

STRONG KIDS NEWS



Alaskan family turns to Rochester for their son's care

JUST ABOVE THE ARCTIC
CIRCLE, IN A SMALL
VILLAGE IN ALASKA, AMY
EAKIN MADE HER WAY OVER
TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL,
WHICH WAS 60 MILES AND
ONE FLIGHT AWAY.



The first ultrasound that she saw, at 20 weeks pregnant, was alarming, to say the least. There was no radiologist available, just a lab technician, who was speechless. "They didn't know what to tell us," said Eakin. "At the time, a cyst was covering three-fourths of the length of the fetus." Eakin's unborn child had cystic

hygroma, a birth defect that is usually found on the neck and results from abnormal lymphatic development.

Eakin and her husband went straight down to Portland, Ore., to stay with relatives and get a test. "The doctors said they didn't know why, but it seemed like he'd be okay," explained Eakin. She and her husband made their way back to Alaska and Eakin carried out the rest of her pregnancy there.

A month before the baby was born though, they flew to New York. "I was raised around Rochester, in Clifton Springs," Eakin explained. "Rochester has a great children's hospital and I knew he'd be taken care of. We didn't know what would happen when he was born. Was the cyst going down into the chest

cavity, or up the neck and through the brain? We didn't know."

Eakin delivered the baby, Ezekiel, or Zeke for short, in front of a mass of doctors who were prepared to help Zeke with whatever problems might arise. "I don't even know how many people were in the room. It was crazy," recalled Eakin. It turned out that the crowd of

health professionals in the delivery room was not needed. Zeke's life was in no immediate danger from his cyst.

At three days old, Eakin brought Zeke to Walter Pegoli, M.D., professor of pediatric surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Pegoli suggested waiting on surgery. The family flew back to Rochester when Zeke was 1 and Pegoli did another scan to make sure the cyst would not grow from the neck into the chest cavity. At 2, the Eakins brought Zeke back again. "The cyst had grown significantly and unfortunately, it got to the point where it started compressing things, so we ended up doing a pretty major removal," said Pegoli. "The cyst had wrapped

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Dear Friends—

These days, I don't know of anyone who isn't looking for an investment that would pay back in dividends now and into perpetuity, give a return on investment that outstripped by far the capital down, and fuel business and community growth for years to come.

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In the winter of 2008–2009, I only know of two investment vehicles that meet those criteria. They are health care and children. Illness knows no age, income, partisan, or intellect boundaries. And when kids get sick, parents miss work, siblings miss school, and whole communities pay for their emergency room visits and hospital stays. With a world-class children's hospital in its midst, that community can keep more kids well, keep more sick kids home and out of the emergency room and hospital, and discharge more hospitalized kids sooner and healthier. And growing that world-class children's hospital means more jobs, highly skilled workers, and job-oriented training programs come to and stay in upstate New York.

I am proud and honored to tell you that Golisano Children's Hospital at the University of Rochester Medical Center is the very best and most comprehensive children's hospital in the upstate region. I am even prouder to tell you that we continue to work to make health care for children better, not just within our four walls, but in each and every community hospital in this region through our direct staffing and our outreach and education programs.

But we cannot rest on our laurels. We cannot rest until every child and family in upstate New York can get whatever care they need without leaving upstate New York for weeks or months. We cannot rest until we exceed every safety and quality standard set nationally. And we cannot rest until every child with chronic illnesses like asthma, obesity, diabetes, sickle cell disease and cystic fibrosis, spends as much time at home and at school and as little time in the hospital as is possible with the current medical state of the art.

Those of us in the health care sector can set the bar, educate the public, advocate locally, regionally and nationally for children and their families. But we cannot go from "good" to "great" without you. No pediatrician worth his or her salt would ever ask for something for nothing. (No kid would ever let him or her get away with it!) But I ask all who, in these very pages, see our kids and families and read about our programs, and all who dream with us about all that could be but is not yet for every child, to make an investment. Who but we can, even in these challenging times, guarantee a robust return with no strings attached?

Best wishes for the season and always,

*Nina F. Schor, M.D., Ph.D.
 Pediatrician-in-chief*

Four board members join the GCHaS community

Without the community that supports it, Golisano Children's Hospital would not be what it is today, not only in its physical appearance, but in what it stands for. The stories that come with Golisano Children's Hospital's community are what give this place its identity. We are proud to welcome four new board members into our family.

Steve Terrigino

Steve Terrigino became involved with the hospital in November 2006, after his 12-year-old son was hospitalized during the week of Thanksgiving for an appendectomy.



"My wife and I were immediately impressed with Golisano Children's Hospital," said Terrigino. "The care and level of service we

provided from the emergency room to the pediatric floor was unprecedented. The genuine care and attention my son received was absolutely amazing."

