

# Around the House

The Magazine for Ronald McDonald House New York. Volume 5, Issue 4



RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE® NEW YORK



Fall 2010



## Contents

- 1 **President's Letter**
- 2 **What's New at Your House?**  
Jon Lawrence Shevell "Legacy of Kindness"  
Seventh Floor Terrace  
Built to Last  
Monarchs, Mariachis and the Miracle  
of Migration
- 4 **Wish List**  
Hospitality at the House
- 6 **Spotlight on Your Board**  
Robert Grubert, Head, US Equities,  
RBC Capital Markets
- 7 **Spotlight**  
Comprehensive Education Helps  
the Healing Process  
Practical Magic in the Playroom
- 9 **Feature**  
John Fitzgerald Clarkson, Jr.: Celebrating  
New Life
- 12 **In Memoriam**
- 13 **Volunteer Highlights**
- 14 **Programs**  
Fall Season Highlights
- 15 **Fundraising**  
The Tree Of Life  
Adopt-A-Room  
Tributes and Memorials
- 16 **Calendar Of Events**  
Share a Night  
Skate With the Greats

Learning is Fun! Michaela Saintelien (front cover) from Upper Marlboro, MD, and Justin Gaudineer (this page) from Tampa, FL, learn about volcanoes and tornadoes in the Playroom.

Cover and inside cover photos by Bob Ray



Ronald McDonald House New York provides a temporary "home-away-from-home" for pediatric cancer patients and their families. The House is a supportive and caring environment which encourages and nurtures the development of child-to-child and parent-to-parent support systems. Ronald McDonald House New York is the largest facility of its type in the world.

### Publisher

William T. Sullivan  
President & Chief Executive Officer

### Editor/Writer

Natalie Greaves  
Director Of Communications

### Designer

Erika Ladanyi  
[erikaladanyi@yahoo.com](mailto:erikaladanyi@yahoo.com)

## President's Letter



Photo Bob Ray

Dear Friends,  
The fall season is definitely here, and there is no greater evidence of that fact than the magnificent foliage lining our streets throughout New York City. What fascinates me most about this transformation process is the knowledge that those very leaves – as fragile as they are – when tested, begin to display an awe-inspiring beauty. It is that same beauty that I see in the children and

families who reside here at Ronald McDonald House New York.

In this issue of *Around the House*, our focus is education. Being a home-away-from-home to more than 80 families at a given time represents a unique opportunity to provide more than just bricks-and-mortar shelter. I can remember from my childhood in Boston that each new day brought tremendous possibilities and discoveries. I'm a firm believer that a diagnosis of cancer should not mean that a child's learning should be put on hold.

For many of the young minds under our care, there is very little concern about the challenging streets of Manhattan, as much as a desire to live, explore and just be a regular child. In fact, for more than 30 years, we've been devoted to making our children feel like "Kids First," as opposed to kids with cancer. Our relationship with the Department of Education enables children battling pediatric cancer and their siblings to have a chance beating the odds and staying on track with their studies.

I am pleased to report that in recent years, we've taken great strides to expand on those services to our families; sometimes out of sheer inspiration, other times out of necessity. While it's been said many times that learning can be fun, attendees definitely got the message during the butterfly event on our newly renovated seventh floor terrace. Add to that the Playroom activities that Christine Taylor has introduced through her "Weird Science" and drama programs, and you have a masterpiece of a Programs department.

We've also had a lot of new families check-in to the House lately, and for that reason, hospitality is another theme that we've brought a focus to in this issue. As evidenced by the outpouring of donations from TempurPedic, Brand Source and Steiner Sports, comfort is a priority.

Thank you to our donors and volunteers who've worked tirelessly to assist us in providing round-the-clock support for our families. One example of such an extraordinary person was Dr. Aaron Rausen, our dear friend and Board member who we pay tribute to on page 12.

We've told a number of stories in this issue; far too many to count off in my introduction. I hope that you'll continue to share with us in the creation of new stories filled with hope, courage and love.

As we celebrate the bright splashes of color in our lives and how they've helped us to overcome adversity, I hope that you will remember the families at Ronald McDonald House New York. Should you feel moved to spend time with us over the holidays, visit us on East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street or online at [www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org).

Sincerely,

William T. Sullivan  
President & Chief Executive Officer

## Ronald McDonald House New York

### OFFICERS

Stanley B. Shopkorn  
Chairman of the Board  
Milton R. Berlinski  
Vice Chairman  
Harris Diamond  
Vice Chairman  
William T. Sullivan  
President & Chief  
Executive Officer  
Richard J. O'Reilly, MD  
Vice President

Peter L. Samaha  
Vice President  
George Simeone  
Vice President/Finance  
Committee Chair  
Shelly S. Friedman, Esq.  
Secretary  
Rick Richardson  
Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

John M. Angelo  
Steven J. Bensinger  
Terry Bovin  
Louise Camuto  
William L. Carroll, MD  
Bruce D. Colley  
Jerry de St. Paer  
Randel A. Falco  
James E. Fitzgerald, Jr.  
Casey Gard  
Judy Gilbert  
Joseph R. Gromek

Robert Grubert  
James A. Jacobson  
Thomas M. Joyce  
Robert E. La Blanc  
Sacha Lainovic  
Kenneth G. Langone  
Candace Leeds  
Tina Lundgren  
James P. MacGilvray  
Timothy J. Mahoney, Jr.  
Rocco J. Maggiotto  
Edward J. Malloy  
Tom Murry

Joel Newman  
Frank Pellegrino  
David A. Preiser  
Michael E. Roemer  
Myron "Mike" Shevell  
Clifford A. Sterling  
Felicia Taylor  
Michael A. Weiner, MD

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

R. Peter Altman, MD  
Michael J. DeSola, Jr.  
Barbara Eig  
Michael A. Giunta  
Michael Hegarty  
Theodore P. Janulis  
George F. Mikes  
J. E. