



Gabriella Overcomes the Odds

Healing Hearts

Miami Children's
Hospital Helps
Pioneer a New
Lifesaving Device

Apple of Your Eye

Importance of
Vision Screenings
for Children

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Dear Friends,

An important part of our commitment to improving the lives of children worldwide is staying at the forefront of care, from acquiring advanced technology to participating in leading clinical trials. Our participation in recent clinical trials led to the successful repair of certain heart defects.

One particular patient, 10-year-old Gabriella Ronconi, suffered from an atrial septal heart defect or a "hole" in the heart, which was preventing her from leading an active life. Miami Children's Hospital helped pioneer the revolutionary technology—the Gore HELEX® Septal Occluder, now approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration—that helped Gabriella be a kid again. In fact, one of our physicians, Evan Zahn, MD, Chief of Cardiology at the Congenital Heart Institute and Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Program at Miami Children's, helped design the HELEX. You can read about this amazing device and how it helped Gabriella on pages 3 and 6.

This issue of *Children's Gazette* also focuses on the importance of vision screenings for children. Many parents ask us what signs to look for and when they should begin these screenings for their children, so we've featured these answers and more on pages 4 and 5. In addition, we've highlighted our Pediatric Ophthalmology services, which provide advanced care for children with a variety of conditions, from lazy eye to congenital glaucoma.

We're excited to announce that our Building on a Dream project continues with the opening of the new 68,000-square-foot Ambulatory Building. The center brings together several essential services for the added convenience of families and medical staff.

Thank you for your continued support of our healing mission.

Sincerely,

Christian C. Patrick, MD, PhD
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER/SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
FOR MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MIAMI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Overcoming the Odds



PATIENT PROFILE:

Gabriella Ronconi

At 10 years old, Gabriella Ronconi loved to run and play and even started taking gymnastics. But when she began to experience shortness of breath and chest pains, she and her family turned to Miami Children's Hospital, where they were told Gabriella had an atrial septal heart defect—essentially a “hole” in her heart. Luckily for the Ronconis, a revolutionary procedure was being pioneered at the hospital, and Gabriella was a perfect candidate.

“**G**abriella has always been athletic, so when she began having muscular chest pain that kept her from her activities, my husband and I knew something was wrong,” says Christine, Gabriella's mother. “Her pediatric cardiologist recommended that we go to Miami Children's, and we are so grateful that we did.”

At Miami Children's, the Ronconis were told that Gabriella had an atrial septal heart defect, which occurs in the wall between the upper chambers of the heart. The hole causes blood to leak from the heart's left side back to the right side. If left untreated, patients could develop severe symptoms of exhaustion and pulmonary hypertension and, ultimately, congestive heart failure.

AN IDEAL SOLUTION

The family turned to Evan Zahn, MD, Chief of Cardiology at the Congenital Heart Institute and Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Program at Miami Children's. Dr. Zahn collaborated with a company called W.L. Gore to perform trials on a device known as the Gore HELEX® Septal Occluder, a special catheter

containing patch material designed specifically for heart defects like Gabriella's. (Learn more about the HELEX device on page 6.)

“Miami Children's was one of the first sites in the world to conduct clinical trials for this device. When I assessed the hole in Gabriella's heart, I knew this procedure was ideal for her,” says Dr. Zahn. “I keep a model of the device in my office, which I showed to the Ronconis while explaining the procedure and its benefits.”

For the Ronconis, the choice to have the procedure was clear.

“Dr. Zahn told us he had a daughter the same age as Gabriella, and that he would want his daughter to have the procedure if she had the same condition,” Christine says. “We felt very comfortable with him, and he explained the procedure so thoroughly to us that we never had second thoughts.”

BACK ON THE BEACH

On August 1, 2006, Gabriella had the procedure, making her the last patient in the HELEX clinical trials. Following her successful recovery, the device received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval.

Gabriella did have one concern, however—she asked the nurses whether she would be able to go on vacation with her family the following Saturday.