While at Golisano Children's Hospital, Terrigino was surprised to see that every child was receiving equally exceptional care that paralleled his son's. Terrigino's son was released on Thanksgiving Day. That year, he and his family certainly had a lot to give thanks for. Terrigino has since then decided to join the board to repay his gratitude to Golisano Children's Hospital. He has found a passion for this hospital and is excited to help offer kids in the Rochester area the best care possible.

Scott Marshall

Though Scott Marshall has just joined the board this year, he and his family have been involved with Golisano

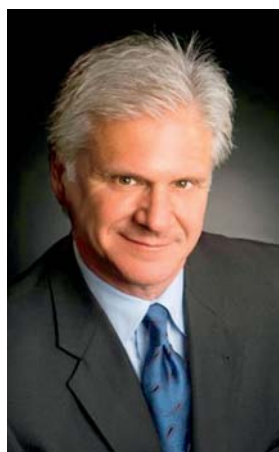


radiothon and telethon. In addition, Marshall has been a member of the NICU committee since 2005.

Marshall's daughters, Anne and Molly, both spent three months in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong. There, they gained strength, learned to breathe and eat, and began to gain weight. Now, they are very healthy girls. The Marshalls are giving back to the hospital in any way they can. "The NICU is especially close to our hearts," Marshall said. "It's a joy to be able to champion the hospital – the doctors, nurses, and staff. After all, for a long time, they were the ones supporting us."

Gary Mauro

Gary Mauro is honored to play a role in what he calls "one of our community's greatest assets." Mauro brings with him



an invaluable knowledge of mechanical systems and many generous financial donations. Mauro has brought J.T. Mauro's services to

Children's Hospital. J.T. Mauro provides complete mechanical systems for the children's hospital's PICU/PCICU and the William and Mildred Levine Pediatric Surgical Suite projects. J.T. Mauro also sponsors the unique metal fish and butterfly sculptures that adorn the walls leading up to the new units, funds a PICU nurse's station, has sponsored the Miracle Makers' Luncheon since its inception, and sponsors the annual Gala and golf tournaments. Mauro plays a role on the annual Gala and golf tournament committees as well.

"Over the years, I have had the unique opportunity to watch Golisano Children's Hospital grow," said Mauro. "From that, I have witnessed firsthand the commitment of its administrators, department heads and staff to the cause – providing superior pediatric care to the Rochester's children."

Peter Formicola

As a proud grandparent, Peter understands that children are our most valuable resources for the future. Formicola clearly believes in giving back to the community he was raised in. He serves on the board of the Rochester Rotary Club, the Italian Heritage Foundation and the Monroe County Sheriffs' Foundation. He was a founding board member of Camp Good Days and Special Times, has served on the board of the Diabetes Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, American Cancer Foundation and Aquinas Institute. For 11 years, Formicola was a Monroe County Legislator and served as a minority leader. He also served on the Board of the Monroe County Water Authority, where he also served as chairman. Formicola's impressive background in community projects shows his strong commitment to the Rochester area and its children: the keys to our future.



Flu shot protects kids – even without a perfect match

Children who receive all recommended flu vaccine doses are less likely to catch the respiratory virus that the CDC estimates hospitalizes 20,000 children under 5 years old every year. This is according to new research published in *Pediatrics* by Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong and colleagues from Vanderbilt University, Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the CDC.

The study looked at children between 6 months (the youngest able to receive the vaccine) and 5 years old in 2003–2004 and 2004–2005. The study found that even though the vaccine and the circulating viruses in those years were not matched well, the shots were clearly protective during the 2004–05 year and possibly even during the 2003–04 year.

“In these years, fully vaccinated children were about half as likely to get the flu,” said Katherine Eisenberg, B.A., an M.D., Ph.D. candidate at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and author of the paper published this month. “We saw a reduction in both influenza-related hospitalizations or emergency room visits and influenza-related visits to doctors' offices.”

The study, which was performed as part of the CDC-funded New Vaccine Surveillance Network, included 2,400

