

# FoundationNews

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation | Funding Tomorrow's Healthcare Today

## ENDING THE CYCLE OF ABUSE:

# THE FIRST ANNUAL PRENDERGAST FAMILY LECTURESHIP

Gulf Harbour's opulent Italian marbled foyer, with exquisite hors d'oeuvres stationed around a grandiose fountain, set the stage for a landmark event on April 26, 2006. An intimate group of donors, child advocates, social workers, government officials and of course, the woman of the hour—Eileen Prendergast along with her family—gathered to hear Stephen J. Bavolek, Ph.D., speak on nurturing parenting attitudes and the skills needed to prevent child abuse. Dr. Bavolek is one of the nation's foremost authorities on child abuse prevention.

Mrs. Prendergast recently made a \$1 million gift to the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation to endow the Child Advocacy Program, with specific priority given to the issue of child abuse prevention. Of her generosity, Prendergast explains, "I had an epiphany. Actually, I've had many in my life. My first epiphany came after my husband died and I realized I was alone in a big house I didn't want, and without many of the lifetime friends I wished I still had. My second epiphany came when my doctor told me to get my house in order; there was nothing more he could do for me. That's a pretty big eye opener, epiphany, whatever you want to call it. During one of my conversations with God I asked him what I could do with the rest of my life that would mean something. He said, 'Help children be safe from anger and rage.' Shortly after that, I made a commitment to my favorite charity, The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, and I'm so proud of what we're accomplishing together."

In addition to this annual lectureship, Mrs. Prendergast created the "Prendergast Family Award," to recognize a community member who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to child abuse prevention. The first recipient? Lee

Memorial Health System's (LMHS) President and CEO, Jim Nathan. "I am truly honored," says Nathan, "to be chosen as the inaugural recipient of this special award and especially to be recognized by a woman who is single-handedly making a difference on behalf of children each and every day." To support the Child Advocacy Program please call 239-985-3550.



**Making miracles possible; Mrs. Prendergast celebrates this special evening with family, including her son, Joseph, pictured.**



**Support from The Landings. From left: John and Joyce Klaas, Klaus and Sharyl Leifeld, Nancy Slusser and Joe Zivic, Eileen Prendergast, Betty and Frank Bireley, and Sandy and Guy Rhoades.**

"Mrs. Prendergast's gift is truly an inspiration, which will dramatically improve the lives of children. We're thrilled that she has chosen to take a leadership role in protecting children in our community," says Michele King, Manager of the Child Advocacy Program for LMHS.

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**CHILDREN'S  
 HOSPITAL**

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 TICKETS WILL ALSO  
 BE AVAILABLE  
 FOR PURCHASE  
 AT THE MACY'S AT  
 COASTLAND CENTER  
 IN NAPLES ON  
 SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>.**

## Breaking Ground- The New Lee Cancer Care Center

An open field, shaded from the summer heat by a smooth white tent, provided cause for celebration on June 22 as nearly 100 donors, community volunteers, members of the press; and board and committee members from Lee Memorial Health System, Foundation and Lee Cancer Care officially broke ground on the new Lee Cancer Care Center. It was an emotional summer morning as this dedicated group gathered to see their collective dream realized.

By building a freestanding cancer treatment center, Lee Cancer Care will simultaneously give their patients more quality time and less travel time. "We want to make a difficult journey easier," says Sharon MacDonald, Vice President, LMHS Oncology Services and LMHS Foundation. "We want our patients to save as much energy as possible to deal with the treatment of their disease. The disease is exhausting enough, but travel for a cancer patient is even more exhausting." The 62,000 square foot comprehensive center will provide greatly enhanced education, diagnoses, treatment and support in one easy location. But more than convenience, the center will improve access to quality care for cancer patients and their families. The center was made possible in part through the generosity of individual, corporate and foundation support.