“The nurses told us we could go on the trip, but that Gabriella should stay out of the water for five to seven days, and she might have some soreness,” Christine says. “By the end of that week, she was fishing, snorkeling and riding bikes, as if she had never had a heart problem. We are so grateful to Dr. Zahn and the entire staff at Miami Children's for giving her the ability to play and be a child again.”

FUN FACTS ABOUT GABRIELLA

FAVORITE FOOD

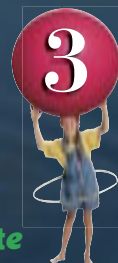
hot dogs

FAVORITE BOOK

Molly Moon Stops the World by Georgia Byng

HOBBIES

loves to read, write stories and poems and play with her miniature pinscher/dachshund, Rosie





A newborn can't tell his parents that the world is blurry. Yet, left untreated, his vision could continue to worsen. That's why early vision screenings are essential to detecting, treating and preventing problems that can lead to permanent vision loss later in life.



THE eyes HAVE IT

The Best of Both Worlds

Two is better than one, so the recent move and expansion of the Pediatric Plus Optical Shop to the Ophthalmology Office of Roberto Warman, MD, located in the Medical Arts Building of MCH, offers wonderful benefits to patients.

It provides one of the largest eyeglass selections for infants with special needs, sports safety and teens. Contact lens fitting is another aspect of care available. Here, lenses are fitted for infants who have had cataract surgery and children who need bifocals, have high astigmatism (irregularly shaped cornea or lens) or require keratoconus (cone-shaped cornea) contact lens fittings. Additionally, if you have questions about your child's eye care, a team of highly qualified ophthalmologists is just around the corner.

“Children's eyes gradually develop and reach maturity by age 7,” says Roberto Warman, MD, Director of the Division of Ophthalmology at Miami Children's Hospital. “As a result, children should have regular eye exams beginning at birth to ensure problems are caught when they are most treatable.”

(For a recommended eye exam schedule for children, see “Scheduling Time to See.”)

ON THE LOOKOUT

Here are a few symptoms that may indicate a child is having trouble seeing clearly:

- constant rubbing of the eyes
- extreme light sensitivity
- poor ability to focus
- poor visual tracking (following objects)
- chronic redness of the eyes
- persistent tearing
- squinting
- difficulty reading or doing close-up work
- covering or closing one eye





Roberto Warman, MD, examines a young patient's eyes.

Scheduling Time to See

When does your child need to have an eye exam? Here's what the American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends.

✓ Newborns' eyes should be checked by a pediatrician or family physician in the hospital nursery. Newborns at high risk—those with a family history of eye problems or with obvious eye irregularities—should be seen by an ophthalmologist instead.

✓ In the first year, infants should be routinely examined at each well-baby visit.

✓ Children should undergo eye health

screenings and visual acuity tests beginning around age 3 1/2.

✓ Before kindergarten or at age 5, children should have their vision and eye alignment checked by their physician. If a problem is detected, the child should be examined by an ophthalmologist.

✓ Additional screenings should be performed if symptoms such as squinting are noticed after age 5.

Remember, talk to your child's pediatrician if you have any concerns about his or her vision.

“Recognizing common signs can alert parents to call their child's pediatrician,” says Dr. Warman. “While it doesn't mean a child has vision problems every time she rubs her eye or squints, parents should discuss their concerns with their child's physician if they notice repeated behavior.”

COMMON EYE PROBLEMS

Several eye conditions are present at birth or develop during the preschool years. Most are detected during routine screenings. Here are some of the most common.

Lazy eye. While usually affecting only one eye, lazy eye can lead to vision problems in both eyes. The condition can result from the eyes having different powers (accuracy in vision), one eye constantly turning in a different direction from the other, glaucoma or an injury.

Misalignment. This condition occurs when one or both of the eyes turn in, out, up or down. Lazy eye may develop if the misalignment isn't adjusted.

Refractive errors. Common forms of refractive errors include nearsightedness (poor distance vision), farsightedness (poor near vision) and astigmatism (imperfect curvature of the front surface of the eye). Refractive errors occur because the shape of the eye doesn't bend light properly, which can cause blurriness and eye strain.

