

Small World

Spring 2010

Children's Hospital
New Orleans

Children's Hospital celebrates the
Black & Gold's championship season

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

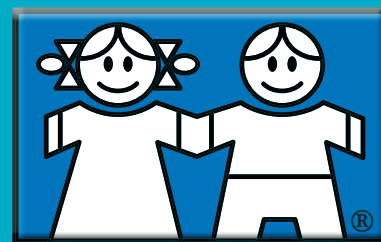
Declared cancer free days before the Super Bowl, 12-year-old Micah Roshell tells Drew Brees, "I've won my war; now go win yours."

Profile In Giving: Brian Grosch, CEO of AllFax Specialties

You Don't Have to Leave

NEW ORLEANS

for **Superior
Cancer Care.**



**CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL**

Children's Hospital's mission is to provide comprehensive pediatric healthcare which recognizes the special needs of children through excellence and the continuous improvement of patient care, education, research, child advocacy and management.

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**The LaNasa-Greco Center
for Cancer and Blood Disorders**

www.chnola.org



2010 Spring



On the Cover: Super Bowl XLIV MVP Drew Brees hoists the Lombardi Trophy after leading New Orleans to its first championship in franchise history. Brees dedicated the win to Micah Roshell, a cancer patient at Children's Hospital. Photo: Andy Lyons, Getty Images. Special thanks to the Breeses and ESPN.

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Steve Worley, President and CEO

Children's Hospital

Making a difference where we're needed most

As we approach yet another hurricane season, not to mention the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, we will be inundated with images from late August and September 2005. We'll look back mournfully, but we also need to look at the progress we've made. I'd like to share the success story of three satellite clinics we have opened after Katrina in previously medically underserved areas of New Orleans.

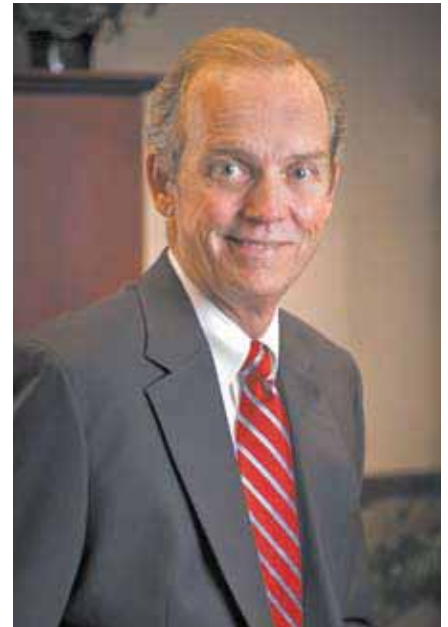
In July 2008, Children's Hospital Medical Practice Corporation (CHMPC), opened clinics in Mid-City and eastern New Orleans. Last September, CHMPC opened a clinic on Louisa Street where Gentilly meets the Upper Ninth Ward. Today, all three are thriving. Through February 2010, Kids First MidCity has served 6,508 children, about 325 a month. More than 3,925 children have been treated at Kids First New Orleans East, around 220 every month. Kids First Louisa, open only part time in its first six months, has served 442 children, or 75 a month.

We began our CHMPC program to provide quality pediatric primary care to the populations of the Metropolitan New Orleans area including, but not limited to, medically underserved areas. Each of our 13 clinics provides preventative care, immunizations, diagnosis and treatment of illness and injuries, vision and hearing screenings, as well as counseling on behavioral issues, proper nutrition and social and physical development.

Until Kids First New Orleans East opened, there had been no pediatricians practicing in the Village de l'Est area of eastern New Orleans since the storm. Pediatric care was also hard to find in Mid-City and the Gentilly/Ninth Ward area. Many parents were forced to travel Uptown or to Metairie to receive pediatric care. Now, children are getting routine wellness care and immunizations from a certified pediatrician who can care for them over time, monitoring their growth and making sure developmental, speech and motor skill milestones are met on time.

To give the clinic a welcoming feel, employees were hired from the neighborhoods they serve. For instance, Kids First New Orleans East has a bilingual office manager and medical assistant on staff to assist in communicating with the area's large Vietnamese-speaking population, the clinic patients and parents who have limited English comprehension.

Families trust Children's Hospital with their children. We are excited to be able to bring pediatric health services to areas of our city that need it. My hope is that these clinics continue to grow as we continue to provide services to the families of our community.



In the past year and a half, more than 10,875 children have been treated in previously medically underserved neighborhoods.

Did You Know...

In 2009, Children's Hospital recorded 172,302 patient visits with children coming to us from all 64 Louisiana parishes, 48 states and 3 foreign countries. In all, the hospital provided care for 63,239 children.

New Orleans CityBusiness recognizes Healthcare Heroes at Children's Hospital



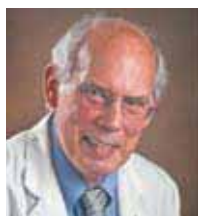
Dr. Adrienne Atzemis



Dr. Stephen Heinrich



Stacie LeBlanc



Dr. Joseph Nadell

Congratulations to Dr. Adrienne Atzemis, medical director of CARE Center; Dr. Stephen Heinrich, orthopaedic surgeon and founder of Caps for Kids; Stacie LeBlanc, attorney for CARE Center; and Dr. Joseph Nadell, neurosurgeon, for being named Health Care Heroes by New Orleans CityBusiness.

Health Care Heroes recognizes 50 top professionals in the state's health care industry based on professional and community achievement. Honorees will be recognized at a luncheon in May.

