



# Children's

  

## gazette

FALL 2002 • VOL.2 NO.4



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the Odds

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Dear friends,

Did you know that one of the leading health concerns of our children today is obesity? Thirteen percent of children and adolescents are seriously overweight, and that number is steadily growing. If you're concerned about the weight of your children, Miami Children's Hospital and our medical staff can help. In this issue of *Children's Gazette*, you can learn simple strategies to cut back on unhealthy foods, and you can check out our outpatient weight management program.

You can also find out how to become a part of our grassroots effort to help children in Miami-Dade County and all across Florida. By joining the Children's Advocacy Network, you can make a difference that will be felt now and long into the future. There's a cut-out reply card included on page 6—please fill it out and join us today!

In addition, this issue features Jennifer Nebel, an amazing little girl who overcame adversity after being born at just 23 weeks of gestation and weighing only 14 ounces. Though her chances of survival were slim, Jennifer has grown into a happy 2-year-old—and there's no stopping this little girl!

You'll also read the inspiring story of Armaan Sharma. Born with epilepsy, he suffered countless seizures each day until the expert Miami Children's Hospital Comprehensive Epilepsy Program neurological team performed the surgery that saved his life.

I hope you enjoy this issue—it's packed with helpful hints for you and your family. Thank you for your continued support of Miami Children's Hospital.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Rozek  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**MIAMI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

# Overcoming the Odds

PATIENT PROFILE:

## Jennifer Nebel

**B**ig things come in small packages. Jodi and Ron Nebel realize this each time they look at their daughter, Jennifer Nicole Grace. When Jodi suffered kidney failure just 20 weeks into her pregnancy, her doctors knew little Jennifer was in trouble. Though they offered little hope for Jennifer's future, the Nebels refused to give up, and an emergency Cesarean was performed. Jennifer, born at 23 weeks and weighing only 14 ounces, was then rushed to Miami Children's Hospital. She is now a small but active 2-year-old.

### An Unexpected Turn of Events

Jennifer's dramatic early arrival into the world began after an ultrasound at 20 weeks showed that she was developing on target. Jodi, meanwhile, was slowly swelling and had serious pressure in her head. At a nurse's recommendation, Jodi checked her blood pressure at a local pharmacy—it was incredibly high. Jodi was rushed to the hospital where she was diagnosed as being in toxic shock with her kidneys near failure. The doctors were concerned about Jodi's life, and they soon learned that her baby was in trouble, too.

"The doctors said that even if Jennifer survived, she would probably live a vegetative life," says Jodi. "But I knew God placed this little life in me for a reason. I couldn't let her die!"

### An Angel Unaware

The Nebels had only a few moments to make a difficult decision. Searching for a sign to go through with the Cesarean section delivery, Jodi called the hospital chaplain's office.



Jennifer Nebel, who started life at only 14 ounces, is now an active 2-year-old following care at Miami Children's. Her favorite activity is playing with her brother, Kevin, 8.

"As a Christian, I was calling for a minister or priest," says Jodi, "but the only person available was a rabbi—it turned out God used him to give me my answer. He made me realize that the doctors and nurses were there to help deliver my baby. I knew this was the answer I needed."

### A Miracle in the Making

After performing the emergency C-section, the doctors took baby Jennifer to an incubator to be stabilized. The umbilical cord had wrapped four times around her neck, a sight the doctors had never seen, and the slow beating of Jennifer's heart signaled that her heartbeat would stop unless quick action was taken.

Jennifer was transported to Miami Children's Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, where F. Amed Soliz, MD, neonatologist and Head of the NICU; Pablo Valencia, MD, neonatologist; and their team of nurses immediately went to work saving Jennifer's life.

"We'd never seen such a small, underweight baby," says Dr. Soliz. "Fortunately, Miami Children's has the staff and technology to care for this kind of delicate situation."

At Miami Children's, Jennifer had numerous tubes extending from her tiny body and underwent blood transfusions nearly every day. In addition, her eyes were fused together. The doctors closely monitored her eyes, knowing they had a 24-hour window of time to operate. They performed emergency laser surgery at just the right moment, saving her sight.

Finally, after spending her first four months of life in a hospital, Jennifer went home at barely four pounds—two days before Christmas. Who could ask for a better Christmas present?

### A Happy Ending

"We see baby Nebel quite often," says Dr. Soliz. "She looks so beautiful, smiling and trying to walk."

"It was a blessing that Jennifer was transported to Miami Children's," says Jodi. "They saved her life."

Jennifer is now a happy 2-year-old who loves to play and laugh with her 8-year-old brother, Kevin, and her purple dinosaur, Barney. After recuperating at home for 1 1/2 years, she's been to the beach and to Mardi Gras at Disney World. She doesn't slow down for one minute—she's got too much living to do.

# Obesity

## ARE YOUR KIDS AT RISK?

**L**e's face it: your hectic lifestyle keeps you on your toes. After an exhausting day at work, you squeeze in time for a grab-and-go meal from a drive-thru restaurant, and once home, kick off your shoes and crash on the couch for a little tube time. But what about your kids?

If you're like many American families, your children are right beside you. But hey, they're growing, and a few extra pounds won't hurt—or will it?

According to the United States Surgeon General, the answer is yes. The organization reports that 70 percent of overweight and obese adolescents will become obese adults.

"Obesity is associated with a number of serious medical conditions including Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and coronary heart disease," says Samuel Richton, MD, board-certified endocrinologist and Director of the Division of Pediatric Endocrinology at Miami Children's Hospital. "We are diagnosing more children with Type 2 diabetes caused by obesity than ever before."

### The Rapid Rise of Childhood Obesity

Despite its dangers, the prevalence of obesity has been rapidly increasing over the past several years. In fact, the Centers for

- Disease Control estimates that twice as many children and three times as many adolescents are overweight today than in 1980. In addition, the American Diabetes Association reports that the rates of Type 2 diabetes among children—in most cases, a direct result of obesity—are reaching epidemic proportions.
- **A Simple Solution for Stopping Obesity**
- The good news is that stopping obesity could be simpler than it seems.
- Experts agree that the bad nutritional habits and sedentary lifestyle of most Americans are largely to blame for the alarming trend that's sweeping the nation.
- In fact, most overweight and obesity problems are directly related to the amount and kinds of foods that children eat.
- "It can be detrimental to label one child as 'fat' or 'overweight' or even talk about going on a diet," says Susan Malca, RD, LD, MS, Head Dietitian on staff at Miami Children's Hospital. "Instead, parents should insist on good eating habits for the entire family."
- "Depriving the overweight child of certain foods while allowing others to eat anything they want simply will not work," adds Dr. Richton. "The best strategy is to keep foods out of the house that you don't want your child to be eating."

### Simple Strategies for a Safer Weight

- Building better eating habits can be as simple as changing your shopping list.

"Successful management of obesity begins in the supermarket," says Dr. Richton.

"Children and teens eat the overwhelming majority of their meals at home. By keeping only healthy foods in the house, you

## Don't Wait for a Healthy Weight

Miami Children's Hospital offers a comprehensive outpatient weight management program for children. Rather than taking a "dieting" approach, the dietary experts provide nutritional counseling, and using the food pyramid as a guideline, develop weight loss meal plans based on the types of food your children like.

The program requires a physician's referral.

For more information, call (305) 663-6847.



can allow your child sensible splurges when they're out."

**Beverages.** Malca says that the first place to eliminate empty calories is with beverages. Here in Miami where the weather is so hot, children drink juice or soft drinks all day long to quench their thirst. Unfortunately, the drinks they're choosing may not be the best for their bodies.

"Soft drinks and even juice are full of calories that your children don't need," she says. "In fact, by drinking mainly water, you can cut out as many as 300 to 400 calories per day." The experts at Miami Children's recommend purchasing only water, seltzer and diet drinks for use at home.

**Fried foods.** "Another easy place to eliminate extra fat and calories is fried foods," says Lisa Eichenbaum, MS, RD, LD/N, consultant dietitian on staff at Miami Children's.

"Prepare foods by baking, grilling or broiling. Fried foods contain double or triple the fat and calories in lean meat, skinless chicken or baked fish."

**Snacks.** "If sugary, high-calorie snacks are causing problems at home, then don't keep them around," says Marisa Azaret, PsyD, Clinical Director of the Pediatric Behavioral Medicine Program at Miami Children's Hospital. "Give your children healthy choices, and you'll avoid power struggles over food."

And where your children eat can be as important as what they are eating. "The rule I give families I work with is this: no eating while watching TV and no watching TV while eating," says Dr. Richton.

### • **Get Fit with Physical Activity**

Though healthy eating is a critical component of safe weight management, regular exercise is just as essential. As the use of television, computers and video games becomes more widespread, children exercise less and less. In fact, major studies have shown a strong correlation between the number of hours of television watched and the degree of obesity in children.

"Limit the amount of time spent sitting, whether it's in front of the television, computer or video game," says Eichenbaum, "and increase the time you spend in physical activity as a family. Choose an activity or sport you enjoy, such as dancing, soccer or cycling, to ensure long-term commitment."

While organized exercise programs such as joining sports teams are most beneficial, simply playing a game of catch with your daughter or son in the backyard can be a great way to burn calories—and spend time together.

"Your child is watching and copying what you do as a parent," says Dr. Azaret. "By being a healthy role model and eating well and exercising regularly, your children will likely follow your lead."

### • **Habits That Last a Lifetime**

• "It's never too early to start making good lifestyle decisions,

- no matter how much you weigh," says Dr. Azaret. "The health of your family should be a top priority. If you instill good habits in your children now, they're likely to practice them for a lifetime."
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## Did You KNOW?

Thirteen percent of children and adolescents are seriously overweight—more than a little extra baby fat.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, obesity in children is defined as more than 20 percent above the ideal weight for the child's height and stature.

**Want to know how your child measures up?**

Your pediatrician can determine whether or not your children are overweight by comparing their height and weight against national averages.

If you need a pediatrician, call the Miami Children's Physician Referral service at (305) MCH-4KIDS (624-4543) or outside Miami-Dade at 1-888-556-4KIDS (4543).



# **Shelter from the Storm**

The Public Policy & Governmental Relations Department at Miami Children's Hospital was recently successful in acquiring the funds necessary to encapsulate much of the hospital's exterior walls, which will allow it to withstand winds associated with a Category 4 hurricane.

Miami Children's Hospital is a designated evacuation site for oxygen or ventilator-dependent children throughout the area. Thanks to the support of the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management and the leadership of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is helping to fund the project, which will protect patients in the hospital as well as provide a better shelter for the evacuated patients.

By encapsulating the hospital in hurricane-resistant paneling, the hospital can provide even more protection for these children. Windows in the encapsulated portion of the hospital are being replaced with new hurricane-resistant glass as well.

# **Building a Better Future for the Children**

**H**ow long does it take to make a difference in the lives of children all across the state and the country? Five minutes.

By joining Miami Children's Hospital's new Children's Advocacy Network, you can help us provide a brighter tomorrow for children in Florida and beyond. Our grassroots organization allows you to become a voice for Miami Children's Hospital at the local, state and federal levels—and all you have to do is pick up a pen.

After all, you only want the best for your child—the highest level of health care and the most skilled medical staff available. At Miami Children's, we want to bring high-quality pediatric care to children in Florida, the nation and the world.

But this is only possible with your support. "Decisions are being made by legislators every day that affect our children," says Nilda Rodriguez Pedrosa, Director of Public Policy and Governmental

Relations at Miami Children's Hospital. "We want to ensure that these representatives have the information they need to make choices and create the changes that will benefit the children of Florida."

Once you are a member, Miami Children's will send periodic **Action Alerts** that provide you with information on important issues—like enacting bicycle helmet laws or supporting funding for Graduate Medical Education that helps train our future pediatricians. You then act as an advocate for Miami Children's through e-mails, phone calls or letters to your legislators. It's that simple.

"Together, we can make a difference in the lives of our children," says Pedrosa. "By participating in the Children's Advocacy Network, you can help shape their future."

Fill out the form below or visit our Web site at [www.mch.com](http://www.mch.com) and click on "*Advocacy at MCH*" for more information on becoming a part of our Children's Advocacy Network.

## **Join our Children's Advocacy Network today!**

Fill out the form below and return it to the Public Policy & Governmental Relations Department, Miami Children's Hospital, 3100 SW 62nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33155-3009.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \* \_\_\_\_\_

City, state and ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax number: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Address necessary to assign legislative district.

# Robin Reiter-Faragalli

Named President of Miami Children's Hospital Foundation

**M**iami Children's Hospital is proud to welcome Robin Reiter-Faragalli as President of the Foundation. Reiter's responsibilities include directing all of the development activities and Foundation programs in support of Miami Children's Hospital.

Prior to this appointment, Reiter served as Vice President of Human Resources for *The Miami Herald* Publishing Company since August of 1999. As a member of the Executive Management Team, Reiter was responsible for all employee-related issues and was an active architect of the yearly planning process company wide.

From January 1994 through August 1999, Reiter was Senior Vice President and Executive Director of BankAtlantic Foundation, which facilitated all charitable contributions on behalf of BankAtlantic in Florida. She was hired to create the Foundation and to develop a civic presence for BankAtlantic.

Between 1991 and 1993, Reiter was an independent consultant in the areas of philanthropy, community and economic development and political and civil affairs. Her clients included universities, corporations, foundations and public agencies in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean. As a consultant for a project of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce designed to "jump-start" the economy in Miami-Dade County, she helped to identify close to \$800 million in public construction projects that were fast-tracked in 1992. Prior to her

work as a consultant, Reiter served as Vice President of Corporate Community Involvement and Executive Director of the Southeast Banking Corporation Foundation. Hired by Southeast Bank in 1980, she created the Foundation and guided its programs throughout its 11-year history. In this role, she was also responsible for assisting the bank with all social investing policies and the Community Reinvestment Act, as well as

providing the overall link between Southeast Bank and the communities it served, through organizations and government agencies throughout Florida and the nation.

Reiter has served as a guest speaker and panelist to many organizations, including Yale University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, The Conference Board, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Council on Foundations, and the Business Committee for the Arts. She has authored articles for *The Miami Herald* and *The Contributions Handbook* and for *Foundation News and New Society in Great Britain*.

Reiter is a graduate of Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

She is Chairman of The Beacon Council and a member of the Executive Committee, as well as a member of the Board of Governors of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of the Board of the I.C.W.I. Group Foundation in Jamaica and a trustee of The Peacock Foundation, a private foundation in Miami-Dade County.

Reiter currently serves as Treasurer for the International Women's Forum and is past President of the IWF-Florida Chapter. In addition, she has served as Co-Chair of the Dade-Monroe WAGES Coalition with the Mayor of Miami-Dade County, overseeing welfare reform; as Chairman of the Miami-Dade Public Schools Blue Ribbon Committee, overseeing the expenditure of \$1

billion of capital improvements; as Treasurer to the Council on Foundations in Washington; on the National Endowment for the Arts Theatre Panel; as Chairman of the State Theatre Board of Florida, and as Chairman and Founder of both the Florida Foundation Group and the Donors Forum of Miami.



# Creating Calm

## The Comprehensive Epilepsy Program at Miami Children's

**N**avodita Sharma, a resident of Orlando, Florida, went into labor in October 2001, happily expecting the birth of a healthy baby boy. But within minutes after her son, Armaan, was born, something went terribly wrong—his tiny body began shaking uncontrollably.

"Armaan was experiencing innumerable seizures every day," says Navodita. "For the first weeks of his life, he was either seizing or sleeping—sometimes both."

Armaan was soon diagnosed with a form of epilepsy called cortical dysplasia.

Though he was on medications that reduced the seizures, they were not

their doctor for a referral to a specialty facility.

"We told him we would be willing to travel anywhere in the world to ensure that Armaan received the best of care," says Navodita. "He referred us to the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program at Miami Children's."

The neurologists at Miami Children's were immediately able to evaluate Armaan's condition and made the decision to perform the surgery—a temporal lobe resection—when Armaan was just 10 weeks old. The surgery removed the portion of his brain that was causing the seizures. "Their decision was such a relief after hearing that my child might have to suffer years with his condition before he could get help," says Navodita.

**Dr. Michael Duchowny with a young boy who suffered intractable epilepsy since birth and underwent a successful epilepsy surgery to control his seizures.**

adequate treatment for the severity of his condition.

Armaan's physicians told Navodita that

he would have to wait about two years before they would even consider surgery as a treatment option.

But the Sharmas knew that Armaan couldn't wait. He was seizing so frequently that he couldn't eat or rest properly, so the family asked

Miami Children's Hospital. "Though it can be devastating in adulthood, the consequences are even greater in children because their brains, bodies and social skills are still developing."

While most cases can be controlled with medications, approximately 10 to 15 percent of children have medically resistant epilepsy, a more severe condition that isn't as easily managed.

### A World Leader at Home

Fortunately for these children and their families, the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program at Miami Children's is a worldwide leader. The program combines state-of-the-art-technology with pharmacological research and extensive neurological and neurosurgical expertise to offer hope and healing to children with epilepsy around the globe. "Our staff consists of highly trained medical specialists with a variety of backgrounds and expertise with epilepsy," says Dr. Duchowny. "We take a team approach to ensure that the children we treat receive the best available care."

That expertise is making a difference in families everywhere—just ask Navodita.

"Today, Armaan is a healthy, developing 1-year-old," she says. "I don't even know how to express the gratitude I have for everyone at Miami Children's."

For more information on how the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program can help you, call (305) 666-6511, extension 2607.

### A Friend in the Fight

And Armaan is not alone. Since its inception in 1980, the surgeons in the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program have treated more than 500 cases of medically resistant pediatric epilepsy—and over 35 of those children have been less than a year old.

"Epilepsy is a disorder that is caused by electrical storms in the brain," says Michael Duchowny, MD, board-certified neurologist on staff and Director of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center at

# Homework Haggling

**Y**our children always race home from school, eager to begin their homework for the next day, right? Wrong.

In reality, homework is something your children try to avoid, but it's also something you know is good for them. So how can you create a happy medium within your home?

**Patience + understanding = success.** "Kids thrive on routine, so establishing a set schedule for homework is essential," says Marisa Azaret, PsyD, Clinical Director of the Pediatric Behavioral Medicine Program at Miami Children's Hospital. "Consider your child's personality: does he like to get started right after school or does he need a short break first? Finding a time that fits your children's lifestyles can make homework a less unpleasant task for both of you."

**Set your terms.** Establish a time to study, then make your children stick to it. "Let them know what to expect," says Dr. Azaret. "Turn off the TV, the computer and other distractions. Agree that once the homework is completed, your children can go outside and play or watch their favorite TV show."

**Help them out.** Be available to your children to answer questions and check answers. In addition, teach your children to break big jobs into little chunks.

"Organization can be difficult for small children, so divide homework time into 15-minute increments," suggests Dr. Azaret. "Help them deal with the task they dread the most—like math problems—and always remember that some children need more parental involvement than others."

**Talk to the teacher.** "If your children are struggling, communication with their teachers may be helpful," says Dr. Azaret. "The teachers can explain what's expected of your children during the day, and you can find better ways to help them at home."



## George E. Batchelor



George E. Batchelor passed away on July 29, 2002, leaving his wife, Amanda, and family with many wonderful and colorful memories. Mr. Batchelor's legacy will be remembered by the thousands of children who will be helped through his generous support of Miami Children's Hospital Research Pavilion. He has been a long-time supporter of Miami Children's Hospital Foundation, and we will miss his guidance and encouragement.

## MCH FOUNDATION COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Deering Bay has become a popular location for the members of the Community Councils. Earlier this year the 2nd Annual Tennis Tournament was held there, and then in May the installation of officers took place in the dining room at Deering Bay. Guest speaker, Glenna Milberg, news reporter at WPLG Channel 10, entertained the members and told of how she became involved in the world of television.

On June 20, Ristorante La Bussola in Coral Gables hosted an elegant dinner for the Community Council. Coordinated by Julie Heller, the evening honored Deise Granado-Villar, MD, 2002 Healthcare Hero and Director of Preventive Medicine.



Dr. Christian Patrick, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez-Vallina, Dr. Deise Granado-Villar, Dr. Steven Melnick, Dr. Rigoberto Nuñez and Dr. Stanley Smith.



### Congratulations!

Congratulations on the birth of a baby boy, **Jon Henri**, to **Jon and Mari-Tere Secada!** Jon Henri is brother to Mikaela, and another star for the Hugs & Kisses Children's Fashion Show next year.

# Happy 85th Birthday!

Ambassador David McLean Walters

*Founder and President Emeritus  
of Miami Children's Hospital Foundation*

**O**n April 4, 1917, David McLean Walters was born in Cleveland, Ohio—and the world has never been the same since!

Successful in all aspects of his many years of active life, from earning the Bronze Star as a Counter Intelligence Officer during World War II, to a prosperous federal, admiralty, aviation and immigration law practice, to his role as a dynamic political fundraiser, to being the U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican—the most rewarding success for Dave Walters has been the creation and achievements of Miami Children's Hospital.

A lifetime of triumphs rarely comes without heartbreak—the death of his granddaughter Shannon Joy Smith to leukemia; his first wife, Betty, to cancer; and his grandson to violence—but Dave has shown a tenacity and strength of character to survive. Out of these deep tragedies blossomed a commitment that no Florida child should ever be without world-class medical care.



Leading the transformation of Variety Children's Hospital into today's world-renowned Miami Children's Hospital has been Dave Walters' mission for the past 32 years.

His 85th birthday was celebrated in style at the Biltmore Hotel among family and friends who gathered to recognize his life and accomplishments. The occasion brought tributes to Ambassador Walters for his many achievements and the success of Miami Children's Hospital Foundation by local governments and the U.S. Congress.

## HERITAGE SOCIETY

### THE CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

At some point in time, a substantial portion of your wealth will be taken into the public domain for the benefit of society by various forms of taxation. As an alternative, you can direct how your dollars are spent—and receive other significant benefits—by making a charitable contribution via a charitable remainder trust (CRT).

A CRT is an irrevocable trust providing for distributions to you (or your family) for life or a term of years, with the remainder passing to charity.

Income can be received on a guaranteed basis, structured to rise (and fall) with the trust's asset value, or structured to defer income to a future date. Because a charity holds a remainder interest in the trust, the CRT is exempt from income taxation and



Darin I. Zenov

capital gains tax upon the sale of appreciated assets. Therefore, a CRT can also dramatically reduce taxes stemming from the sale of appreciated assets while increasing your immediate cash flow. At the end of your retained interest, the trust ends and distributes the remaining principal to your favorite charities.

Some of the advantages to using a CRT include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Transferring property to a CRT generates a current income tax deduction.
- The sale of appreciated assets by the CRT will avoid income tax on the gain. Aside from the tax savings, this permits the trust to invest its assets in a more diversified portfolio.
- The assets of the CRT may be sheltered from the reach of creditors.

• Your charitable goals and/or your family name will be perpetuated by distributing the balance of the trust to the charities of your choice.

The CRT is a wonderful estate-planning tool that permits you to receive a current charitable income tax deduction; defer or avoid capital gains; receive an income stream with a present value that may actually be greater than what you are now receiving; and make a positive statement about your conviction and beliefs through supporting those charities important to you and your family.

If you would like more information on charitable remainder trusts, or how you can include Miami Children's Hospital Foundation in your charitable plan, please feel free to contact the Miami Children's Hospital Foundation at (305) 666-2889 or Darin I. Zenov at Steel Hector & Davis, (305) 577-2863.

## Publix Goes Hog Wild

Publix store #00528 on Pines Boulevard in Pembroke Pines held a fun and unique CMN fundraiser—"Kiss a Pig." The event was the brainchild of Publix associates Elizabeth Murray and Vijay Graydon. The pig was generously provided by Hazel, the mother of an MCH patient. Jars were placed at the front of the store with pictures of the participating managers. The manager(s) who raised the most money got to kiss the pig. Ricky Benitez was the winning office staff associate and Bryan Reynolds was the winning common area manager. Both kissed "Georgia Brown," while baby piggy Maggie looked on. The event raised over \$800 for MCH. Thank you to Store Manager Gray Hardy, Elizabeth, Vijay, Publix customers, Hazel and, of course, "Georgia Brown."



**Publix associates at store #528 with "Georgia Brown" and baby pig Maggie**

## RE/MAX News & Events

WELCOME to the CMN family! The following RE/MAX offices have recently opened in the South Florida area:

**RE/MAX Eagle Realty in Pompano Beach**  
**RE/MAX Classic in Pembroke Pines**  
**RE/MAX Beach Properties in Miami Beach**  
**RE/MAX Executive Realty in Hollywood**  
**RE/MAX in Motion in Coral Springs**  
**RE/MAX Grandeur Realty in Miami**

Congratulations to Gary Smith and everyone at RE/MAX Executive Realty on becoming a CMN "Miracle Office."

The 10th Annual Children's Miracle Network Chicken Roast was held in Marathon and raised over \$1,100 for MCH. Thank you to Karen Farley-Wilkinson of RE/MAX Keys and to the Key Real Estate and everyone who helped to make this annual event a success.