Congenital glaucoma. A rare disorder, it is often detected in the first few months of life when a child has constant tearing or severe sensitivity to light.

“If one of the above conditions is detected in a child, he or she will often be referred to a pediatric ophthalmologist. Unlike adults, it can be hard to keep a child's attention long enough to get accurate information and make a diagnosis,” says Dr. Warman. “Pediatric ophthalmologists have the extensive experience, training and expertise to treat children with vision difficulties.”

For more information about ophthalmology services, visit www.mch.com, or for referral to a pediatric ophthalmologist, call (888) MCH-DOCS (888-624-3627).



A Vision of Truth

Don't let these myths about children's vision fool you—here's a look at the facts.



Myth: Two blue-eyed parents can't produce a child with brown eyes.

Fact: It can happen, and two brown-eyed parents can have a child with blue eyes. However, both are extremely rare.

Myth: Children should eat carrots to improve their vision.

Fact: It's true that vitamin A, which is essential for sight, is plentiful in carrots. However, other foods, including asparagus, apricots, nectarines and milk also contain this vitamin. A balanced diet of fruits and vegetables is the best way to ensure children are eating adequate amounts of vitamin A.

Myth: Using a computer damages a child's eyes.

Fact: Working on a computer won't hurt a child's eyes, but it may make them blink less than normal, according to the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Infrequent blinking can dry the eyes out and lead to eyestrain or fatigue, so make sure your child takes frequent breaks when sitting at the computer.



MAKING THE DREAM A REALITY

The opening of the new 68,000-square-foot Ambulatory Building at Miami Children's Hospital, part of the "Building on a Dream" project, heralds the beginning of a new era in comprehensive care.

Essential pediatric services and related diagnostic components that were previously spread throughout the Miami Children's campus—including the Congenital Heart Institute and Miami Children's Brain Institute—are now conveniently located under one roof in the new Ambulatory Building. Also included in the three-story structure are the hospital's Craniofacial Center and Plastic Surgery and Patient Access departments.

In addition to the state-of-the-art technology and skilled staff, patients also have the luxury of receiving care in a comfortable and beautiful environment. The new Patient Access entrance, located on the first floor of the new building, welcomes visitors with bright colors, a spacious waiting room and a new café to tempt the taste buds.



Bringing Lifesaving Techniques to Life

Evan Zahn, MD, Chief of Cardiology at the Congenital Heart Institute and Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Program at Miami Children's Hospital, helped pioneer a lifesaving device for children with septal heart defects

A septal heart defect is more commonly understood as a "hole" in the heart. The septum—or wall that separates the left side of the heart from the right—can sometimes have an opening, which allows blood to go from one chamber to the other.

Babies born with this condition can experience severe problems as they get older, such as an infection of the heart, an enlarged heart or high blood pressure in the lungs.

To combat septal heart defects and help children grow into healthy adults, Dr. Zahn served as a physician consultant on the design and trial of the Gore HELEX® Septal Occluder.

As a minimally invasive alternative to open-heart surgery, the HELEX is a catheter containing patch material that is inserted through a small incision. The patch is then placed over the hole. In three to six months, the body grows tissue over the device, so it becomes a permanent part of the septum and a permanent cure for the heart.

"We are one of the world's leaders when it comes to treating children with heart conditions," says Dr. Zahn. "From coming up with new and innovative ways to care for children to being on the ground level of designing lifesaving new devices, we do whatever it takes to help children heal—they are why we are here."



◀ Evan Zahn, MD, helped develop a new device to help patients with certain heart defects.





Through their generous donation to the MCH Brain Institute, Steve and Lu Coxhead are teaching their son Sean about the benefits of philanthropy.

A LESSON IN Giving FOR THE NEXT Generation

Many donors support Miami Children's Hospital out of gratitude for the special care their child received as a patient. For Steve Coxhead, an attorney in his thirties with a healthy 18-month-old son, it was his desire to help others and the philanthropic spirit of his family that inspired his gift.