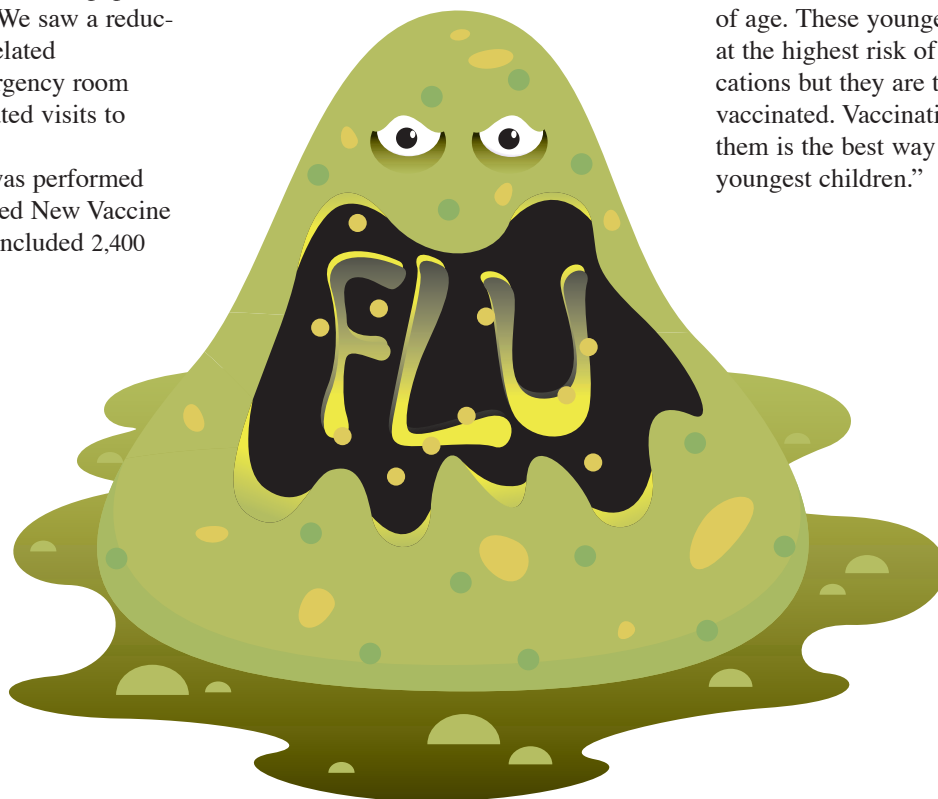
“It is incredibly important for all children to receive flu vaccinations and to make sure that people who live with or care for children younger than 5 years old also get vaccinated,”

Peter Szilagyi, M.D., M.P.H.,

children from 6 months old to 5 years old in Rochester, Nashville and Cincinnati. Partial vaccination (receiving one shot when two are recommended) did not provide any protection.

“It is incredibly important for all children to receive flu vaccinations and to make sure that people who live with

or care for children younger than 5 years old also get vaccinated,” said Peter Szilagyi, M.D., M.P.H., a professor of Pediatrics and Community and Preventive Medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center and an author of the paper. “Since the vaccine is not 100 percent effective, it is very important to also vaccinate those who are close to children, especially those around children less than 6 months of age. These youngest children are at the highest risk of influenza complications but they are too young to get vaccinated. Vaccinating those around them is the best way to protect our youngest children.”





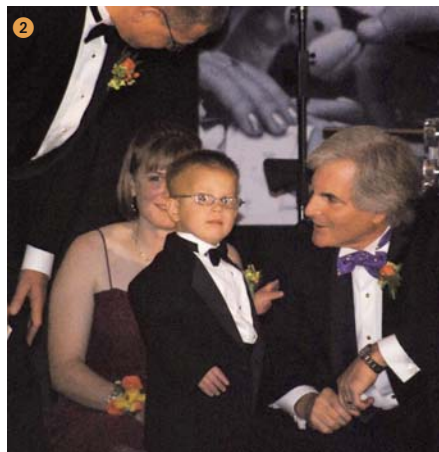
21st annual Gala packed big surprises, raised \$520,000



Close to 800 Golisano Children's Hospital supporters came together for the children's hospital's biggest fundraising evening of the year. The Golisano Children's Hospital 21st annual Gala Oct. 18 netted more than \$440,000.

Two aircraft hangars were transformed into an elegant setting for the night of festivities. This year's Gala highlighted and celebrated the many advances that have been made at Golisano Children's Hospital thanks to the tremendous support of our community. "Each year, we aim to outdo the last, and we credit the success to our magic motivators – our community's own children," said Howie Jacobson, co-chair of the event and of Golisano Children Hospital's fundraising board.

① Mike and Alice Smith served as our



chairs for this year's Gala. The Cabot Group, a local real estate services firm, generously supported the Gala as new presenting sponsor.

② Anders Swanson, one of the 2008 Miracle Kids, showed up donned in an adorable tux with his devoted parents, Amy and Garth.

③ Tom Golisano delivered a poignant speech about the many strides Golisano Children's Hospital has taken over the past year.

Thanks to many generous donors, a variety of items were purchased from Golisano Children's Hospital Wish List and bid for items in a silent and live auction to benefit pediatric patients. One of the largest gifts of the night was a physio-control defibrillator, which Board Member Roger B. Friedlander and his wife Carolyn purchased for \$24,000 for the pediatric



intensive care unit (PICU). There was also a lot of buzz throughout the night about items purchased from the wish list by Mr. and Mrs. Philip S. Gelsomino II.

Attendees were dazzled with sumptuous food, spectacular auction prizes, live music from rock and roller Nik Lite, and an exciting new surprise: an aerial acrobatic show. Best of all, the event gave attendees the supreme satisfaction of knowing that even the night's tiniest details were helping Rochester's smallest patients get better.