**Longtime Lee Cancer  
 Care supporter,  
 Joe Zivic, is moving  
 mountains...and earth  
 to improve cancer care.**



**Breaking ground and making history! From left: Linda Brown, President-LMHS Board of Directors; Jim Nathan, President and CEO- LMHS; Donna Giannuzzi, Chief Patient Care Officer-LMHS; Frank Bireley, Lee Cancer Care Advisory Board; Betty Bireley, community volunteer; and Lois Barrett, Secretary-LMHS Board of Directors.**

*To make a gift in support of the new Lee Cancer Care Center, please call 239-985-3550.*

*Thank you to our Major Contributors to the Lee Cancer Care Center:*

21st Century Oncology, Inc.  
 Carl & Betsy Alderman  
 The Bireley Family Foundation- Frank & Betty Bireley  
 Mrs. Phyllis T. Blanchard  
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 The Landings Yacht, Golf and Tennis Club  
 Ms. Sharon A. MacDonald & Mr. Michael Ferreira  
 Minnesota Twins Celebrity Classic  
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 Mr. Homer W. Smith  
 Ms. Judith A. Stetter  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles T. Williamsen  
 Mr. Joseph S. Zivic



**Coming soon...  
 Lee Cancer Care Center –  
 state-of-the-art cancer care  
 in a one-stop shop.**



**Making a grand entrance; the new Brio Restaurant.**

## A Taste Of Little Italy Benefits Kids

Heady notes of garlic and basil danced on the warm night air on March 30th as guests were invited to sample Italian specialties at Brio Restaurant at the Waterside Shops in Naples in advance of their scheduled grand opening. Silent auction tables lined the front walkway tempting guests with exciting items including dinner for 10 guests at Brio to a Waterside shopping and dining package, complete with limousine, and everything in between. Funds raised from the evening benefited The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Italian wines were sampled along with savory regional cuisine and decadent desserts made in the tradition of the old country. Thank you to Brio Restaurant for this special sneak peek and for their dedication to children in our community. To support The Children's Hospital, call 239-985-3550.



**Mangia! Mr. and Mrs. Brown enjoy authentic Italian fare while supporting The Children's Hospital.**



**A tour de force—Harley owners came out en masse to support The Children's Hospital.**

## Hogs And Toys And Easter Cheer

You could hear them before you could see them. The ground trembled and what started as a low rumble grew rapidly in intensity. A procession of three hundred Harley-Davidson bikes in variations of jet black and sparkling chrome roared up to The Children's Hospital on Saturday, April 15—with Mr. Cottontail, himself—to deliver Easter cheer and a mountain of toys to kids at The Children's Hospital.

The 3rd Annual Easter Toy Drive is the brainchild of The Southwest Florida Chapter of the Harley Owners Group (HOG), which is part of the largest factory sponsored motorcycle club in the world with more than one half million members worldwide. Harley owners collect a year's worth of toys, games and craft items and deliver them at this annual event to brighten the lives of children who come for care at The Children's Hospital. To participate in the next HOG Toy Drive, please call Jack Fenwick at 239-229-0975. Gentlemen... start your engines!



**Peter Cottontail and Child Life Specialist, Kelly Cowan, marveled at the multitude of donated toys.**

MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDARS  
AND  
PARTY IN  
PARADISE

**Mark your calendars for the annual Runrunners' gourmet event on Wednesday, August 23 from 6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. This Culinary Kickoff to 95.3 OLZ's "Helping Kids with Cancer Radiothon" will feature haute cuisine prepared by the area's hottest chefs, choice wines and an elite selection of auction items presented for your bidding pleasure. For reservations call 239-985-3550.**

## Pink Ribbons and Hope for A Cure

Gathered together in Grandezza's lush ballroom, draped in shades of fuchsia and gold, cancer health organizations and support groups received exciting news on March 30th from The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Southwest Florida Affiliate; the dollar amounts of approved grants were finally revealed. The Susan G. Komen Foundation awarded \$78,740 to Lee Cancer Care, part of Lee Memorial Health System, to benefit programs and services designed to supplement uninsured or underinsured women receiving care.

A recent Florida Health Insurance Study identified that 24.4% of residents under age 65 in Lee and Collier counties had no health insurance – the second highest percentage for areas studied; only Dade County has a higher rate. The study also noted that 42% of uninsured residents in the state reported delaying or not obtaining needed medical care. For a breast cancer patient, such a delay can be deadly.

The Komen Foundation's generous support will provide medication and treatment to Lee Cancer Care breast cancer patients who lack adequate health insurance or are totally uninsured. Funds will also be used to provide \$250 stipends to breast cancer patients who demonstrate financial hardship related to their breast cancer treatment and require assistance due to cutback in work hours, disability, childcare issues, insurance co-payments, and/ or transportation costs. In addition, genetic counseling, Lee Cancer Care's Magic Choices cancer-related boutique services, psychosocial counseling and related services will be made available to all project participants.



**Komen Foundation Board Member, Carole Stockard (pictured in yellow) presents a check to (from left) Val Campbell, Lee Cancer Care Outpatient Supervisor, and cancer survivors: Lisabet Busing and Kathy Carrasquillo.**

Breast cancer survivors, constituting nearly half of the Komen Foundation Grant Luncheon's invited guests, applauded the important funding efforts of the Komen Foundation and the work of Lee Cancer Care. Thank you, Susan G. Komen Foundation, for making miracles possible! To support Lee Cancer Care please call 239-985-3550 today.



## Rhode Island Open – A Hole In One For Kids!

The accents were unmistakable as Rhode Island transplants joined Lee Memorial Health System supporters to hit the links on March 15th at Pelican Preserve Country Club. Mary Lou and Angelo Viticonte co-chaired this day of golf and fun in support of Lee Memorial Health System's Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC) program, which provides daycare type services for children with medically complex needs.

Special thanks to all who participated in this important event. Over \$10,000 was raised to benefit programs and services offered through PPEC.

Sign up now for next year's event, call 239-985-3550.



Sweet success! Mr. and Mrs. Viticonte present a check to The Children's Hospital and a new little friend in PPEC who will benefit from their important fundraising efforts.

## AND THE ACADEMY AWARD GOES TO...

### LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Mission In Motion's star-studded premier kicked off on April 20th and the paparazzi were out in full force. Lee Memorial Health System employees and volunteers received the red carpet treatment as A-List celebs such as Marilyn Monroe, Vin Diesel, Harrison Ford, Judy Garland, John Wayne and Mike Myers made their appearances (or at least their cardboard cutouts did) at each hospital cafeteria during the campaign.

This year marked the fourth installment of the Mission In Motion series and box office numbers were record-breaking. Together, we raised \$67,116! Not only did we increase funds, but we also increased participation, meaning that more than 640 LMHS employees, volunteers and board members landed the role of "Supporting Cast" to the LMHS mission.

Patients will receive improved care because of the



"Friends of Nursing" and "Staff Education" funds, which help fund vital training and education for our nurses and staff. With funds raised for "Employee Relief," co-workers will receive financial assistance to help speed recovery from catastrophic events such as hurricanes or other unforeseen disasters. Digital cameras, wheelchairs and other items will be purchased through "All in the Family" to enhance the efforts of various departments.

Mission In Motion sends a powerful message to the community that the Lee Memorial Health System family takes pride in our organization and we, personally, understand the lifesaving differences that philanthropy can make. We're the stars in our own show! Lights...Camera...Thanks for helping to put our Mission into ACTION! That's a wrap!

### Calling All Sports Fans

Did you know? The Boston Red Sox, Minnesota Twins, Miami Dolphins and Florida Everblades professional sports teams all support Lee Memorial Health System Foundation. To learn more about our sports-related events, call 239-985-3550.

Helping children; Jackie (pictured left) and daughter Stacie are modern day heroes, turning tragedy into triumph for hundreds of children with cancer at The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.



## THE DONOR NEXT DOOR

# The Little Restaurant With The Big Heart



In St. James City, Florida, Jackie's Restaurant is known for more than just home-cooked breakfast and the surf's freshest fish. Jackie Shebal, owner and operator of the restaurant bearing her name, and daughter Stacie, who spends most days working at her mother's side, are known for their dedication to serving others. Whether through creating comfort food or community fundraisers, these two are tireless in their efforts to make life a little better.