“Philanthropy has been an important value in my family for as far back as I can remember,” says Steve Coxhead, whose great-great-grandfather founded the Nichols Foundation to enable the family to select noble projects and help further their missions through monetary support. “I’ve always understood the work of our Foundation not only as what we do, but as part of who we are.”

Steve’s innate sense that the fortunate have a moral responsibility to help those in need grew stronger with the birth of his son, Sean.

“When a child enters your life, your priorities change—nothing is more important to you than the health of your child,” says Steve. “My wife Lu and I wanted to express our gratitude for our son’s health by helping less-fortunate parents. We chose Miami Children’s because we were familiar with its reputation.”

INVESTING IN LIFESAVING INNOVATIONS

When Steve and Lu visited with physicians at Miami Children’s Brain Institute (MCBI), they were moved to fund a clinical suite at the institute.

“Support from generous donors, such as Steve and Lu Coxhead, reinforces our commitment to fundraising for Miami Children’s Brain Institute.

Funds raised help bring new hope to children with neurological disorders by supporting critical research, treatments and education,” says Karen Dudley, Vice President of Development at Miami Children’s Hospital Foundation.

“The clinical suite they have funded will act as a medical hub where physicians from various specialties work together to provide the most thorough, comprehensive care to each patient,” adds Prasanna Jayakar, PhD, Chair of Miami Children’s Brain Institute.

LEAVING A LEGACY

“It’s heartwarming to see young couples like the Coxheads, who are just beginning their lives together and have a healthy child, support the hospital,” says John Ragheb, MD, Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Miami Children’s Hospital. “Their generosity shows a great deal of insight and a strong sense of community that I hope will inspire others.”

The new clinical suite displays a plaque honoring Steve and Lu and the

Nichols Foundation. To Steve, however, receiving recognition for advancing the work of MCBI is not nearly as important as instilling in his son the intrinsic value of having done so.

“I want Sean to know that we’re all on this trip of life together, and it’s up to all of us to make this journey as easy as possible—whether we do that by tackling serious problems or through funding institutions that are changing lives,” says Steve. “Everyone at MCBI is doing something special, so I feel it’s my duty to help further this incredible vision.”

With Sean is Prasanna Jayakar, PhD at Miami Children’s Brain Institute, who is grateful for the Coxhead’s support.



“Our goal is to deliver the very best multidisciplinary, family-centered care for children suffering from neurological disorders. Supporters like the Coxheads help us achieve that goal every day.”

— Prasanna Jayakar, PhD, Chair of Miami Children’s Brain Institute



Taking MEDICAL RECORDS to Heart



Imagine technology that would allow you and your family to immediately and easily access your child's medical information—including surgical photos and information about hospitalization—all at the touch of a button. At the Congenital Heart Institute at Miami Children's Hospital, that technology is already in place.

With this incredible technology, the Electronic Medical Record Portal for Patients, families can access details of their child's heart surgery and hospitalization at Miami Children's. Once the family is back at home, they can refer to the system for their own research or to discuss the child's condition with additional physicians.

"Patients come to us for treatment from locations around the world," says Redmond P. Burke, MD, Chief of the Congenital Heart Institute and Director of the Miami Children's Hospital Division of Cardiovascular Surgery. "Parents feel more confident going back home knowing they have instant access to details of their child's medical records. They can use this technology—whether it's tomorrow or years from now—to share medical information with a caregiver and offer the best possible insight into the care needs of their child."

MEETING FAMILIES' NEEDS

Because children with congenital heart problems often face years of medical treatment, parents of surgical patients at the Congenital Heart Institute frequently requested technology that would allow them to view and share information about their child's health. In response, Miami Children's and the Congenital Heart Institute partnered with Teges Corporation—a leader in the development of Web-based information systems—to become one of the first healthcare programs in the country to offer families secure access to electronic medical records.