Long-time arrhythmia patient cured

Dr. Kelly Gajewski, pediatric electrophysiologist, recently performed an electrophysiology ablation on one of Cardiology's long-time arrhythmia patients.

Angie Molitor, director of Cardiology, says that the patient can now discontinue all cardiac medications and monitoring.



The procedure was the first of its kind that was performed using the latest technology and equipment under a new, comprehensive pediatric electrophysiology program at The Heart Center.

Anniversaries

Children's Hospital congratulates and thanks the following physicians on reaching a milestone anniversary in their employment at Children's Hospital:

35 Year

Kenneth Adatto, MD

30 Year

Floyd Buras, MD
Stephen Hales, MD
Charles Hill, MD
Andrew King, MD
Ellen McLean, MD
Richard Spector, MD

25 Year

Keith Capone, MD
George Ellis, Jr., MD
Donald Faust, MD
Bryan Frichter, DDS
Stanley Hall, MD
Druby Hebert, MD
Cornel Jeansonne, MD
Radhamani Kumar, MD
Sam Solis, MD
Cecily J. Turner, MD
Raj Warrior, MD

20 Year

Richard Doskey, MD
David Estes, Jr., MD
Marc Fisher, MD
Michael Hagmann, MD
Stephen Heinrich, MD
Keith Kappel, MD
Evelyn Kluka, MD
Alan Robson, MD
David L. Schneider, MD
Ricardo Sorensen, MD
Alfonso Vargas, MD

15 Year

Vincent Adolph, MD
Dianne Albrecht, MD
Albert Baker, DO
Richard Baumgartner, MD
J. Phillip Boudreaux, MD
Ronald Curran, DDS
Nicholas Danna, MD
Carolyn Daul, MD
Robert Detrinis, MD
Charles Dupin, MD
Renee Gardner, MD
Arturo Gastanaduy, MD
Juan Gershanik, MD
Robert Hawkins, MD
Marie-Louise Haymon, MD
George Koclanes, MD
Jane Lipscomb, MD
James McKinnie, MD
Cleveland Moore, MD
Duna Penn, MD
Pamela Shaw, DDS
Rodney Steiner, MD
V. Matti Vehaskari, MD
N. Knight Worley, MD

10 Year

Elizabeth Adams, MD
Bradley Bartholomew, MD
Tanya Busenlener, MD
Eva Centanni, MD
Stuart Chalew, MD
Stephen Deputy, MD
Robin English, MD
Albert Gutierrez, MD
Suzanne LeFevre, MD
Betty Lo-Blais, MD
Mark Morici, MD

Staci Olistter, MD
Dana Rivera, MD
Tammy Senentz, MD
John Walsh, MD

5 Year

Jerussa Aita-Levy, MD
Robert Ascuitto, MD
Danielle Calix, MD
Claudia Cavallino, DDS
Ernest Chiu, MD
Robert Faucheux, MD
George Hescocock, Jr., MD
Rufus "Lester" Hixon, III, MD
John Love, MD
Shannon McGuire, MD
Kimberly McNeil, MD
Theodorus "Hans" Mulder, MD
Jon Perenack, DDS
Seth Pincus, MD
Anna Maria Pou, MD
Jeanne Rademacher, MD
James Ricciardi, MD
Priyanshi Ritwik, DDS
Allan Rosenberg, MD
Tammueella Singleton, MD
Douglas Slakey, MD
Tessa Smith, DDS
Evans Valerie, MD

Alan Robson, MD, Medical Director

Immunization-autism link debunked

English medical journal retracts study linking MMR vaccination to Autism Spectrum Disorders

In 1998, the highly respected English medical journal *Lancet* published a study which linked the development of autism to the use of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. It was hypothesized that the vaccine lingered in the bowel causing gastro-intestinal (GI) problems which in turn resulted in autism. As a result of this study many concerned parents opted to not have their children given the MMR vaccine.

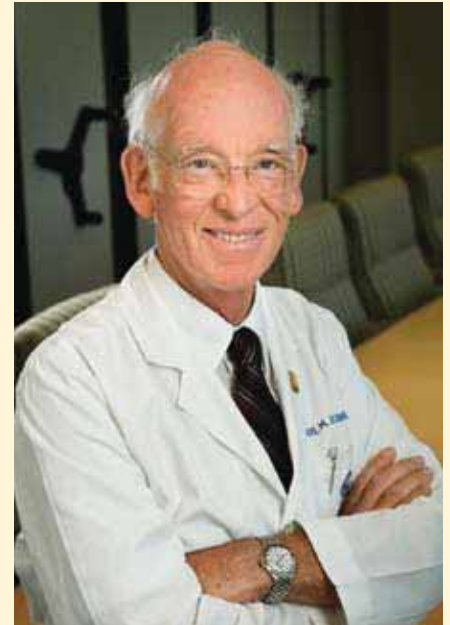
Subsequently, at least 20 studies coming from different investigators at different medical centers failed to find any association between vaccine use and the development of autism. For example, a study from two prestigious medical centers and from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) replicated key parts of the original study, but found no relationship between vaccine use and the development of either bowel problems or autism. Most recently, in a stunning move, *Lancet* retracted the study they had published 12 years earlier, stating that the study involved a biased group of subjects as well as other flaws in the report.

The CDC praised the journal's action, stating, "it builds on the growing body of research by the world's leading scientists, which concludes that there is no link between MMR vaccine and autism. We want to remind parents that vaccines are very safe and effective, and their use saves lives." Furthermore, a court case also concluded that MMR vaccine does not cause GI problems or autism.

