adjunct Faculty Member at Ferris State College. His continued interest and dedication to education has helped shape future pharmacist of Michigan. Princing continually provided Ferris State Pharmacy students the opportunity for clinical rotations and internships. He has provided high school students and future pharmacy technicians opportunities to job shadow, and Princing is often called upon to speak at high school career days. Princing educates these students not only in the business aspect of running an independent pharmacy but the impact the role the pharmacist plays ensuring the health and wellness of those patients who receive pharmacy services. Dennis Princing has left a positive imprint on the community of Saginaw and those he served, including his patients, students, colleagues, friends and family.

Michigan Pharmacists Association, representing the nearly 9,000 pharmacists and 15,000 pharmacy technicians in Michigan, strives to serve its members by providing support, advocacy and resources that ultimately improve patient care, safety, health and the practice of pharmacy. For more information, visit [www.MichiganPharmacists.org](http://www.MichiganPharmacists.org).

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