For more information on opportunities to donate to Golisano Children's Hospital, please contact the Advancement office at (585) 273-5948.

Shooting Star Award presented to social worker who makes sure it's all about the kids



The people who shy away from recognition are usually the ones that deserve it most. Eric Iglewski, a pediatric social worker at Golisano Children's Hospital and 2007 winner of the hospital's Miracle Maker, is among the modest souls who put those in need first. Iglewski's dedication to his work has been recognized, despite his best attempts to hide his huge heart.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation awarded Iglewski the Shooting Star award, which is presented to individuals who truly reach for the stars for their local Make-A-Wish Chapter. Iglewski received this prestigious award because he exemplifies a true humanitarian in our community. He helps create wishes for the children by letting families know

about the program and creating an open line of communication between them and the Make-A-Wish Chapter.

"Eric just been fantastic over the many years he's worked at Golisano Children's Hospital. He's been such a great advocate for us," said Cheryl Unger, director of program services for Make-A-Wish Foundation's western New York chapter. Unger enthusiastically affirms Iglewski's commitment to kids.

Iglewski goes to extra lengths to make sure Make-A-Wish knows how patients are doing and which patients might be especially in need of wishes. His work is invaluable to his patients and their supporters. Iglewski's selflessness and humility are truly deserving of ample recognition.

Three Cheers for Howie Jacobson Board Chair receives board leadership award

Howie Jacobson, Board Chair of Golisano Children's Hospital, has been awarded a much-deserved Board Leadership Award from the Greater Rochester Awards. The Board Leadership Award is awarded to a non-profit board chair that has enhanced the mission and reputation of his agency.

Jacobson brings a uniquely spirited commitment to the hospital, revving up the crowd at big events and also working behind the scenes to make sure planning goes smoothly. "For many years, Howie has been an incredible asset for Golisano Children's Hospital," said Scott Rasmussen, assistant vice president of advancement for the University of Rochester Medical Center. "He is bright, positive and has more energy and creativity than anyone



I have ever met. Howie is known and admired by everyone in Rochester. He can balance many things with ease and, moreover, he has always been a devoted father and husband. Howie is a pleasure to associate with personally and professionally."

Jacobson was nominated by Sarah Amering from Hillside Work Scholarship Connection.

Sarah nominated Howie for the Greater Rochester Awards, which is run by the Rochester Business Journal and United Way, for many reasons. "First, I nominated Howie for his relentless commitment to helping youth succeed," said Sarah. "He is a champion for health care initiatives and is always looking for opportunities within the community for organizations to contribute to the programs he believes in."

Jacobson's connections with

Golisano Children's Hospital started when he helped as co-auctioneer at the 1996 Gala. He became more personally invested in the hospital when one of his sons was airlifted to the children's hospital after a life-threatening car and bicycle accident. Jacobson was asked to join the Board shortly afterwards, which afforded him the opportunity to do more as a way of thanking the hospital staff that had helped his son and family in a time of need. "After all, it's all about the children," Jacobson says. Not only does Jacobson serve as the board chair for Golisano Children's Hospital, but he also serves on the Gala committee and partners with community fundraising efforts.

Jacobson's dedication to the hospital and its mission is an inspiration for us all to work harder for the people and the places that we care about. With warmest sentiments, we congratulate Jacobson on his well-deserved award and thank him for his persistent commitment to Golisano Children's Hospital.

Two meet at birth, reunited in matrimony 25 years later

Tammi Koegler has no memories of him, but he lay right beside her during her first and, perhaps, most frightening hours. Steven Hancock does not remember her, but she was there with him day in and day out as he began to take his first breaths of life. They didn't know one another then, but fate brought Tammi and Steven together. Twenty-five years after their stay in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Golisano Children's Hospital, Tammi and Steven exchanged vows in October.

Tammi and Steven shared a room in the NICU after they were born but did not meet again until their twenties. They didn't reconnect through any hospital-related events, or because their parents recognized one another. Rather, they found each other in one of the largest and most anonymous places in the world: the Internet. Tammi and Steven talked for about a month before they agreed to meet at Seneca Park Zoo for



their first date. "We were fascinated to find out that we were in the NICU together," said Tammi.

Tammi was the first News10 NBC Telethon poster baby 25 years ago. Her mother and father were heavily involved in the first three telethons, along with their very tiny Tammi. "I was actually telling him about how I was the first poster child for Strong and then his mom said Steven was also premature. I was born Aug. 14 and he was born Aug. 31. So we spent awhile in the same area together. It was just meant to be."

Steven was born in Rochester, but grew up in Florida. He returned to Rochester in 2003 and reconnected with his old NICU roommate a few years later in 2006. "Six months after our first date, he popped the question and the rest is history," said Tammi.

The Drive for Miracles Raises Nearly \$85,000



The Drive for Miracles broadcast live from the Strong Memorial Hospital lobby Dec. 11 and 12 and from Eastview Mall Dec. 13 and 14, sharing families most difficult and miraculous moments with the community and raising almost \$85,000. The event, made possible with the help of the Children's Miracle Network, was hosted by 100.5 The Drive morning show personalities Gately and Julie (pictured far right, respectively). As one of the world's leading charities, Children's Miracle Network (CMN) links 170 hospitals, providing them with funds needed to offer 24-hour-a-day service to kids of all ages and backgrounds. Since its founding in 1983, CMN has worked through hospitals to help millions of kids each year.

Unlikely friendship blossoms through volunteering

FRONA ROSSMAN REFLECTS ON THE LONG AND UNLIKELY FRIENDSHIP THAT BEGAN WITH PEGGY EDWARDS NEARLY 13 YEARS AGO. "IT'S WORKED OUT. SHE WANTED TO PLAY AND I WANTED TO ROCK."

Both women came to Golisano Children's Hospital looking to be healed. "I love doing something for someone. It's pretty selfish," Rossman said. Selfish is not the word that typically comes to mind when one thinks of volunteering. However both women insist that they have an endless amount of thanking to give to the hospital.

The two arrived on the same Tuesday morning in October 1995. It is no coincidence to Edwards that the two crossed paths. Both came to the hospital seeking relief from losses at home. Edwards had lost her son to a random act of violence and hoped to find solace in giving back. "Frona has been the cherry on the top!" Edwards exclaimed.

"We're like yin and yang," said Edwards, as she tried to describe why the pair gets along so well. Rossman has a big personality, while Edwards admitted that she tends to be quieter. Edwards is crafty and Rossman is a self-described "rocker." That is, she rocks babies in the intensive care unit.

Rossman, a grandmother and great-grandmother, decided to share her cuddling skills with the hospital after her husband, who had been on dialysis for 10 years, passed on. "Giving back is a blessing," she insisted. Children come and go and Rossman finds magic in having loved every one of them. In the pediatric intensive care unit, Rossman admitted that it can be hard sometimes with all of the tubes. But when the nurse puts that baby into her hands, that baby wants to be loved and rocked just like



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any other baby. "You lose some, but they still love to be touched and held while they're around," Rossman pointed out.

Part of Edwards's job is to invite children who are able to move around into the playroom. "One room I walked into just felt heavy," Edwards recounted. Edwards took in a deep breath and asked the family to come anyway. Sure enough, in came the little girl and family she had invited. Watching the little girl with her smock on and a syringe full of paint, splattering colors everywhere, Edwards saw her become a little girl again. The family's spirits were entirely lifted.

Both Edwards and Rossman agreed that it is not the loss, but the responsibility of bringing joy and relieving pain that they walk in each Tuesday worrying about. Edwards and Rossman can rely on one another to share in the responsibility and in the wonderful surprises that they find. Despite coming from different walks of life, Edwards said, "we both know how to hug and laugh." And every Tuesday morning, Edwards knows that Rossman will meet her at the door to take in the miracles that day will hold.



- ▲ Summit Federal Credit Union and Pittsford Federal Credit Union supported the annual Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run, which was held in Washington, D.C. earlier this year. The support from our local partners benefited Golisano Children's Hospital and totaled \$14,537. We are very grateful for this generous gift!

- ▼ Starlight, Starbright representatives generously donated \$46,500 to Golisano Children's Hospital's music therapy program. Headed by Rosemary Oliva, the music therapy program provides patients with a unique and effective way of alleviating anxiety that can build up during hospital visits and hinder recovery. We appreciate the Starbright foundation's enthusiastic support in our efforts to make every child's stay as positive as possible.



Golisano Children's Hospital provides support in many ways – including connecting patients to each other

When families go through serious illnesses or surgeries with their children, they immediately bond with other families who went through similar situations. Knowing that, several divisions within Golisano Children's Hospital have created events for the patients and families to meet each other and reconnect with their doctors and nurses outside the hospital.

Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Cardiac Surgery hosted more than 500 patients and families for a day on Keuka Lake this summer to connect with each other and with their doctors and nurses.

"Not only did patient families want to interact with one another, but they also wanted to see their doctors, who they usually only see on the morning of surgery and then in the operating room. These are people who basically saved their kids' lives. They wanted to say 'thank you,'" said Maura Mulholand, a nurse leader of Pediatric Nursing at Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong.

Turnout was so large, the picnic had to be split into two separate days to accommodate the group.

George Alfieri, M.D., director of Pediatric Cardiology Surgery at the Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong and Jay Gangemi, M.D., assistant professor of Cardiac Surgery at Golisano Children's Hospital, were there to enjoy



the picnic with patients they had operated on and their families. Nearly all of the full-time physicians, social workers, nurses, and nurse practitioners came to the picnic.