Despite this growing body of scientific evidence, many people still want to believe that autism is related to MMR usage. They cite that the prevalence of autism is increasing and parallels the increase of vaccine administration. Indeed, prevalence increased 57 percent from 2002 to 2006 and now may be as high as one case per 70 boys and one case per 315 girls. The apparent increase in incidence of autism may be because more parents are aware of the entity and seeking advice or because the diagnosis is being made in increasingly younger children. However, the possibility that there is a real increase in the incidence of autism can not be ruled out because most of the published work has relied on retrospective analysis.

There is some preliminary evidence that genetic factors may predispose to autism. As one expert said, "The challenge now is to understand how genetic mutations and other genetic risk factors cause abnormal brain function and how this brain function leads to autism. Genetics may not be the only answer. Preliminary data suggest that environmental risk factors may also play a role in some case of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and could interact with genetic susceptibility."

The good news is that if ASD is diagnosed early in life – preferably at around 18 months or even earlier – there is potential to help the patient. In a small study of 48 children aged 18 to 30 months, a comprehensive developmental behavioral intervention significantly improved their IQ and adaptive behavior compared to those undergoing traditional interventions. This is an exciting finding, which we all hope will be confirmed by additional studies. ■



“At least 20 studies coming from different investigators at different medical centers failed to find any association between vaccine use and the development of autism.”

Children's Hospital welcomes these new members of the medical staff:



Victoria Dimitriadis, *Allergy, Immunology & Rheumatology*

Medical School: University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami

Residency: St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Drexel University, Philadelphia

Fellowship: LSU Health Sciences Center



Kelly Gajewski, *Cardiology*

Medical School: Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

Residency: Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore

Fellowship: Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C.



Sarah Stender, *Endocrinology*

Medical School: Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C.

Residency: University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.; East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C.; University of North Carolina – Greensboro, Greensboro, N.C.



Alejandro Leon, *Ophthalmology*

Medical School: Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia

Residency: Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.

Fellowship: University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa



Researchers find commonly used marker of diabetes control overestimates blood glucose levels in African-American children

Disparity may lead to increased hypoglycemia during diabetes treatment and over-diagnosis of diabetes in African-Americans

Doctors at Children’s Hospital and LSU Health Sciences Center have found that Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c), a lab test widely used to monitor glucose control in patients with diabetes, overestimates glucose levels in African-American children.

Drs. Jodi L. Kamps, James M. Hempe and Stuart A. Chalew found that HbA1c levels are higher in African-American children compared to Caucasians even when their blood glucose levels were the same. The study was published this month in the journal *Diabetes Care*. The study included 276 children with type 1 diabetes followed at Children’s Hospital in New Orleans over several years. HbA1c and mean blood glucose levels were obtained during multiple clinic visits and statistically analyzed.

“HbA1c has often been thought of as being the same as a specific average blood glucose level, but it clearly is not,” Chalew said.

“If doctors do not take into account this disparity it could lead to increased episodes of low blood sugar reactions during treatment and over-diagnosis of diabetes among African-Americans.”

The researchers emphasize that HbA1c must be carefully interpreted together with the individual diabetes patient’s directly measured blood glucose levels in order to get the best understanding of diabetes control. This will reduce the risk for inadvertent overdose of insulin and other glucose-lowering medicines. Furthermore, additional testing will be required in African-American patients discovered to have elevated HbA1c levels before a new diagnosis of diabetes is made. Efforts to understand the underlying biology of these ethnic differences in HbA1c could lead to new treatments to prevent complications in patients with diabetes. ■



The Parenting Center: 30 years and two generations

Founded by Children's Hospital and The Junior League of New Orleans in 1980 as a community resource to provide support and education to parents faced with everyday problems and concerns of raising children, The Parenting Center at Children's Hospital is now helping a second generation of New Orleanians gain practical insight to ease the role of parenthood.

The Center helps parents develop competence and confidence and offers practical parenting suggestions to help with the ordinary stresses of raising children. The Center is a place where adults can spend time with their babies, toddlers and preschoolers, seek advice from parent educators and socialize with other parents. Through a variety of classes, parent and child activities and community outreach programs, the Center emphasizes Children's Hospital's concept of a healthy child by addressing the needs of the entire family.

"In the beginning, we wanted to increase the understanding that parenting is a challenging and important endeavor for which there is no school or training," said Stephen Hales, MD, who has served on the Center's board since its inception. "The founding vision of The Parenting Center was to provide a place where parents could go to get good information and support from professionals and other parents."

The Center established a working model of effective communication to reach parents, maintain contact with families over time, and change and sustain attitudes and beliefs that includes:

1. a media presence to make parenting education available to the community at large
2. presentations at schools, churches and business
3. consultations on a specific parenting topics via telephone or in person
4. classes targeting specific age groups

"We are the generation that really questioned what our parents did and how effective it was," said Nancy Hales, who was also an inaugural board member. "We wanted to be open to new ideas and bring many perspectives together. We thought the model of allowing parents to learn from each other was extremely important because asking a question on a peer-to-peer level takes away the fear of asking what may be perceived as a stupid question.

"It also fills gaps for parents who don't have family here," she said. "That can be very isolating, so it's almost like having a family member here to help them."

From small beginnings, The Parenting Center has grown to more than 400 active members, an active community advisory board of 19 members and 800 drop-ins per month. It is staffed with parent educators, including clinical social workers, an early childhood educator and a registered nurse specialized in the fields of parenting and child development. Through guidance and education, the Center fulfills its goals of promoting parent confidence, encouraging optimal child development and enhancing the whole family's well being.