EASY ACCESS

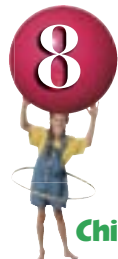
Following a patient's discharge from Miami Children's Congenital Heart Institute, parents can access the password-protected program to obtain information about their child's history and admission examination; view images of the heart from before, during

and after surgery as well as photos of the child taken during hospitalization to document care progress; and review the hospital discharge report and patient care instructions. Separate records are kept for each hospitalization, and each record is accessible based on date of admission.

To maintain patient privacy, all transactions are secured with 128-bit encryption technology.

"The Electronic Medical Record Portal for Patients is a great benefit to patients treated at the Congenital Heart Institute as well as their families," Dr. Burke says. "We are pleased to offer this technology as an extension of our commitment to the ongoing well-being of each child."

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For more information about the Congenital Heart Institute at Miami Children's Hospital, call (305) 662-8301.



Cancer Center Receives *Recognition*

The Cancer Center at Miami Children's Hospital has been awarded approved cancer program status after a survey by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Commission on Cancer. The center was granted a three-year designation and received seven commendations.

"I congratulate the Cancer Center for this significant achievement,"

says Thomas M. Rozek, President and CEO of MCH. "This designation brings great credit to Enrique Escalon, MD, Division Director, and the outstanding team of physicians and staff of the Cancer Center."

Miami Children's is one of only 12 children's hospitals nationwide—and the second in Florida—to achieve this distinction, and was the first to be recognized under new pediatric standards developed by the ACS.

"I'm proud that we have been recognized as a model for organizing and managing our cancer program that ensures multidisciplinary, integrated and comprehensive oncology services," says Dr. Escalon.



Mark Your Calendars!

The following classes are held on a monthly or quarterly basis at MCH.

Please call (305) 662-8282 for further information.

Parenting Boot Camp

Parenting Boot Camp is a creative and interactive class for parents and soon-to-be parents. Facilitators assist expectant moms and dads down that unfamiliar path on life's journey called parenthood. Our goal is to help new parents learn the value and importance of interacting with their babies in ways that will ensure an attached and bonded relationship.

Highlights of this program include instruction on diaper changing, bathing, appropriate dress, crying, how to recognize when a baby is sick, feeding, developmental stages and child development activities.

New Sibling Class

This program is designed to prepare children 3 to 7 years old for a new brother or sister. Positive sibling skills will be presented in a fun, interactive way that teaches children

about the important contributions they can make as big brothers or sisters. Please call (305) 662-8282 for further information.

Infant Massage

Infant massage is designed for children ages 0–15 months. Our hands-on method ensures you will learn the art of interactive massage to suit your baby's individual needs and developmental level. Infant massage encourages relaxation for both parent and baby, promotes longer and deeper sleeping patterns and can relieve colic symptoms, among other benefits. Please call (305) 662-8282 for further information.

Stranger Danger

This workshop, sponsored by Miami Children's Hospital and the Child Assault Prevention Project of South Florida (CAP), helps parents and children ages 5 to 12 prevent stranger danger and abduction. Children and parents learn how to identify a stranger, child protection awareness, techniques strangers use, strategies on what to do when confronted with a stranger and self defense.

CPR Class

This course in pediatric CPR teaches parents, grandparents and caregivers how to administer CPR to infants and children. This class is available in both English and Spanish.

Child Passenger Safety

Child safety is our priority. Child passenger safety technicians will check your child's seat for defects, recalls, installation and fit. Please contact (305) 663-6800 for more information.

For a list of support groups, visit www.mch.com/patient/support_group.htm.





**(l-r) Ann Lyons, artist Mathias and Mark Blank
Baccarat Reception**

The extraordinary Coral Gables home of Eberto Vitier and Larry Gainor was the place to be for a reception featuring the “Mille Nuits” designs of Mathias for Baccarat. Mathias flew in from France to personally sign the exquisite crystal chandelier gracing the dining room of the Vitier Gainor home! A percentage of sales of displayed hand-selected Baccarat pieces was donated to MCHF. Special thanks to Eberto and Larry and Tanya Youngling of Baccarat.



