

CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL

SmallWorld

Healing, Teaching, Discovering

Spring 2013

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS

Sugarplum Ball celebrates
la joie de vivre

JORDIN SPARKS

Super Bowl visit lifts spirits

PROM NIGHT

Cancer patients enjoy
black-tie event

KIDS FUND

Campaign raises \$1 Million

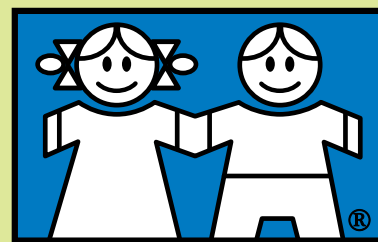
For the Nguyen

*Former patient Steven Nguyen returns
to help families access resources*

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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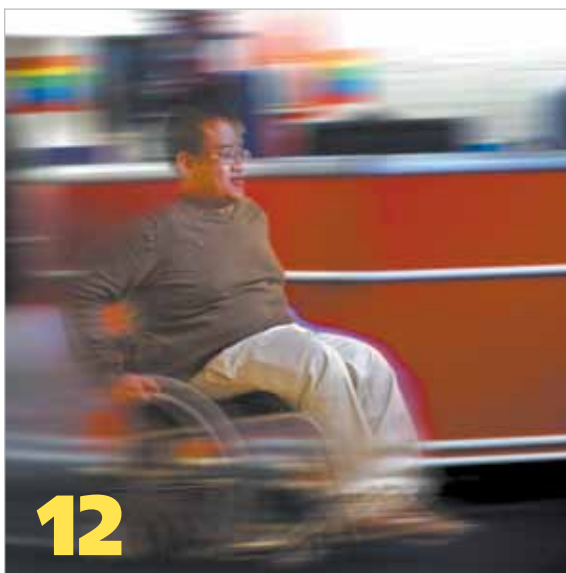
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
IS A CHILDREN'S
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Children's
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2013 Spring



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On the Cover: Steven Nguyen takes a quick break from delivering information to a rehabilitation patient. Photo by Mike Palumbo.

Steve Worley, President and CEO

Show of Strength

Former patient Tommy Santora named to Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America's Board of Directors

One of the hallmarks of working in pediatric medicine is watching children overcome their congenital or acquired illnesses and injuries to become active adults who are engaged in advocacy and support for issues dear to their hearts. Tommy Santora, a 34-year-old Harvey resident, is one of those individuals who has battled and is now rallying attention to the fight against Myasthenia Gravis (MG), a chronic autoimmune neuromuscular disorder that affects approximately one in 5,000 people of all ages, races and genders. For reasons not well understood, the immune system of the person with MG makes antibodies that destroy the receptor sites of neuromuscular junctions. It is characterized by fluctuating weakness of the voluntary muscle groups and can affect muscles that control movement of the eyes, eyelids, arms and legs, as well as chewing, swallowing, breathing, coughing and facial expression. Abnormal antibodies (white blood cells) can be measured in the blood of many people with MG.

When he was 12, Tommy noticed a persistent weakness in his legs while playing recreational sports at Muss Bertolino Playground in Kenner. His concerned parents sought medical opinions, and Children's Hospital neurologist Ann Tilton, M.D., diagnosed him with MG. Surgeons removed his thymus gland when he was 17. Symptoms disappeared for the next decade. However, drooping eyelids, double vision and muscle weakness returned when he was 27.

In 2011, Tommy founded the New Orleans Myasthenia Gravis Resource Group, one of 50 national support groups, to help the 62 people in the metro area diagnosed with the disorder. Today it has grown to more than 50 MG patients, family members and friends who meet once every three months to listen to guest speakers, including neurologists, physical therapists and registered dietitians, discuss the latest medical advances of the disease, and learn how to control symptoms in order to live with MG.

"MG is probably under diagnosed and the prevalence may be higher" Tommy says. "People with MG need to know that they are not alone in dealing with this devastating disorder."

Last year, with its inaugural MG Walk, the New Orleans group raised \$25,272 toward finding a cure for MG and closely related disorders, improving treatment options and providing information and support to people with MG through research, education, community programs and advocacy. It was the highest total among 29 other cities to host an MG walk, and made up one fifth of the national Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America's (MGFA) total of \$141,000. This year's walk, held April 6, raised \$45,726, more than \$10,000 over their \$35,000 goal.

In May, Tommy will join the MGFA's Board of Directors at the organization's annual conference in Miami. "Being on the national board will help to further raise awareness here in New Orleans," he said. "Plus, I can do a little civic duty and try to get our convention here as soon as possible." ■



Last year, with its first annual MG Walk, the New Orleans group raised \$25,272 toward finding a cure for MG and closely related disorders, improving treatment options, and providing information and support to people with MG through research, education, community programs and advocacy.