"The Parenting Center was created with such foresight that even 30 years later, the reasons for our creation are still the reasons we are successful today," said Parenting Center director Barbara LeBlanc. "Child development hasn't changed, but what parents worry about and how families live their lives in an age of technology has changed. We're here to provide practical solutions to parent in the modern world."

Today, the first generation of parents to benefit from the Center is now seeing their kids consult the center for insight and guidance.

"We started with the Busy Babies group and made friends that are still best friends of ours," said Evelyn Kissel, whose mother, Georgia Simmons, was JLNO president when the Center began. "It was great to meet new parents, bounce ideas off and ask questions of each other. It made the challenges of parenting become easier because I could talk to other parents or a staff member and realize that I wasn't alone or doing something wrong"

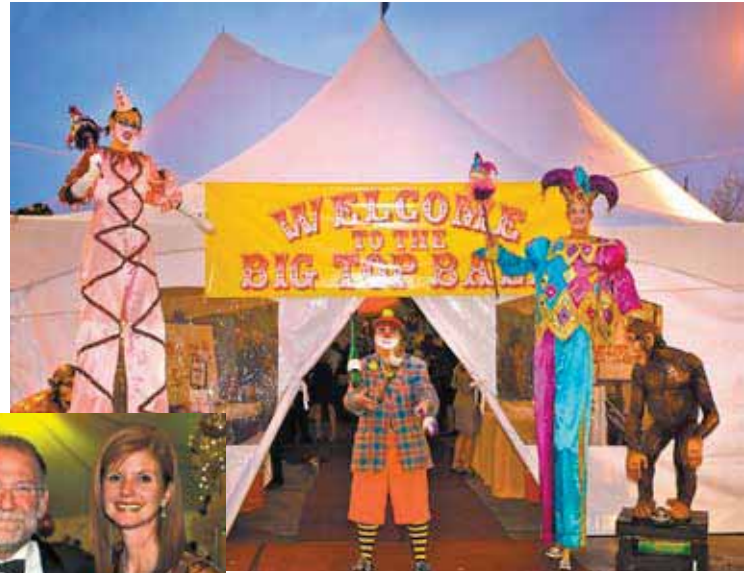
Kendall Hales, Stephen and Nancy's daughter-in-law, uses the Center at least twice a week. "It's comforting to know we're not alone, that others have been here before and we can learn from their experiences. Plus, drop-in time at the playroom is great for parents and kids – especially when the weather is bad."

"It's very fulfilling to know that continuing generations are taking advantage of the center," Simmons said. "It was sorely needed then and even more important today." ■

The Parenting Center provides its services – classes, lending libraries of parenting books and videos, drop in playrooms and activity yard – in two locations, Uptown and Metairie, and on WWL-TV, every Tuesday morning at 8:50 a.m. For more information, please call The Parenting Center at (504) 896-9591, send an e-mail to parenting@chnola.org or log on to www.theparentingcenter.net.

Sugarplum Ball goes under the big top

The 29th annual Sugarplum Ball was held Saturday, March 20, at the Children's Hospital Calhoun Campus. Ringmasters, aka ball co-chairs, Mathilde Currence and Courtney Le Clercq led more than 100 committee members charged with decorating the "three ring" event, as well as garnering the best New Orleans restaurants to showcase their celebrated dishes. Partygoers clowned around to the sounds of the Bucktown All-Stars. Dr. Stephen Levine, who has been a dedicated member of the medical staff and friend of Children's Hospital for more than 28 years, was the honoree noted for exemplifying great devotion to the children the hospital serves. Proceeds from this year's Sugarplum Ball will benefit the LaNasa-Greco Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Children's Hospital.



Holiday Visits

More than 35 visiting groups helped to make the holiday season bright. The groups brought gifts and spent time visiting children in their rooms. Irvin Mayfield and The Royal Sonesta Hotel sponsored a Teddy Bear Tea in the auditorium that featured special guests Santa and Mrs. Claus, Frosty, Rudolph, elves and winter princesses.



Radiothon

Children's Hospital's Radiothon will air live on WWL 870 AM and 105.3 FM on Friday, April 9, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Patient vignettes and cross promotion of the WWL broadcast will also air twice per hour on Entercom stations – Bayou 95.7, B-97, Magic 101.9 and ESPN 1350 AM. For more information and to make a donation, log on to www.chnola.org/radiothon.

Contact the Public Affairs Department at (504) 896-9373 for more information on Children's Hospital events.



Carnival Time at Children's

Carnival 2010 was special as several local krewe brought the celebration to the hospital. Excitement peaked when Super Bowl MVP Drew Brees was crowned Bacchus XLII at the hospital on the Saturday before Mardi Gras. Children's Hospital is traditionally the first appearance made by Bacchus' monarch. Zulu King Jimmie Felder and his daughter, Queen Ilana Felder-Jefferson, visited patients and handed out beads commemorating the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club's annual Mardi Gras ride. Greg Cipes, Beast Boy in Cartoon Network's "Teen Titans," kicked off the season with a concert for patients. A singer and guitarist, Cipes, grand marshal of the Krewe of Little Rascals, treated patients to the krewe's doubloons, medallion beads and cups. The "Thoth March" brought Krewe members to Children's. Costumed members handed out stuffed animals and beads to patients on every floor, including the clinic and ER. On Lundi Gras, children participated in a patient parade through the hospital.



Miracle League adds teen division

The Miracle League of Greater New Orleans will add a division for 13 – 20-year-olds when play begins this spring. The 6 -12 year-old youth division plays on Saturdays beginning March 27. The teen division will play on Thursday nights beginning April 1. If you or a loved one is interested in playing or volunteering, call (504) 894-5415 for more information.



Calendar of Events

APRIL

- 9** **Radiothon**
6 a.m. – 7 p.m.,
WWL 870 AM & 105.3 FM
- 11-12** **Wal Mart Golf Tournament**
9 a.m. Shotgun Start, Carter Plantation
- 13** **Blood Drive**
8 a.m. – 7 p.m., Auditorium
- 20** **Hematology/Oncology
Memorial Service**
4 – 5:30 p.m., Auditorium
- 25** **Run Forrest Run 5K Race**
8:30 a.m., Bubba Gump Restaurant,
French Quarter

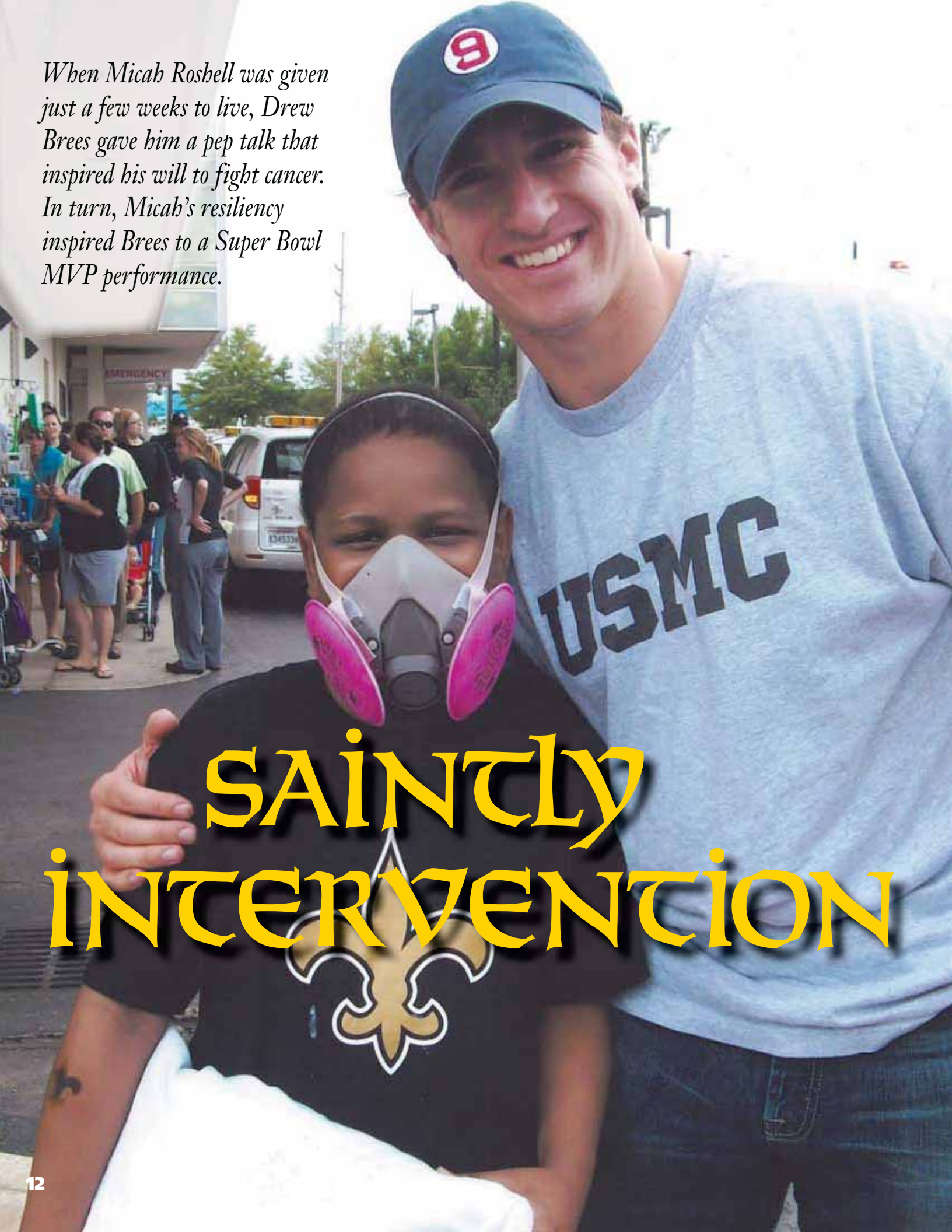
MAY

- 4** **Rite Aid Golf Tournament**
1 p.m. Shotgun Start,
Stonebridge Country Club
- 5** **AllFax Specialties Golf Classic
Pre-Party**
6 – 11 p.m., Southport Hall
- 14** **AllFax Specialties Golf Classic**
12:30 p.m., Beau Chene
- 14-15** **4th Annual Italian American
Fishing Rodeo**
Breton Sound Marina, Hopedale, LA
- 22** **Seabrook Harbor Fishing Rodeo**
Seabrook Harbor

JUNE

- 5-6** **Telethon**
WDSU NewsChannel 6
- 5** **Wendy's Volleyball Tournament**
4 p.m., Malibu Rum Coconut
Beach Complex

When Micah Rosbell was given just a few weeks to live, Drew Brees gave him a pep talk that inspired his will to fight cancer. In turn, Micah's resiliency inspired Brees to a Super Bowl MVP performance.



SAINTLY INTERVENTION



*Left: Micah and Drew catch up at Children's Hospital's Black & Gold Pep Rally.
Above: Micah was Drew and Brittany Brees' guest for the world premiere of the movie The Blind Side.*

As he sat for an ESPN interview in front of Cinderella's Castle at Walt Disney World hours after leading New Orleans to its first championship, Super Bowl MVP Drew Brees dedicated the victory to the people of New Orleans, Louisiana and the Gulf South. Then, he said one individual stood out for providing him and teammates special inspiration as they went marching in – Micah Roshell, a 12-year-old battling cancer at Children's Hospital.

A year ago, tumors spread throughout Micah's body, and his doctor gave him weeks to live. Now, he's cancer free, recovering from his second bone marrow transplant (BMT), and hanging on the words of the quarterback who helped him develop a game plan to beat cancer.

IN THE RED ZONE

Brees and his wife, Brittany, met Micah in June 2007 at the Brees Dream Foundation's Brees on the Seas fishing trip, an annual event in which the Breeses, several teammates and local fishing captains treat 30 children from Children's Hospital to a day on the water.

Micah, then 9, had been diagnosed with Stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma and was a year into a fight that would keep him and his mom, Val, at Children's Hospital – five hours away from their family and home in DeRidder, La. – for 90 percent of the next few years. Although very shy, Micah's positive attitude in the face of his disease made an impression.

"Micah is just one of those kids who had a lot of fight," Drew said. "His outlook was so positive that he stood out and became an inspiration."

"I remember all those kids, and Micah was so sweet and so shy," Brittany Brees said. "He's the kid you just wanted to know more about, to see how he was, if he's having a good time, you just kind of want to take care of him."

Within the next six months, Micah's positive outlook would be challenged as tumors spread throughout his body, and doctors gave his parents the most terrifying diagnosis possible.

"They told me he had a few weeks to live," Val said. "He was one foot in the grave and one out."



Through a chance encounter with a friend of the Breeses, Val got word to them that Micah's health had taken a turn for the worse. The couple immediately planned to visit Micah at the hospital to spend time with the dying boy.

"I can't imagine what it must be like to get news like that," Drew said. "It's not fair because as a kid you feel like you haven't even had a chance at life yet."

For three hours, Micah and Drew played video games, talked football and discussed life. Drew told Micah, a tight end on his youth football team, that the struggles involved in a football game compare to the fight that he was waging for his life.

"I told him that just like throughout the course of a game there's always that adversity that you're going to face, but if he could stay even keeled, poised and confident and just continue to fight that good things would happen," Drew said.

"As sick as he was, Micah sat up for Drew Brees," Val said. "They had a ball, and it was really helpful for him because he had someone to come in and say to him, 'You have to fight. You have to shoot for the victory.' He goes back to that conversation all the time for inspiration. That visit had such an impact. My son held on because of that conversation."

FIRST & GOAL

Brees' words resonated with Micah. He defied his doctors' poor prognosis, and a year after his initial diagnosis he was healthy enough to undergo a BMT to help cure

his lymphoma. Before the transplant, his doctors warned the procedure is extremely risky, with up to a fifty percent chance that he would not survive. Knowing the risks involved, he decided to go forward.

Micah made it through the transplant. But his body rejected the cells, and he was forced to resume months of chemotherapy treatments to keep the rapidly spreading cancer at bay.

TIMEOUT

Throughout his ordeal, the Breeses stayed abreast of his condition and offered support to the Roshells. Micah and Val attended three games during the 2009 season. During one game, Kim Kardashian whisked them to Reggie Bush's suite so she could watch the game with Micah.

In November 2009, the Breeses invited Micah and his mom to join them as their guests for the world premiere of the movie "The Blind Side" at The Prytania Theater in Uptown New Orleans.

"I thought it would be a great way to get Micah away from the hospital and all the treatments, get his mind off that and go and do something fun," Drew said. "He had an unbelievable time at the premiere and got to meet Sandra Bullock. It was a special night for him, and we were thrilled we could be part of it."

"We walked the red carpet with them, and I felt like I was the movie star," Micah said. "They treated us like we were special. It was the best time of my life."



L to R: Micah with Best Actress Oscar winner Sandra Bullock; Drew and Micah after a marathon Wii session; the Rosbell family includes John and Val and their children, Vashion (31), Crystal (22), Trenise (21), Christopher (14), D'Onte (9), Anyalita (8) and Elijah (7); Drew presents his Super Bowl Champions towel to Micah.

“I have good days and bad days, but I’m still hanging in there and I’m not going to give up,” Micah said. “Sometimes it’s really hard for me because I want to be a normal little boy. I know that can’t happen right now, but I know that one day I will.”

SECOND & GOAL

In January, Micah was declared cancer free, a requirement for a BMT, which, if successful, could cure his lymphoma. Two days before he was scheduled for the transplant, Drew and Brittany visited Micah at Children’s Hospital. To help him get through the transplant, they brought him a good luck charm – the game ball Drew knelt with to end the divisional round playoff game against the Phoenix Cardinals. Before he handed it over, Drew signed the ball, “To Micah, the strongest person I know. Drew Brees – Saints 45, Cardinals 14, January 16, 2010.”

Micah then pulled out a photo of himself with Drew and signed it for his hero. The photo found its way to Brees’ locker to provide inspiration on the road to the Super Bowl.

“I couldn’t imagine somebody telling me that in a day or two you’re going to have a surgery, and you know you might not make it out okay,” Drew said. “Just to think of that; that there are those chances. I see that photo and approach everyday knowing that there’s a kid fighting the fight that he’s fighting each and everyday – I mean, it just, it inspires you.”

MISSION MIAMI

Before Drew left Micah’s room, he told him time constraints would prevent him from coming back before the end of the season. Micah sat up and told his friend that he would guide the team to the Super Bowl. “I’ve won my war, now go win yours,” the boy said to his hero.