The restaurant, itself, tells their story. Like these two women, the ambience is at once informal and intimate. When you walk through the stained glass framed door, you walk right into their lives...and you are welcome. Highlighted by the soft glow of sunshine are dozens of photos clustered on textured gold walls displaying the smiling faces of kids and friends and backyard charity benefits. There are T-shirts and tag plates for sale right off the walls that read, "Cancer bugs me!" On a hinge next to the kitchen hangs a non-descript plastic white cup, which probably housed soup or nuts at one time, that bears the handwritten plea, "Kids with Cancer Donations Please!" The inside of the restaurant's front door showcases fundraising totals and thank you notes from the Shebal's favorite charity—The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. And at the heart of it all, is a framed photo of Auston.

## HONORING AUSTON

The name "Auston" means to be revered—to glorify, praise or honor. Auston's short life had a tough beginning and an unexpected ending, but a glorious middle. Born prematurely and weighing only 15 ounces—he was no larger than a coffee mug—Stacie's son Auston spent his first 4 ½ months in an incubator in the Neonatal

Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at The Children's Hospital. "It was an emotional time. I got a job at the hospital's cafeteria just to be near him," says Stacie. Predictions about his health were gloomy, at best, but eventually this little fighter was able to go home. Auston spent many afternoons playing in grandma's restaurant and everyone who met him became an instant fan. He was wild about cartoons, funny, and always on the go. And, boy was he loved. At just 4 ½ years old, Auston's little light was extinguished. In an attempt to hurry along his favorite cartoon, Auston ran to the TV and pushed against the screen causing the TV to topple over on him. In a tragic moment, he was gone.

## INSPIRATION FROM THE RADIOWAVES

The radio in Jackie's kitchen, often tuned to 95.3 OLZ, provided an idea to channel their grief. When Jackie and Stacie heard the stories shared by parents of kids with cancer broadcast live, as part of The Children's Hospital's Radiothon, they knew instantly they wanted to help. Jackie explains, "Auston was cared for at The Children's Hospital. He lived there for 4 ½ months," her voice breaks, as she continues, "No, he didn't have cancer. But, I can't stand to think about any child suffering. I can't bear it." The first year, Jackie's raised a little less than \$200 by auctioning off a teddy bear and that included a matching gift from another grandmother in their community. Over the next three years, Jackie's expanded their efforts to include "Kids with Cancer" breakfasts, an incredibly popular outdoor "Seafood Fest" and the previously mentioned plastic collection cup. This little restaurant, which seats approximately 30 people on a busy morning, raised more than \$13,000 last year to help kids with cancer in Southwest Florida. "This is our way of honoring Auston," says Stacie. Jackie agrees, "It's easier if you can keep your focus on helping someone else. In the early days, I thought we'd never raise more than \$300. It doesn't matter who you are—even if you only have a small business—everyone can help. Pick a cause close to your heart and do something. We do it for Auston—we do it for the kids."

If you want to help support kids with cancer and The Children's Hospital, please call 239-985-3550 today.

Never far from their thoughts or hearts, Auston's photo is displayed prominently in Jackie's restaurant.



## FALL FACTOR - Older Adult Fall Prevention

As we get older, common everyday activities become not only more challenging, but also potentially more dangerous. For older adults, the fear of falling is very real as a fall can have significant consequences including hip fractures, bone injuries, fear and anxiety and the big one—loss of independence.

Because falls are so serious in older adults—one out of three adults over age 65 fall each year and falls are the leading cause of injury deaths in this age group—Lee Memorial Health System's Older Adult Services created Fall Factor, a program dedicated to fall education and prevention.

Fall Factor, a collaborative effort between various

community groups including major support from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, provides an exercise program to increase flexibility/strength and improve balance; an outreach component which partners with senior sites in Lee County; fall evaluations conducted by a physical therapist and geriatrician; and production of a cable television program providing exercise and other fall prevention information to air on Lee County Public Access Channel-Lee TV. Each program also includes a segment dedicated to the special considerations and needs for the Parkinson's population.

Thank you to the Southwest Florida Community Foundation for their lead role in the creation of Fall Factor and their commitment to older adults in our community.