Karen Henderson and Paul Hale

2006 International Pediatric Hall of Fame Gala

Under the leadership of Gala Chairs Mario and Bibi Murgado, “magic” was in the air as guests arrived at the Radisson Hotel downtown for the 20th annual gala to induct honorees Mike Lowell and Dr. Paul Farmer into Miami Children’s Hospital’s Hall of Fame. The theme continued with magician/actor/comedian Harry Anderson entertaining the guests following dinner. Fifty percent of the proceeds benefited Miami Children’s Brain Institute. Our deep gratitude to the committee for its hard work in hosting another fabulous evening. The “Gift of Joy” award was presented to Paul Hale for his creation of the Children’s Brain Trust.



Mike Lowell, Mario Murgado, Dr. Paul Farmer, Mark Blank

2006 Queen of Hearts Luncheon

Miami Children’s Hospital Auxiliary teamed up with Saks Fifth Avenue–Dadeland again this year to make the 40th Annual Queen of Hearts Luncheon another memorable event. Nancy Batchelor was honored and crowned the 2006–2007 Queen of Hearts at the luncheon, which featured a fashion show of Saks Fifth Avenue’s Resort 2007 Designer Collections. This year, a new silent auction helped raise additional funds for MCHF. Thank you once again to Saks Fifth Avenue and the ladies of the Auxiliary for their continued support.

Bags for Babies

The first Bags for Babies Brunch was held at the home of Karen Henderson. Each attendee was asked to bring a gently used handbag or purse and the bags were then taken to a local consignment store. Proceeds from the sale were donated to MCHF. Thank you to Karen and the Community Council for planning this unique event.



Hasbro Latin America

The sixth annual toy sale was a huge success and raised more than \$21,000 for MCHF. Shoppers had the opportunity to start their holiday shopping early and get the latest Hasbro toys at great prices! Thank you to Hasbro Latin America for your friendship and dedication to MCHF.

Hardware Conference

The 18th annual Hardware Conference was once again held at the Marco Island Marriott. Vendors donated their booths for the live and silent auctions, and \$30,000 was raised for MCH Foundation. Thank you to our dear friends Tom and Dale Chasteen (Ace Hardware dealers) for another successful event!



Jon, Nancy and Carolyn Batchelor

Bringing Holiday Cheer

Thank you to everyone who donated toys this year. We are most grateful for your generosity that helped make the holidays a special time for all the kids at the hospital.

Rooms To Go

In honor of the Grand Opening of its new store in Dadeland, on October 14, Rooms To Go donated 10 percent of sales from its opening weekend to two local charities, Amigos for Kids and Miami Children’s Hospital Foundation. Each charity received more than \$36,000 from the event.



KB Toys

Thank you to KB Toys at Aventura Mall for its generous donation of toys for children at the hospital. KB Toys-Aventura has also made a commitment to donate toys to the hospital on a regular basis.



Jennifer Valoppi, Kay Deal and Ann Lyons with the \$40,000 check





Dr. John Ragheb, Carolyn Domina, and Dr. Paul Farmer.

Upcoming Events

February 2

Grid Iron Golf Tournament 2007 will be held at Crandon Golf on Key Biscayne. The tournament will be hosted by Hall of Famer Franco Harris and Lydell Mitchell. A portion of the proceeds benefits CMN. For more information, please call Luana Scott at (619) 279-5879 or onparpro@comcast.net.

February 2

Annual NFL Players Wives Fashion Show will be held at the Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood. A portion of the proceeds benefits CMN. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call Maria Moldes at (786) 268-1832.

February 9

En casa con Gloria is a private concert hosted by The Gloria Estefan Foundation at the Estefan residence. Proceeds from this event will benefit Miami Children's Brain Institute and L.A. Children's Hospital. For more information, please contact Ann Lyons at (786) 268-1830 or alyons@mchf.org.

February 24 & 25

MCH will sponsor the Kellogg's Kidz Kitchen at the South Beach Food & Wine Festival. There will be six seminars throughout the weekend featuring Food Network Talent where kids can learn from their favorite chefs! For more information, please call Ann Lyons at (786) 268-1830 or alyons@mchf.org.