Camp Good Days and Special Times offered a free lunch and staff volunteered to help with activities. Both sunny, warm days had activities including miniature golf, music and arts, theater, boat rides, and playground time. "The picnic went from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and most of the families stayed the whole day. Some families had driven

from over three hours away," said Mulholand. "Everyone just had a ball."

Other departments at University of Rochester Medical Center also host fun outings for patients. The Craniofacial Team's annual Craniofacial Camp brings together children with facial differences, many with cleft lip and/or palate. Patients with cleft lip and/or palate – when mouth or lip tissues don't form properly during fetal development – undergo an average of eight surgeries and countless appointments through their developmental years.

The camp offers an opportunity to meet with their surgeons, nurses and social workers on a more social level, as well as meet other kids like themselves. "Kids find that they have similar differences," said Christine O. Emerson, a nurse practitioner of Pediatric Nursing at Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong. "It also gives providers an opportunity to interact with patients socially, as opposed to in a more formal setting."

Outings like the pediatric cardiology picnic and Craniofacial Camp encourage a sense of community among patients, healthcare professionals, and families. They are opportunities for people to step outside of their designated roles to get to know and encourage healing.



GCHaS plugs into Facebook, attracts many fans

Interactivity is the wave of the future and Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong has jumped on board. In an effort to make its memories and information shared more interactive, Golisano Children's Hospital has created its own Facebook page. With more than 400 fans since it went live in September, the page has made quite a splash on the social networking site.

Facebook offers users an opportunity to create a profile with biographical information, interests, and photo albums. Recently, Facebook created a template for businesses and organizations to create pages where they can include information about their establishments, a calendar of events and photo albums. Facebook's most unique feature is its interactive quality. Users can post messages, respond to event invitations, and add photos on the page for everyone to see. The Facebook page benefits Golisano Children's Hospital community by allowing the hospital to share stories, videos, photo albums and events with its supporters, or "fans," as Facebook dubs them.

The Facebook page also gives our



supporters a place to share with one another. Supporters can post discussions, comment on events, start groups, add photos and brainstorm projects on the page. Patients are already starting to post their stories and share their sentiments about the hospital with one another. "The doctors and nurses in the

NICU (neonatal intensive care unit) saved my son's life. I am so grateful to all of them. Words cannot describe how wonderful they truly are," wrote one of the page's fans.

Another fan wrote, "There is not a finer place in all America ... We are so lucky to have it right in our backyard, the doctors and nurses are top notch. Thank you for all you do!"

We welcome people to visit the page and to share your thoughts with us. After all, this page was created for you!

Anyone registered with Facebook can become a fan of the page by searching under "Golisano Children's Hospital" on www.facebook.com. If you are interested in checking out the page but are not registered with Facebook, go to www.new.facebook.com/pages/Golisano-Childrens-Hospital/24442574129.

Two raffle buyers win big, thanks to Vision Hyundai and Tops Markets



Hyundai Car Raffle Vision Henrietta and Vision Canandaigua and Hyundai collaborated to donate a 2008 Hyundai Elantra to be raffled off to benefit Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong. More than 550 tickets were sold. To her surprise, Kim McCluski of Pittsford walked away from the Gala with a brand new car. Despite having bought many tickets for family members, the executive committee board member won the car with the one ticket she bought for herself. More than \$12,000 was raised for the hospital, thanks to the generosity of the two Vision dealerships and Hyundai.

Tops Grocery Giveaway As part of their free grocery giveaway promotion, the managers and employees of Tops Markets sold chances to win a year of free groceries for \$1 per ticket. The winning ticket was pulled at this year's Gala and Jared Hapeman of Albion was the lucky winner. Thanks to the 19 area Tops Markets, more than \$33,000 was raised.

Giving creates feelings of warmth this chilly season

The holiday season is upon us. The beauty and magic of this season is not just in getting out holiday decorations or gazing at the first snowfall, but in knowing that during this special time of the year, sharing and caring abound. The holidays are a time to show loved ones you care and also to remember those in need. Please consider supporting our region's children hospitalized at Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong.

Each year, the donors and patients may differ, but the general feeling of gratitude and hope remains ever-powerful. "We are so grateful to the community for their outpouring of gifts during the holiday season," said Wendy Lane, Child Life Program Coordinator at Golisano Children's Hospital. "We rely heavily on these gifts for the children during the holidays and throughout the year. Gifts from the community fill our toy, craft, and game closets and are used in the many playrooms here at the hospital."

For a list of guidelines and directions on giving, visit www.gchas.org and look at "Toy Drive and Gift Giving Guidelines" under the "Donate" tab on the home page. If you have general questions on giving, email Wendy Lane at wendy_lane@urmc.rochester.edu. For more specific questions on monetary giving or purchasing items on the wish list, contact the Office of Development and Community Affairs at (585) 273-5948. The most up-to-date holiday wish list is as follows:



Infants

- baby rattles
- sippy cups
- plastic crib toys (e.g., Fisher-Price aquarium)
- receiving blankets
- crib mirrors
- teethers
- plastic & board picture books
- lullaby / classical CDs
- baby sleepers or outfits (preemie, S,M,L)
- Halo sleep sack
- baby undershirts (onesies) (preemie-24 mos.)
- crib music boxes
- crib CD players
- connecting links



Toddlers and School Age

- coloring / activity, paint with water books
- Crayola washable crayons / markers / colored pencils
- craft kits/art kits
- small Fisher Price sets / Little Tykes / Playskool toys
- books (I SPY, musical / picture / Spanish)
- games (e.g. Connect 4, Memory, Guess Who, Sorry)
- Playdoh
- Lego kits
- drawing boards (Magna Doodle/Etch-a-Sketch)
- Matchbox / Hotwheels cars / trucks
- new stuffed animals
- mittens / hats / scarves
- multicultural dolls (cloth / plastic)
- children's music CDs
- stickers
- character bandages
- puzzles



Teens

- personal care / cosmetic kits for boys / girls
- playing cards / Uno / SKIP-O
- drawing pads / markers / colored pencils / gel pens
- craft kits / art sets
- MP-3 players
- pony beads / jewelry kits
- Nerf balls / soft sports balls
- velvet coloring posters
- t-shirts (S-XXL)
- sweatshirts and sweatpants (S-XXL)
- slipper socks (women's & men)
- sports team posters, banners, clothing, books, etc.
- books / CDs / DVDs (no R-Rated movies)
- watches / jewelry
- plastic model car / truck kits with non-toxic cement
- journals / diaries



More than 430 golfers gather to play for a great cause

The weather was smiling on the more than 430 players who attended the 12th annual Golisano Children's Hospital Golf Classic on Monday, Sept. 8. Three local golf courses—Monroe, Ravenwood, and CCR—hosted the event, which sold out and raised more than \$240,000 for the children's hospital.

Golfers set down their clubs after a day in the sun and came together for a delicious dinner at Monroe Golf Club. One of our miracle kids, Hallie Engebrecht, and her parents, Jeff and Jodi, joined the children's hospital's supporters and shared their story with the group. At 2 months old, Hallie's parents learned that her failure to thrive was being caused by a bile build-up in her liver. Miraculously, Hallie received

a liver transplant four months after she was put on the list and just in time for Christmas. Hallie's story has touched the hearts of the hospital's supporters and reminded them how much their help means to the many local-area families the hospital serves.

Many thanks to our attendees and to the major sponsors of this annual event, whose generosity is pivotal in ensuring that Golisano Children's Hospital provides the highest possible care for all of our pediatric patients. The following is a list of major sponsors of the Golf Classic that we'd like to offer a special thank you to:

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Alaskan family

continued from cover

around Zeke's airway and major blood vessels in his neck as well as the nerves in and around his neck. But he did great!"

At age 8, in November 2007, Zeke asked his mother if he could show her how good his room looked after cleaning it. As Zeke proudly escorted her down the hall, Eakin stared in horror at his neck. She noticed a bump again. On Zeke's neck, she could see just the tip of the cyst and then tentacles snaking all over inside. She didn't know if the cyst had grown down or up or



where it had gone and what it might be affecting internally.

"I got all over the Internet and tracked down Dr. Pegoli's information," said Eakin. "Dr. Pegoli emailed me back right away, which was really awesome because a lot of doctors won't respond because they are busy. To a family who feels like they live out in the middle of nowhere with little to no medical support at hand, a doctor willing to take the time and help us felt very comforting and was greatly appreciated."

The family flew to the nearest family practitioner to get an ultrasound. They determined that the cyst was not life-threatening.

"Over the satellite phone, I told his parents to send Zeke to Seattle and that he needed an MRI," Pegoli said. "I told them that there were a lot of places he could fly to for surgery that were much closer

"To a family who feels like they live out in the middle of nowhere with little to no medical support at hand, a doctor willing to take the time and help us felt very comforting and was greatly appreciated."

Amy Eakin

than Rochester. Zeke's mom insisted, though, that her mind was set on bringing Zeke back to Golisano Children's Hospital."

Eakin and her husband are both schoolteachers, so they scheduled to bring Zeke down during a school break in March. "The children's hospital was really great because they scheduled around our time constraints. They were very accommodating" said Eakin.

Pegoli felt flattered by the Eakins' loyalty to him and Golisano Children's Hospital. He removed the cyst and sent the family on their way back home.

Eakin is happy to report that now, thanks to Dr. Pegoli, her son is "wonderful" and "totally back to normal." It has been quite a journey, but the Eakins' efforts to seek the best care for their son have been a complete success. Back home now in their Alaskan village, the Eakins can rest easy and know that regardless of distance, it is always possible to get the best health care for their son.