On the morning of the transplant, Micah tucked the game ball between his knees and held it there, under his bed covers, during the procedure. The transplant was a success, and as Micah began his recovery at Children’s, New Orleans vanquished Minnesota in the conference championship to earn their first trip to the Super Bowl.

In the biggest game of his life, Brees led his team to a Super Bowl victory and won the game’s Most Valuable Player Award. The next day, he was “going to Disney World” to lead the parade up Main Street, U.S.A. Before he joined Mickey Mouse on the back of a pewter convertible, ESPN asked Brees about his Super Bowl MVP performance and what it meant for the team and the city. He dedicated the victory to the people of New Orleans, Louisiana and the Gulf South. Then, he recognized Micah.

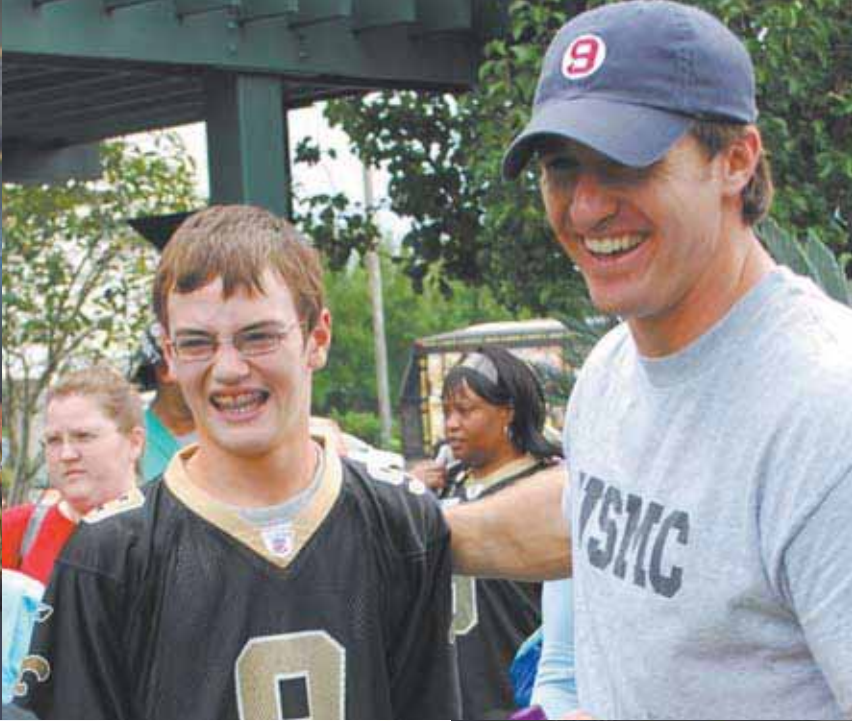
“We did it, buddy,” Brees said. “We won. We won for you.”



Celebrating a Championship Season at Children's Hospital

With a Super Bowl Championship, 13-0 start and the best record in franchise history, New Orleans' favorite football team gave their littlest fans a season they will never forget. Children's Hospital hosted three pep rallies this year. Several members of the Black & Gold – including quarterback Drew Brees, running back Pierre Thomas, offensive linemen Jermon Bushrod, Nick Leckey, Jon Stinchcomb and Zach Strief, safety Chris Reis and special teams captain Troy Evans – visited the hospital to spend time with the children for these special events.





Profile in Giving: Brian Grosch, AllFax Specialties

Brian Grosch is not married, and he doesn't have kids. But he considers his employees as family, and when one of his sales representatives' daughters was treated for a malignant brain tumor at Children's, he became a fan and supporter of the hospital.



The girl, Jordan Prince, was around 10 when she was diagnosed, and her doctors thought it was terminal. She lost her hearing, some of her vision and her ability to walk. Now, with the help of rehabilitation and a cochlear implant, she can hear, see, walk and is learning to dance. This spring, Jordan is graduating from high school.

"There are a lot of good causes, but we choose to help Children's because every time I turn around I know someone who is affected by Children's Hospital," said Grosch, founder and president of AllFax Specialties, Inc., one of southeastern Louisiana's premiere full-service office technology dealers. "Amazing things take place there."

Grosch has chaired the hospital's Kids Fund Campaign and co-hosted the annual Allfax Golf Classic tournament with Saints players Deuce McAllister and Jon Stinchcomb. He's looking forward to the spring event being the biggest yet.

"Brian feels that it is our responsibility to support the care and treatment of children," said his sister, Dianne Volpe. "He wants to make a difference. Children's is his legacy, and he remains committed to raising funds so that others may have the same positive experiences."

Roger Gorman, Children's development director, said Grosch has been instrumental in establishing the hospital's new pediatric and cardiac ICUs.

"Brian has been one of our most dedicated and generous supporters for the last decade," Gorman said. "In 2007, while he was still struggling to re-establish his business after Katrina, Brian stepped in to head our Kids Fund Campaign and raised more than \$1.1 million for the hospital. Time and again, he has made important gifts to help the hospital better serve the children of our community and we are fortunate to have him in our corner."

MEMORIALS

November 1, 2009 - February 28, 2010

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Christine C. Dupuy
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Kids Fund raises \$751,923 for ER



The 2009 Kids Fund Campaign raised \$751,923 for the hospital's Jack M. Weiss Emergency Care Center. Hospital Board member Julie Livaudais George served as the chair of the campaign, while radiologist Christopher Arcement, M.D., led the Physicians Campaign. The hospital's Emergency Room has provided care for record numbers of patients this past fall, as many children arrived in the ER with flu-like symptoms. The ER staff tested all such patients for the H1N1 virus and provided appropriate care for those who tested positive. Your continued support helps the hospital's ER staff provide care as quickly as possible and helps the hospital maintain its policy of never turning away a child who needs the care we provide.