Administrative changes at Children's Hospital's

In preparation for the takeover of management and operations of the Interim Louisiana Hospital, Children's Hospital's parent corporation, Louisiana Children's Medical Center (LCMC), has made several executive appointments to the leadership of both hospitals.

Cindy Nuesslein, vice president of operations, has been assigned as chief executive officer of Interim Louisiana Hospital and the new University Medical Center when it is completed in approximately 2015. Mary Perrin, vice president of operations, has become vice president, chief operating officer of Children's Hospital. John Heaton, M.D., who is currently director of anesthesiology, has become associate medical director. He now oversees patient safety and quality in Anesthesiology, Perfusion, the Emergency Department and the Quality Assurance Department.

Greg Feirn, senior vice president, chief financial officer, remains in his current role, but because of his growing duties for LCMC, some of the departments he oversees have been assigned to other vice presidents. Diane Michel, vice president of nursing, has assumed responsibility for two additional departments, Surgery and Behavioral Health. Tammy Reites, vice president of patient financial services and information technology, has assumed responsibility for the Children's Healthcare Network and managed care contracting. Brian Landry, vice president of marketing, has assumed responsibility for the Tooth Bus and physician liaison outreach.

Natasha Haynes, assistant vice president of the Research Institute, has been promoted to assistant vice president of hospital operations. Chris Sale was also hired to serve as assistant vice president of hospital operations.

Swamp humor helps lift Dr. Greene's practice

Neurosurgeon Clarence Greene is having fun with the sweeping national popularity of The History Channel's "Swamp People." The program features Pierre Part, La., native Troy Landry and the exploits of his family's alligator hunting team. In a play on Landry's signature catch phrase, "Choot 'em!," Dr. Greene's license plate reads "Chunt 'em!" Cerebral shunts are commonly used to treat the swelling of the brain due to excess buildup of cerebrospinal fluid following an injury. If left unchecked, the buildup of fluid can lead to increased intracranial pressure and brain damage.

"When the show came out, all of us in the department were hooked. I'm a newbie to Louisiana, and the characters and language were fascinating," Greene said. "Dr. Lori McBride came up with 'Chunt 'em!' Out of devilment, I thought I'd put it on my license plate. It was available and approved by the DMV."

"It's a piece of whimsy because neurosurgery can be so dreary at times," he said. "If you can't have a sense of humor, why bother?"



Medical Staff officers take positions

A new executive board of officers of the Medical Staff took charge on Feb. 1. The new officers are George Koclanes, M.D., president; Rick Baumgartner, M.D.; vice president; and Evans Valerie, M.D., secretary-treasurer. The board's term will last one year.

Pediatricians advise against recreational trampoline use

The American Academy of Pediatrics has once again recommended that pediatricians should advise parents and children against using trampolines for recreational purposes. The original alert was published in 1977 and has been repeated several times since then.

Based on data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) it has been calculated that there were approximately 98,000 trampoline-related injuries in 2009. Many of these injuries were relatively mild, e.g. bruises, sprains or strains. However, more severe injuries included fractures and dislocations. Alarming, 48 percent of injured children five years of age or younger fit into this category. More than 3,000 of the 98,000 injuries were sufficiently severe to require admission to hospital and some, especially injuries to the spine, resulted in death.

The number of trampolines sold and the number of trampoline-related injuries peaked in 2004. Both have declined since then. Nevertheless, injuries still occur at a frequency which remains a cause for concern. Even the use of netting and other safety features on trampolines has not been as effective in reducing injuries as had been expected.

The majority of trampoline injuries (about 75 percent) occur when multiple people are jumping simultaneously on the equipment. Under these circumstances it is almost always the youngest participant, especially those in the five year and under age group, who is injured.

Unsuccessful attempts to perform somersaults or flips are frequently the cause for cervical spine injuries and the resulting permanent or devastating consequences.

The highest prevalence of injuries (160 per 100,000) occurs in five to 14 year olds with 70 per 100,000 being seen in children aged four years and younger. Lower rates are seen in adults.

Falls from the trampoline account for up to 39 percent of the injuries, especially if the equipment is set up on an uneven surface or if there are nearby trees or obstacles on the ground near the trampoline. Other factors predisposing to injuries include poor maintenance of the equipment, worn protective padding and absence of active supervision by adults.

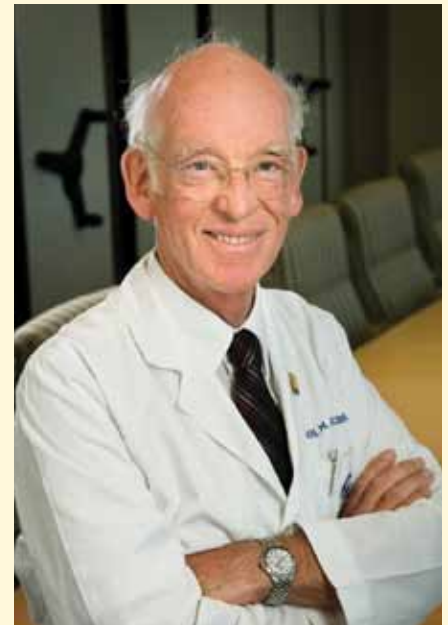
If your family chooses to use a trampoline, what measures should be taken?