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special thanks

- Thanks to the players, cheerleaders and supporters of the Eddie Meath All-Star Game. The game raised \$5,000 for kids.
- Two local Kinney Drug Stores sold Children's Miracle Network balloons and raised \$3,000.
- Thanks so much to Advantage Credit Union, which donated \$4,000 through a fun Red Wings promotion. For each double hit during the Red Wings season, Advantage donated \$25 to Golisano Children's Hospital.
- Rochester-area Wal-Mart and Sam's Clubs continue to support Golisano Children's Hospital with their year-round fundraising efforts from selling balloon icons, to hot dog cookouts, their support never stops. This year alone, more than \$140,000 has been raised by our local Sam's and Wal-Mart Stores. Thank you for your generous gift to our region's children!
- This summer Corr Distributors held their annual trade show at the University of Rochester and donated \$1,000.
- Wells Fargo employees held an office bet to see who could win a 5k race and the employees really upped the ante, raising \$535 for our region's children.
- Joshua Sigouin raised \$277 by giving proceeds from his lemonade stand to Golisano Children's Hospital.
- Many thanks to James Eby and his tremendous group of dedicated volunteers and sponsors for hosting the 8th annual Frank Dianic Golf Tournament in September. They raised \$2,242 for the Bright Eyes Fund.
- Special thanks to Toni Vito for holding the annual Frank Vito Memorial Pasta Dinner to remember her beloved son. This year's wonderful pasta dinner raised \$3,000.
- The 6th annual Tessoni/Billitier Golf Outing raised more than \$2,000. Many thanks for Paul & Ron's continued dedication to our region's children.
- The Raytec Group in Fishers held their annual Carnival of Caring and raised \$3,211. Congratulations to Raytec on being a Rochester Top 100 business.
- Monroe #1 BOCES students held a car wash this summer and raised \$130 for Golisano Children's Hospital. Now that is truly kids helping kids.
- Creekside School held a book sale to help sick patients at the children's hospital and raised \$257. Thank you, Creekside!
- USA Today is donating a portion of newspaper sales in Strong Memorial Hospital's cafeteria to Golisano Children's Hospital. In just three months, they donated \$222.
- The three local Kohl's stores do year-long fundraising for Golisano Children's Hospital. Last year's Kohl's Cares for Kids stuffed animal and book sales generated \$49,954 for kids.
- Many thanks to the generosity of the Moms Club of Webster-Ontario for donating \$400 to the hospital.
- Brett Beachner and Kyle Scism are glowing for kids—literally! They started a business at glowforhealth.com. From every glow stick they sell, Brett and Kyle donate a portion back to Golisano Children's Hospital. So far they have donated \$185.
- We just celebrated the 25th anniversary of Flower Day! Special thanks to Jeff Blanchard of Blanchard Florist and the many businesses in the greater Rochester area for participating. This year's Flower Day raised \$2,500.
- Go Xerox! Thank you for donating \$326 from employee appreciation week.
- Thank you to Janelle Reed for coordinating the Reed Twin Fundraiser. Janelle put countless hours into the dinner dance at the Clarion and raised \$713 for the NICU in honor of her twin girls.
- Many thanks to Patrick Booher and Graham Lodge for hosting the 12th annual Cruise for a Cause. This is the 12th year of this fantastic fundraiser.
- Sutherland Group donated a very generous amount of \$2,400 from their dress down day. Thank you to the Sutherland Group employees.
- The Community Church donated \$200 from a fundraiser this fall.
- Spirit of Halloween employees threw a fabulous Halloween party for our patients and contributed \$10,000 from their sales of spooky items to the Child Life program.
- Thanks to ABVI's generous donation, 200 gift cards, adding up to \$5,000 worth of merchandise, are being issued to families in need at Golisano Children's Hospital. ABVI-Goodwill will continue to offer these much-needed gifts as demands arise.

Special thanks to these and all generous groups that support Golisano Children's Hospital. If you are interested in hosting a fundraiser please go to www.gchas.org and complete the Community Fundraising Application Form or call 585-273-5948.

upcoming events

Jan. 31 – Cycle for Hope

(fitness facilities throughout Monroe and Ontario Counties)

This 5th annual day-long spin-a-thon brings people together to raise heart rates and dollars for our area's children. Between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., fitness facilities throughout the area will host the event for people looking to lose calories and gain money for children at Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong and Camp Good Days and Special Times. Registrants range from beginners to avid spinners. For more information, go to www.cycle4hope.org or call (585) 273-5948.

Feb. 7 – Battle of the Beaks

(Nazareth College, Pittsford)

Nazareth College's Golden Flyers will compete against local rivals, St. John Fisher Cardinals, for Nazareth's biggest basketball competition of the year. The women's teams will play first and the men's teams will follow in this 2nd annual sporting event. Proceeds from admission, T-shirts, raffles, and money from concession sales will all go to Golisano Children's Hospital's neonatal and pediatric intensive care units. For more information, call Mike Fahy at (585) 389-2838.



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