Steven and Debra Betolatti from RE/MAX Advance Realty in Kendall organized the "Kids Making Goals for Kids" hockey tournament held at the Kendall Ice Arena in June. Nineteen hockey teams featuring kids ages 2 through 18 participated and had a great time raising funds for MCH.

## Wal-Mart Grand Opening

A big WELCOME to the newest Wal-Mart location in Pompano Beach. The grand opening celebration included the presentation of a \$2,700 donation to CMN.

## A Real Treat

The Hershey's Kissmobile made a scheduled stop at MCH. Patients in the playroom had their pictures taken with the Hershey's costumed characters and received goodies from Hershey's.



## Dining for Kids

When you dine at the Veranda Restaurant at the Miami Airport Marriott, you will not only enjoy a delicious meal, but you will also be helping to raise funds for CMN/Miami Children's. For every entrée purchased, \$1 will be donated to the hospital.

**Below: Jim Wnek (left) and John Thomas (right) present donation from Anheuser-Busch to Lily Mirete, Miami Children's Hospital Foundation**



## Publix Golf Tournament

The 4th Annual Publix/CMN Golf Tournament was held at the PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Beach Gardens. The tournament has grown so much over the years that they played on three courses this year and raised over \$130,000 for CMN! Thank you, Bill Fauerbach, Maria Rodamis, District Managers, Store Managers and everyone who helped to make this year's tournament a huge success!



## Upcoming Events

### October 17

Hibou Latin American Art Exhibit, 6–9 p.m.

### October 29

Shopping benefit at Bloomingdales from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, call Anne Marie Rozek at (305) 662-8407.

### November 2

Ambassador David Walters International Pediatric Hall of Fame Gala at the Hotel Inter-Continental.

### November 2

Burdines charity shopping event from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

### November 14, 15, 16 & 17

Cuba Libre Golf Tournament at the Doral Golf Resort.

### November 23 & 24

Hasbro Toy Sale

For more information on these and other Miami Children's Hospital Foundation events, please call (305) 666-2889.

## Auntie Anne's Raises Funds for CMN

Auntie Anne's Pretzels held its annual national convention in Orlando. The convention featured a silent auction benefiting CMN hospitals.

## "Fishing for Miracles"

The 7th Annual BP/CMN fishing tournament was once again held at Holiday Isle in Islamorada. Although the weather wasn't picture perfect, everyone had a wonderful time and raised over \$20,000 for MCH. Thank you to the sponsors, vendors, anglers and the BP/CMN Committee for another great tournament.

## MCH Employees Raise Funds for CMN

During the month of June, MCH employees held a variety of fundraisers for CMN including a softball tournament, donut sale, raffles, potluck lunch and talent show. Many departments also sold "miracle" balloons. Congratulations to the three top fundraising departments:

1st place—Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, \$753  
 2nd place—Medical Staff Office, \$657

3rd place—Patient Access, \$423

THANK YOU to our dedicated employees!



## CMN Telethon

The annual CMN Telethon was broadcast on WPLG, Channel 10 on Sunday, June 2. This year's Telethon consisted of eight pre-produced hours. Thank you to our volunteers who manned the phones, Papa John's for donating pizza for our volunteers as well as 500 free pizza coupons (which were used as a Telethon pledge incentive) and Crystal Springs Water. A special thank you to Dwight Lauderdale, Kristi Krueger and everyone at our Telethon station WPLG, Channel 10.

# One big reason to smile...

**Miami Children's** is recognized as the **best pediatric hospital in Florida** by **U.S. News & World Report.**

Miami Children's Hospital has been recognized as one of the top children's hospitals in the U.S., according to U.S. News & World Report's 13th annual edition of "America's Best Hospitals." The report ranked 205 top medical centers across the United States and Miami Children's was the only children's hospital in Florida to make the list. We know you want the best for your children, so if you ever need to take your child to the hospital, you'll feel secure knowing that Miami Children's Hospital is one of the top 20 pediatric hospitals in the entire country. Founded in 1950, Miami Children's Hospital treats more than 185,000 pediatric patients each year. With more than 600 physicians, the hospital is renowned for excellence in all aspects of pediatric medicine. In addition to being the largest free-standing pediatric teaching hospital in the southeastern United States, Miami Children's Hospital is the only licensed specialty hospital in South Florida exclusively for children.



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