- 1) Only one person should use the trampoline at any time.
- 2) There should be an adult supervising the action. Merely being present is not enough.
- 3) The equipment should be well maintained and should be inspected carefully before each session.
- 4) Somersaults and flips should be permitted only if the participant is an appropriately trained gymnast and under the supervision of a coach.
- 5) Before your child plays on a trampoline make sure that your insurance policies cover any trampoline-related claim. Many do not.

Trampolines were designed initially as a training tool for acrobats and gymnasts, not for recreational play by children.

Please play it safe. We can care for any of the injuries that can result from trampoline accidents but prefer that parents follow the advice of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

More details about all of these issues can be found in the medical journal *Pediatrics*, 2012 volume 130; pages 774-779. ■



Based on data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) there were approximately 98,000 trampoline related injuries in 2009.

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



Catherine Kiracofe, PsyD, *Psychology*

Professional School: Widener University, Chester, Pa.

Specialty Training: Children's Hospital, New Orleans



Rebecca Rothbaum, PsyD, *Psychology*

Professional School: Widener University, Chester, Pa.

Specialty Training: Children's Hospital, New Orleans

Did You Know?

Children's Hospital recorded 200,834 patient visits in 2012, with children coming to us from all 64 parishes in Louisiana, 37 states and 6 foreign countries. In all, 60,557 children received care from our hospital last year.

Several RIC programs receive research funding

Several studies being conducted at the Research Institute for Children have received funding to further research.

The American Diabetes Association awarded Michael Lan, Ph.D., a grant for his diabetes study, “INS-VNTR and AIRE regulate differential insulin expression in human thymic epithelial cells.”

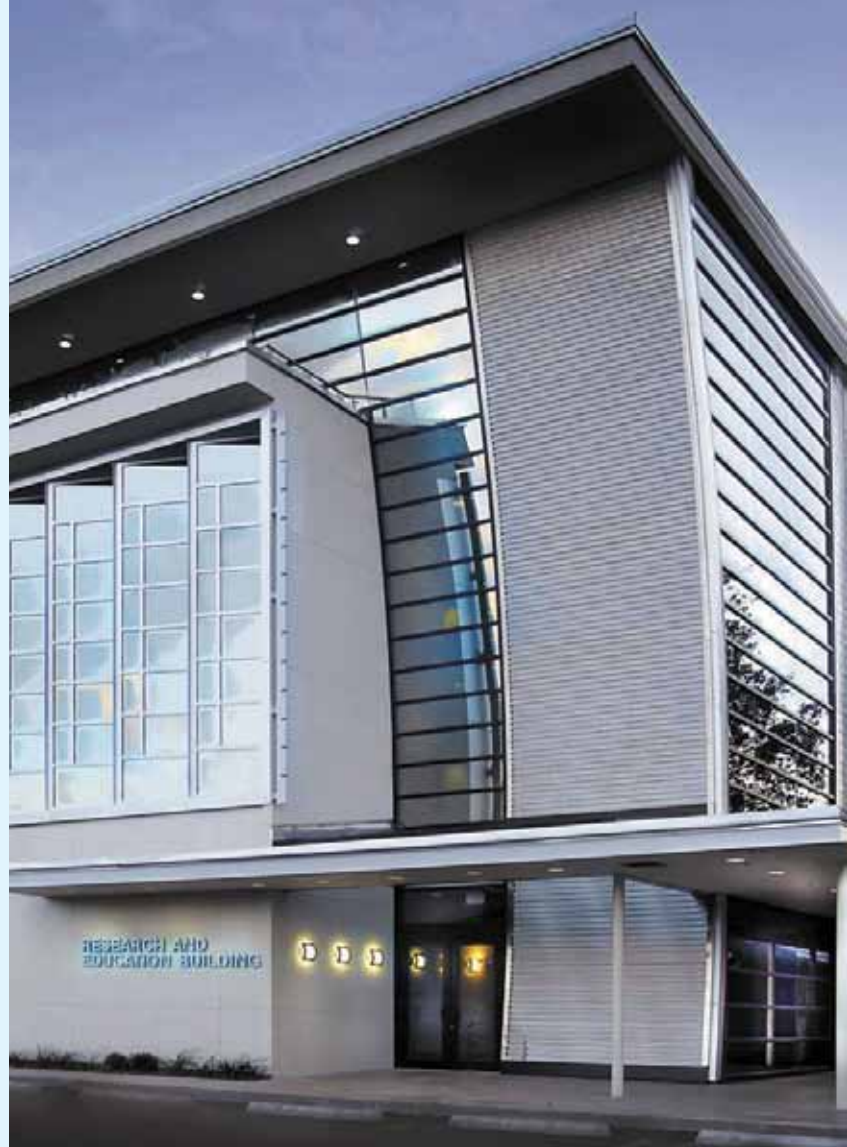
In the study, Dr. Lan hopes to get a better understanding of why insulin autoimmunity has been closely associated with the development of type 1 diabetes (T1D).