Legislators Charity Fund

Ten New Orleans-area state representatives co-sponsored the Legislators Charity Fund's Second Annual Holiday Celebration at the Basin Street Station to raise funds for Children's Hospital. The event featured live entertainment and gourmet food from some of New Orleans' best restaurants. Each legislator paid \$500 for the cost of the event, and 250 tickets were sold at \$100 a piece. Sponsors included Pat Connick (Marrero), Greg Cromer (Slidell), Girod Jackson III (Marrero), Walt Leger III (New Orleans), Joseph Lopinto III (Metairie), Nicholas Lorusso (New Orleans), J.P. Morrell (New Orleans), Cedric Richmond (New Orleans), John Schroder (Covington) and Kirk Talbot (River Ridge). Reps. Walt Leger and Joe Lopinto, who organized the event, presented \$8,500 to the hospital on behalf of the fund.



Haydel's Bead Dog

Kelley Burke is the proud new owner of the Bead Dog, donated by Haydel's Bakery and given a one-of-a-kind coat featuring New Orleans landmarks and icons by local folk artist Dr. Bob. Burke won the bead dog in a raffle, which raised \$4,270 for the hospital during Children's Hospital's Telethon, broadcast in June.

Throw Me Somethin' Mardi Gras Imports

Mardi Gras Imports owner Fred Berger pledged a percentage of his sales of beads and throws during the 2010 Carnival season to Children's Hospital. Berger, who has been a long-time generous donor to the hospital, will present his check for \$7,500 during Children's Hospital's Telethon, broadcast in June.



Creative Jewelry by Bridgeja

While waiting for an appointment with an orthodontist, Bridgeja Baker passed some time browsing in a bead shop next door to the doctor's office. A love for creating jewelry spawned immediately. The 12-year-old's designs can now be found at jewelry shows and online at www.creativejewelrybybridgeja.com. Her success inspired her to give back, so she donated \$250 to help Children's Hospital care for her peers.

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John T. Cooper, III

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Lockheed Martin Employee Picnic

Lockheed Martin's annual employee picnic raised \$1,777 for Children's Hospital. The event has raised more than \$83,000, since 1994 when Children's became the picnic's charity beneficiary. Mike Dawson, general manager and phase-in executive of Jacobs Engineering, and Manny Zulueta, vice president and site executive of Lockheed's Michoud facility, presented a check to Development Director Roger Gorman at their facility in eastern New Orleans.

Valero Donation

Valero St. Charles Refinery made an exceptionally generous donation of \$100,000 to Children's Hospital during the company's October charity luncheon. The company raised the money through the annual Valero Texas Open and Benefit for Children Golf Classic in San Antonio, Texas. Vice President & General Refinery Manager Ralph Phillip presented the donation. Children's Hospital will use this wonderful gift to help fund care for children who come to the hospital's Jack M. Weiss Emergency Care Center.

Will Rogers Institute Gift Funds Respiratory Equipment

The California-based Will Rogers Institute made a very generous gift of \$41,000 to Children's Hospital to fund the purchase of a Servo-I Ventilator for the hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The Institute has a keen interest in providing care for fragile newborns and was happy to make this gift to fund this much-needed equipment for the hospital's NICU.



*The Children's Hospital Guild
installs new officers*



Pictured above (L to R): Debbie Albert, parliamentarian. Kathleen Robert, president. Susan Graham, vice president. Missie Noel, corresponding secretary. Cami Crouchbet, financial secretary. Dee Villarrubia, president-elect. Not pictured: Suzanne de Montluzin, immediate past president. Carole McGinity, treasurer. Helen Mayfield, recording secretary. Lynn Michler, financial secretary.

With a membership of more than 300 men and women, The Guild is among Children's Hospital's most treasured friends and supporters. Members participate in volunteer activities that help the hospital continue to provide exemplary healthcare to its young patients.

The 2010 officers are:

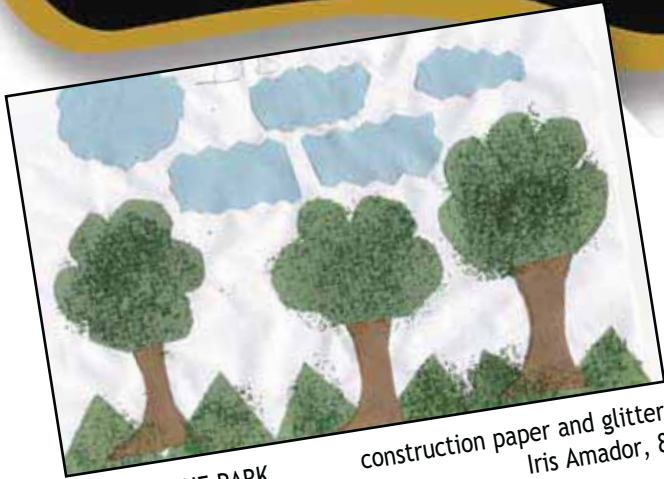
- President: Kathleen Robert
- President-Elect: Dee Villarrubia
- Immediate Past President: Suzanne deMontluzin
- Vice President: Susan Graham
- Treasurer: Carole McGinity
- Recording Secretary: Helen Mayfield
- Corresponding Secretary: Missie Noel
- Financial Secretaries: Cami Crouchbet, Lynn Michler
- Parliamentarian: Debbie Albert

For more information on The Guild, please call Children's Hospital's Public Affairs Department at (504) 896-9373.

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patient inspirations



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