March 3 & 4

The 10th Annual FIU Dance Marathon will once again be held at the University Park Campus in Miami. Participants of the 25-hour event will raise funds for CMN. For more information, please call (305) 348-2149.

March 9

The 2007 Rotary Club of Coral Gables Promenade will be a "magical" evening that will kick off at the Coral Gables Country Club. All proceeds will benefit Rehabilitation Services at Miami Children's Hospital. For more information, please call Alexis Viera at (786) 268-1822.

March 21

The opening night of the South Beach Fashion Week Charity Event will benefit Miami Children's Hospital Foundation. For more information, please contact Karen Dudley at (786) 268-1823.

April 18

The Eighth Annual South Florida Marriott Children's Miracle Network Golf Tournament will be held at the Doral Golf Resort & Spa, a Marriott Resort. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., shotgun start at 1 p.m. on the famous Blue Monster golf course, followed by awards reception. For more information, please call Maria Moldes at (786) 268-1832.

May 1-20

This year, Wal-Mart will celebrate its 20th anniversary as a national Children's Miracle Network sponsor. The company has set a goal of selling 20 million "miracle" balloons in 20 days nationwide, from May 1 through May 20. Support Miami Children's Hospital Foundation by purchasing a "miracle" balloon at your local Wal-Mart.

May 5

Lexie Potamkin will be the Chair, and Constance Fernandez the Honorary Chair, of the Eighth Annual Hugs & Kisses Children's Fashion Show to be held at the Radisson Hotel-Downtown. Reserve your table and secure a spot in the show for your child now! For more information, please contact Alexis Viera at (786) 268-1822.

May 11

The beautiful Biltmore Golf Club will be the location for the annual MCH Corporate Golf Invitational. For more information, please contact Ann Lyons at (786) 268-1830 or alyons@mchf.org.

June 3

The Annual Children's Miracle Network Telethon will be televised on WBFS MY 33. For more information, please contact Maria Moldes at (786) 268-1832 or mmoldes@mchf.org.

CMN News

American Home Mortgage (AHM), a new national CMN sponsor, has a Discount/Donation Program benefiting CMN. AHM will donate \$150-\$300 per loan closing (depending on loan amount) to CMN. Borrowers will also receive \$250 off closing costs.

RE/MAX, a national CMN sponsor since 1992, raises funds for CMN year-round through its Miracle Home Program, which allows RE/MAX Associates to make a donation on behalf of each real estate transaction. This partnership underscores the sales associate involvement in the communities in which they live and serve. The Miracle Office designation indicates 100 percent of the associates in the office contribute to CMN.

American Home Mortgage & RE/MAX Consultants Realty in Ft. Lauderdale teamed up to host a hot air balloon event/family fun day and raised \$1,000 for CMN.

Welcome to the following three new Wal-Mart locations:

- Wal-Mart #3311 in Miami Gardens
- Wal-Mart #3397 in Miami Gardens
- Wal-Mart #3625 in Lauderdale Lakes

Welcome to IHOP, a new national CMN sponsor. February 20th is "National Pancake Day." Visit your local IHOP restaurants in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties for a free short stack of their delicious pancakes and make a donation benefiting CMN at MCH Foundation.

Marriott's Torch Relay

The 2006 Torch Relay spanned over 5,800 miles—beginning in Baltimore, Maryland, and ending in Hollywood, California. Relay participants from Marriott properties in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties raised funds for MCHF. Congratulations to Marriott, its vendors, guests and dedicated associates for another wonderful event.



IT'S ALL IN THE EYES!

Ouch

I've got a Pencil in my Eye!

Find your way to the iris (the colored part of the eye) in this eyeball maze.

START

FINISH

Did you know?

Flies depend on their eyes to escape predators and flyswatters. Houseflies have 4,000 lenses in their eyes, which take up most of their head.

Their eyes are extremely sensitive to movement, and the robber fly can see in 3-D. Most flies also have an extra set of eyes on top of their heads to detect light.



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