“It is unclear why the self-insulin peptide escapes immune tolerance and causes the autoimmune destruction of pancreatic beta cells,” Dr. Lan said. “Studies focused on the molecular mechanisms leading to the induction of normal tolerance would provide critical information about the disease process and could lead to the improvement of disease prevention and therapies for this autoimmune form of diabetes.”

The insulin minisatellite, variable number of tandem repeat (INS-VNTR/IDDM2) locus, is closely associated with T1D. INS-VNTR is associated with the regulation of constitutive insulin expression in both the thymus and pancreas, he said. Studies have shown that the AIRE protein positively regulates the INS-VNTR region in a haplotype-specific manner in thymic epithelial cells. These data have led researchers to hypothesize that AIRE in the thymus can modulate the unique INS-VNTR to control insulin gene expression. The levels of insulin expression in the thymus likely induce either insulin tolerance or autoimmunity related to the development of T1D.

“This study is novel because of the unique structural feature (multiple tandem repeats) of INS-VNTR target,” he said. “We will analyze the VNTR tandem repeat components and the functional domains of the AIRE protein to determine how that interaction modulates insulin expression in the thymus.”

Additionally, Children’s Hospital and the LSU Department of Pediatrics have started an intramural funding program for clinicians practicing at Children’s. The new program provides funding for doctors to do research with the goal of eventually seeking National Institute of Health (NIH) funding. All applications for the intramural funding program are reviewed for scientific merit



by a committee comprised of basic science researchers (PhDs) and clinicians (MDs), and the process mimics what happens during the federal funding process. So far three grants have been awarded.

Nephrologist Diego Aviles, M.D., is looking into a kidney condition called Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), which causes kidney failure and can recur after kidney transplantation.

“There is evidence that genetics play a role in the development of this kidney condition,” Dr. Aviles said. “One of the goals for the awarded study is to elucidate the role of microRNA in children’s with FSGS. This will allow us to achieve a better understanding of how this kidney disease develops in our patients.”

Two other projects also received funding – nephrologist Oluwatoyin Bamgbola, M.D.’s “Double-blinded, Placebo-controlled Crossover Clinical Trial to Determine Impact of Folic Acid Use on EPO Resistance in Pediatric Subjects on Chronic Peritoneal Dialysis” and endocrinologist Stuart Chalew, M.D.’s “The Role of Growth Hormone and Cortisol in Pediatric Type 2 Diabetes.” ■

Telling the Family Story

Almost everyone has a favorite family story that they love to tell when gathered together. Perhaps it's the tale of a great-great-grandparent who arrived here from the old country to build a new life from scratch. Or perhaps it's about an adventure Mom and Uncle David had when they were kids. Or maybe it's just reliving that family vacation that went hilariously awry, and the retelling seems much more enjoyable than the actual experience. For parents, family storytelling might involve telling a story about one's own childhood, recounting a loving anecdote about your child (who's listening intently even though he knows how it ends), or simply talking about collective family memories.

Most families do share stories of their distant and recent pasts, but is there value to our children when we do so? Research indicates that indeed there is. Stories shape our views of ourselves, other people and the events in our lives. They help all of us, children and adults, create a narrative of our experiences and make meaning from them.

Emory University psychologist Dr. Marshall Duke developed a questionnaire that investigated how family narratives affect our lives. Surprisingly, Duke found that people who had an in-depth knowledge of their family history were more likely to have high levels of self-esteem, emotional security and happiness. Family knowledge could even help moderate the effects of stress.

Why would family storytelling have such a strong impact? Just as having established family rituals helps children feel a connection and identity as part of a group, storytelling helps a child feel a sense of belonging. Think about your favorite childhood family rituals around holiday and birthday celebrations, or unique traditions that might be specific to your family, such as marking the first

day of school with a pancake breakfast. These experiences are probably a big part of your family memories because recalling the pleasant event helps you feel connected to other family members.

Storytelling functions in a similar way. When children hear a story about their great-grandmother who grew up in a sod hut on the Nebraska plains, they might never have met her, but they know something memorable about her, and her story is now part of theirs. Family stories can also offer children lessons about resiliency. Certainly every family has experienced losses and challenges, and talking to children about how members survived and thrived can help children see setbacks as just that: experiences that people are capable of overcoming.

So next time when driving in the car or sitting together at dinner, take the time to tell your child a story from your childhood, share some family lore, or even recount the day he or she was born. And encourage your children to tell you stories of their own memories and experiences while listening attentively. Talking about ties to the past can help family relationships stay strong far into the future.





Jordin Sparks Super Bowl Visit

American Idol alum Jordin Sparks stopped by Children's Hospital during Super Bowl weekend to deliver some cuddly Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Miracle Bears and visit with the kids being treated.

Prom of Champions

The 2013 Prom of Champions was held Friday, March 29, at Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World. The Prom of Champions is dedicated to providing amazing events throughout the year to Children's Hospital patients battling cancer and blood disorders, as well as support for their loved ones. The night started out with everyone arriving in limousines and being announced on the red carpet. There were Saints players and other local celebrities there to greet them as they entered. From there the night was filled with dancing, singing, pictures, food and quite possibly the biggest candy table ever!

This event would not have been possible without all of the donations and time that we received from our sponsors. A very big thank you goes out to Magnolia Holdings & G. Smith Motorsports.



Children's Hospital Telethon

The 30th annual Children's Hospital Telethon will air live on WDSU on June 1-2. The broadcast will air Saturday from 2 to 6:30 p.m., and will resume on Sunday from 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Gulf South region generously opened their hearts and wallets in support of last year's Telethon, raising a record amount of more than \$1.81 million. Since 1984, the annual event has brought in more than \$21 million to Children's Hospital.

Money raised through the annual event is used to ensure the most advanced medical and surgical equipment is always available and that no child is turned away because of their family's inability to pay for services.





JUNE

- 1** **Telethon**
2-6:30 p.m.; WDSU Channel 6

Chevron Volleyball Classic
2:30 p.m. check in, 4 p.m. play begins;
Coconut Beach, Kenner
- 2** **Telethon**
6 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; WDSU Channel 6
- 8** **Sigma Alpha Epsilon's Donut Dash 5K**
9 a.m.; Nicholls State University
- 14** **Biloxi Walmart Supercenter
Golf Tournament**
9 a.m.; Windance Golf Course

CARNIVAL TIME!

G.W. Bailey crowned Bacchus XLV

Actor G.W. Bailey was crowned Bacchus XLV on the Friday before Mardi Gras at Children's Hospital. Bailey currently stars on the TNT series *Major Crimes*, a spinoff of *The Closer*. He is executive director of the Sunshine Kids, a nationally recognized foundation dedicated to children with cancer.



The Krewe of Bacchus parade was founded in 1968 by a handful of New Orleans business leaders whose dream was to revolutionize Mardi Gras with larger and more spectacular floats, a more diverse membership, and a national celebrity as king. Bacchus staged their first parade in 1969 with 250 members and fifteen floats. Bacchus has now grown to 1,350 members and 33 animated super-floats. Bailey, and crew members visited patients in our cancer center and handed out krewe-themed beads and trinkets.

Thoth 2013

The Krewe of Thoth made two visits to the hospital. Just before parade season, 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. Thoth, known as the Krewe of Shut-ins for their practice of parading past more than a dozen Uptown institutions serving the seriously ill or handicapped, began their Sunday parade right in front of Children's Hospital.

Clydesdales

One of Budweiser's famous Clydesdales also visited patients and families during carnival, drawing a "big" audience.

AUGUST

- 8** **Miracle Treat Day at Dairy Queen**

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





Rolling Awareness

One in five Louisiana children with special healthcare need resources, Steven Nguyen is helping them.

Steven Nguyen knows the challenges of growing up in a wheelchair – the isolation of being unique, the pain of bullying from other kids for being different, the desire to be like other children, the struggles to get from one place to another when a path is blocked or too narrow, or to reach something too high or low. The 23-year-old Marrero native has experienced enough tribulations that he could be intensely insular. Yet, in February, Nguyen was recognized with the Ryan Colburn Scholarship by the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) for outstanding leadership in the field of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) in his work as youth liaison at the Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) Family Resource Center at Children's Hospital in New Orleans.

Nguyen was born with spina bifida, a birth defect involving incomplete closure of the spinal column when the baby is in the womb. It is the most common permanently disabling birth defect in the United States, affecting one per 1,000 live births. Each day, about eight American babies are born with it or a similar birth defect of the brain and spine. While no one is sure of its cause, children and young adults with spina bifida often have mental, social and physical problems, including walking and getting around, going to the bathroom, latex allergy, obesity, skin breakdown (bed sores), gastrointestinal disorders, learning disabilities, depression, tendonitis and sexual issues.

Since September, Nguyen has been serving in a mentoring capacity, working with patients that go through Children's

Hospital Rehabilitation Program. He assists inpatients and their families with an accessibility survey, which helps medical staff determine and help improve a child's capabilities so they may become as independent as possible. He also provides information about resources available throughout the state, so patient families will know how to access the help they need when they go home.

"Having a disability, especially an acquired disability, is tough," Nguyen said. "It makes you think a lot different from somebody who is able bodied. But a proper support staff can really make a difference in reducing frustrations and making life easier."

Currently, there are more than 207,000 Louisiana children who have special healthcare needs. That's about one in five of the state's kids.

"The last national survey for families of children with special healthcare needs showed that 35 percent of families in Louisiana having a child with a special healthcare need had problems learning about and accessing needed community resources," said Betsey Snider, RN, nurse coordinator of the Family Resource Center, the principle public agency ensuring these kids have access to healthcare services designed to minimize their disabilities and maximize their probabilities of enjoying independent and self-sufficient lives.

"Steven shows these kids and their parents that in order to be successful they need to be able to speak up and advocate for themselves," Snider said. "But I'm not only seeing him do that with kids in the hospital. He's reaching out to kids that he grew up with, kids that maybe weren't as successful as he's been; and he's telling them about agencies that can help them get into college or vocational school."

"Sometimes these kids fall through the cracks. He's a role model," she said. "He's providing encouragement and motivating them."

Children's Hospital Neurosurgeon Joseph Nadell, co-director of the Rehabilitation Program and Nguyen's physician for 21 years, said he tries to encourage his spina bifida patients to excel academically in spite of their physical limitations.

"Sometimes these kids feel this disability can prevent them from achieving success, so you have to constantly motivate them," Nadell said. "Steven is more effective in that aspect than I because he's one of them. He's been successful and will continue to succeed."

"He's quiet and soft spoken, but he gets things done. He has a way of getting people to do things they didn't expect that they could. When he speaks, people listen."

Physical Therapy director Anna Smith said Nguyen has brought a different perspective, which has changed some of her department's practices. "He knows what it's like not to be able to get around," Smith

Currently, there are more than 207,000 Louisiana children who have special healthcare needs. That's about one in five of the state's kids.



Nguyen discusses a patient's accessibility survey with neurologist Joaquim Wong, M.D.



While in Washington, D.C., Nguyen was able to meet Louisiana's senators, Mary Landrieu (far left) and David Vitter (far right).

said. "He's a great communicator, and doing a terrific job helping the hospital and the patients we serve by letting us know how we can make the patient experience better."

Lee Myers, Child Life director, said he is able to help medical staff eliminate medical jargon from their discussions with patient families so that it makes sense to the general public. "He lets us know what is family-friendly and what's not and helps us to change it to make it easy to understand."

The Ryan Colburn Scholarship is given nationally to one youth who has demonstrated leadership in public or community service activities and was a recipient of services made possible through the Title V- Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program. Preference is given to individuals who have demonstrated active participation as youth leaders in the disability community. It allows one youth with special healthcare needs the opportunity to attend the annual AMCHP conference in Washington, D.C.

Enacted in 1935 as a part of the Social Security Act, the Title V Maternal and Child Health Program is the nation's oldest federal-state partnership. For more than 75 years, the program has provided a foundation for ensuring the health of the nation's mothers, women, children and youth, including children with special needs and their families. Title V funds have enabled Nguyen and other children to access much needed subspecialty care through Children's Special Health Services clinics across the state.

As a conference attendee, Nguyen had the opportunity to

network with healthcare professionals, parent advocates and youth leaders from the state and national levels to learn about different MCH care and advancements and bring back to New Orleans the best practices for children and youth with special healthcare needs.

While in the capital, Nguyen met with Senators Mary Landrieu and David Vitter to discuss services funded through the MCH Block Grant, his involvement with MCH and how the program has helped him become the person that he is today.

When Nguyen isn't working at Children's, he can be found playing basketball and giving back in other ways. He is a board member of Spina Bifida of Greater New Orleans and an active participant in Champions of Greater New Orleans support group, which encourages social interaction for children with disabilities and their families. In addition, he is enrolled at Delgado Community College, pursuing a degree in computer information technology.

"This whole experience was definitely one that I will cherish for the rest of my life, and I am humbled to have been given this opportunity," Nguyen said. "My ultimate goal in life is to inspire other youth with special healthcare needs to work hard and be the best that they can be, despite the many obstacles that they will have to overcome in life."

"I've fallen out of my chair many times. If you've never needed help, you don't understand the feelings of helplessness that comes along with it," he said. "I know there are a lot of people out there who need help. I want to be there to help them when they need it." ■



Sugarplum Ball raises funds and awareness for expanding autism services

For nearly six decades Children's Hospital has been providing outstanding medical and surgical care to the children of our region. As the state's only hospital exclusively dedicated to pediatrics, Children's Hospital is proud of its vital contribution toward improving the health and welfare of hundreds of thousands of children. Sugarplum Ball, one of the hospital's largest fundraising events, plays an important role in helping us meet and exceed these objectives.

On the evening of Friday, March 8, friends of the hospital came together in celebration of the 32nd annual Sugarplum Ball, "Midnight in Paris," at The Old Ursuline Convent in the French Quarter. Sugarplum Ball paid tribute to orthopaedic surgeon Andrew King, M.D., who has dedicated his career to the care of children with orthopaedic issues.

Ball co-chairs Betsey Todd and Christy Kane welcomed almost 1,000 patrons at the sold-out event. Guests entered the convent from Chartres Street into a labyrinth of hedges. On the balcony above the entrance James Martin and his jazz quartet entertained guests as they entered. One of two guest houses on the property, known as the intern building, was transformed into the façade of a French market complete with baskets of flowers, loaves of bread, fruits and vegetables all created by decorations chairwoman Lisa Happoldt. Included in the exquisite event lighting was a video of the Eiffel Tower, created by Pyramid Audio Productions, projected on an adjacent building. Patrons were heard saying that they felt like they were in Paris with the Eiffel Tower in the distance. Board member Fran Villere said "the evening was beautiful and Ursuline Convent was spectacular."

Samuel Liegeon, the "Young French Artist in Residence at the St. Louis Cathedral," played the organ in the historic St. Mary's Church adjacent to the convent, which invited guests to see the beautiful church.

Phat Hat kept the party moving and dancing into the night.

The Sugarplum Ball committee also garnered notable New Orleans restaurants to showcase their celebrated dishes such as oysters charbroiled onsite by Drago's, cochon de lait sliders from Superior Seafood, duck and andouille gumbo from JW Marriott, crawfish deviled eggs with paddlefish caviar and preserved lemons by Ralph Brennan's Red Fish Grill, and crawfish diavolo from Maximo's Italian Grill. The centerpiece of the auction tent was a four foot tall Eiffel Tower cake designed by Haydel's Bakery.

Proceeds from this year's Sugarplum Ball will benefit the expansion of services at the Autism Center at Children's Hospital. One child in every 88 and one out of every 54 boys has an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The Autism Center is growing to meet the needs of families dealing with this life-altering diagnosis. The center currently provides diagnostic evaluation, medication management and a parent support group for caregivers of children with ASD. However, it is expanding to include behavioral treatment for children with ASD and their families, social skills groups and resource coordination for families. These services will fulfill a critical need in the community and improve the quality of life for children with ASD and their families.



Children's Hospital President and CEO Steve Worley with wife, Patti



Robin English, M.D., Costa Dimitriades, M.D., and Victoria Dimitriades, M.D.



St. Mary's Church at the Old Ursuline Convent



Children's Hospital CFO Greg Feirn, Decorations Chair Lisa Hoppoldt and Sugarplum Ball Honoree Andrew King, M.D.



French marketplace in the courtyard



George and Fran Villere with Children's Hospital Board Chairman Whit Huguley



Co-hosts Betsey Todd and Christy Kane with their husbands, Andrew Todd and Sean Kane



Children's Hospital psychologists Steven Gentile, Karen Boggs, Diane Frenz, Jodi Kemps and Charles Coleman



David and Dottie Haydel



A view of Paris in the courtyard



James Martin Quartet welcomes guests

Kids Fund raises \$1 million for CHNOLA's Cancer Program

The 2012 Kids Fund Campaign raised \$1,070,843 to help fund care for the 1,100 young cancer victims who come to our hospital each year. Chef Susan Spicer served as chair of the campaign, while Allergist/Immunologist Ken Paris, M.D., led the Physicians Campaign. Children's Hospital is grateful to all who supported the campaign. Your support helps the hospital's Cancer Program continue its efforts to provide the best available treatment to young hematology and oncology patients and helps the hospital maintain its policy of never turning away a child who needs the care we provide.

Headmaster Gould

Isabella Gould was "Headmaster for the Day" at St. George's Episcopal School. The headmaster offered students in the lower school a dress down day if they contributed \$2 each to go to Children's Hospital. Ms. Gould donated the \$603.25 raised.



Novartis grant benefits SKIP

Novartis, a world leader in the development and production of vaccines, has decided to continue its support of the School Kids Immunization Program (SKIP) through a very generous gift of \$100,000. The SKIP program visits schools in Orleans and St. Bernard parishes to review vaccination records, enter those records into the state's immunization registry, and provide immunizations to children who are lacking required vaccinations. After the records are reviewed by the SKIP nurses, letters are sent home to the parents of children who are lacking immunizations. Parents sign a permission slip and return it to school, and our SKIP team delivers the vaccinations free of charge. Last year, SKIP recorded 7,284 patient visits and gave more than 12,000 immunizations.

MEMORIALS

November 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013

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Children's Hospital Bass Classic

The Children's Hospital Bass Classic presented by Courtesy Automotive Group, held on Saturday, March 2, at Doiron's Landing in Stephenville, La., was another great success. The tournament raised more than \$43,000 to help the hospital operate its emergency transport helicopter, which transports gravely ill and seriously injured children from throughout Louisiana to the hospital for care. Anglers caught 231 fish, which were released at the tournament's conclusion. Father and son team Willie Couch II and Willie Couch III, of Donaldsonville, were the big winners with five fish weighing 15.38 pounds, allowing them to pocket the \$12,500 first-place purse. Morgan City anglers Kevin Voisin and Bill McCarty claimed the Big Bass first prize money of \$1,250 with a 4.84 pounder. Children's Hospital is grateful to tournament founder and chairman Gary W. Cross and tournament director Brad Rodrigue for their tireless efforts, as well as presenting sponsor Courtesy Automotive Group and Cabela's, the pre-tournament host and donor of door prizes for both the pre-tournament and tournament. Next year's Children's Hospital Bass Classic will be held Saturday, March 1, 2014.