***If you would like to help support Fall Factor, please call 239-985-3550.***



## An Invitation

Remember us in your will. You've seen this message in our newsletters and heard it from many of your favorite charities. Perhaps you've already decided to leave a lasting legacy to the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation that will benefit your favorite cause, whether it be The Children's Hospital, the Heart and Vascular Institute, the soon-to-be-built comprehensive Lee Cancer Care Center, or victims of trauma from within our five-county service area. You may have already met with your estate-planning attorney or financial advisor to discuss or finalize the documents for making a bequest.

### **BUT HAVE YOU TOLD US?**

The Heritage Circle of Friends was created to recognize and honor those who have named Lee Memorial Health System Foundation in their wills and estate plans or established endowed funds. Members are listed in our publications and invited to special events with our health system's leadership and physicians. After you have made arrangements for your gift, we will add your name to the Heritage Circle of Friends, but only when

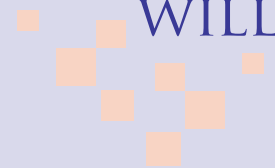
you give us permission to do so. If it is your wish, you may remain anonymous.

The legacies created by Heritage Circle of Friends members will shape the future of healthcare in Southwest Florida, ensuring that care will be provided to all, regardless of their ability to pay. Gifts will ensure stability of our public healthcare system and help meet future needs. These gifts may be structured to provide current and future tax benefits for you and your heirs.

We hope you will consider making a gift to Lee Memorial Health System Foundation and we encourage those of you who have already done so to let us know so that we may include you as a member of our Heritage Circle of Friends. Your generosity may then encourage others in our community to follow suit and ensure we all receive the finest possible healthcare.

To learn more about how you can name Lee Memorial Health System Foundation in your will and plan a gift that will support causes close to your heart, please contact the Foundation at 239- 985-3550 or e-mail [betsy.alderman@leememorial.org](mailto:betsy.alderman@leememorial.org). We look forward to helping you create your legacy and welcoming you into the Heritage Circle of Friends.

PLEASE CONSIDER  
REMEMBERING  
LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH  
SYSTEM FOUNDATION  
IN YOUR  
WILL



## Foundation News

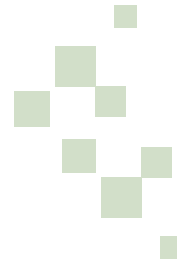
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For more information or to make a donation, please call the Foundation office at 239-985-3550.

### Our Staff

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Michelle Parker



## 2004-2005 LMHS FOUNDATION ANNUAL GIFT REPORT: THE GIFT OF TIME.

Thank you for your support of Lee Memorial Health System Foundation. Together, we've provided the gift of time to families in our community. More opportunities to love, to forgive, to share. More moments together.

To receive a copy of the Foundation's 2004-2005 Annual Gift Report, please call 239-985-3550.

## 2006 Upcoming Events

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>August 23</b>      | <b>Rumrunners Gourmet Evening (a Kickoff to 95.3 OLZ's "Helping Kids with Cancer Radiothon")</b> |
| <b>October 7</b>      | <b>Lee Cancer Care Awareness Event at Tanger Outlet</b>  |
| <b>October 12-15</b>  | <b>Saks Fifth Avenue – KEY TO THE CURE</b>   |
| <b>October 20-21</b>  | <b>Jazz on the Green</b>   |
| <b>October 27</b>     | <b>5th Annual OLZ 95.3 "Helping Kids with Cancer Radiothon"</b>                                  |
| <b>November 10-11</b> | <b>Southwest Florida Wine Festival</b>   |
| <b>November 17</b>    | <b>Tanger Outlet Breast Cancer Fundraiser and Fashion Show</b>                                   |
| <b>November 28</b>    | <b>Evening of Appreciation</b>   |

Event dates subject to change. For the latest information on these and other events, contact Lee Memorial Health System Foundation at 239-985-3550 or visit us on the Web at [www.LeeMemorial.org/Foundation](http://www.LeeMemorial.org/Foundation).

*Lee Memorial Health System Foundation Mission: To expand and enhance the role of philanthropy and the Foundation in accomplishing the mission of Lee Memorial Health System.*

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