Mo's Pizza Fest celebrates 10 years of giving

The 10th annual Mo's Pizza Fest brought food, fun and music to Westwego. The fundraiser, which benefits Children's Hospital and the Westwego police and fire departments, was a great success thanks to the tireless efforts of Jeff and Lisa Arcemont and the entire staff at Mo's Pizza. Festival goers enjoyed pizza and other treats while listening to the eclectic mix of live music provided by Foret Tradition, No Idea, The Top Cats and MoJeaux.

IHOP helps batter pediatric illnesses

IHOP celebrated National Pancake Day by giving away free short stacks of pancakes to customers who donated what they would have paid for the free pancakes, or more, to Children's Hospital. During the past five years, IHOP has given away more than 10 million buttermilk pancakes and helped raise more than \$5.35 million for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Italian American Fishing Rodeo set for May 11-12

The 6th Annual Italian American Fishing Rodeo will be held at the Breton Sound Marina. Organizers Robbie Rabb and Allen Catoire promise to surpass last year's extraordinarily successful rodeo. A Captain's Party will be held at the marina Friday night featuring great food, beer and soft drinks. The tournament offers prizes for first, second and third place redfish, speckled trout, white trout, flounder, sheepshead and drum in the adult division, and first place in the children's division. Entry for adults is \$35; \$15 for non-fishing participants; kids under 15 are free. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To download a registration form, go to www.italianamericanfishingrodeo.com.

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Alicia Franklin
Susan Gauthreux
Jerry Goans
Dana Hladky
Laurie Jones
Steve & Danae Piske
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ACF-NO "Best Chefs" Event to benefit CHNOLA

The American Culinary Federation—New Orleans presented its 3rd Annual "Best Chefs of Louisiana" event at Generations Hall on Monday, April 8. More than 30 of our area's best chefs tantalized guests with their signature dishes. Included in this prestigious group were Alon Shaya (Domenica), Bart Bell (Crescent Pie & Sausage Co.), Brack May (Cowbell), Jacques Leonardi (Jacques-Imo's), Darren Smitty (Joey K's), Frank Wong (Trey Yuen), Phillip Lopez (ROOT), Michael Regua (Antoine's), Michael Gulotta (Restaurant August), Randy Buck (Hotel Monteleone), Ron Iafate (Chef Ron's Gumbo Stop), Scott Snodgrass (ONE Restaurant), Shane Pritchett (Fat Hen Grocery), Chris Montero (Café b), Glen Armantrout (Café Reconcile), and Keith & Nealy Frenz (Lola in Covington) along with several more of our region's most notable culinary artists. Noted food critic Tom Fitzmorris hosted the awards ceremony. Attendees met this year's best chefs, enjoyed special dishes, custom beverages, a silent auction and musical entertainment by Louisiana Spice. The highlight of the auction came when Chef Andrea Apuzzo of the legendary Andrea's Restaurant joined Tom Fitzmorris onstage to auction a week's stay at his beautiful home, Villa Regina, on the picturesque island of Capri off the coast of Italy. The stay fetched \$4,250 and the entire event brought in \$7,950 for Children's Hospital.



Children's Hospital Guild hosts another successful bingo

The Children's Hospital Guild celebrated the Carnival season with its most prominent fundraiser, the Mardi Gras Mambo Bingo, February 14 at the Pontchartrain Center. Bingo chairs Debbie Albert, Virginia Eckholdt, Susan Graham and Joann Wisdom oversaw the most successful bingo to date.

Nearly 360 Guild members and their friends played Mardi Gras krewe-sponsored bingo games called by Zach Strief of the New Orleans Saints and FOX8 weatherman Bob Breck. Attendees also took chances on a festive parade of prizes and a purple, green and gold adorned money tree.

The \$6,668.37 raised from the Bingo will go toward The Guild's recent pledge of \$250,000 for the building of two new surgical suites at Children's Hospital. This two-year pledge will give the hospital the ability to schedule more surgery patients in a shorter amount of time, thereby alleviating some of the stress and wait for parents.

To help reach this goal, The Guild would like to extend an invitation to join. Membership dues are \$20 per year, and members receive discounts to all Guild-sponsored activities and luncheons. Membership forms can be found on the Volunteering page on www.chnola.org or by calling the Children's Hospital Public Affairs Department at (504) 896-9373.

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patient inspirations



ANGRY BIRDS

Zeth Adams, 8



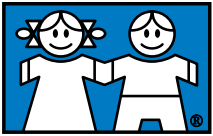
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June 1 & 2

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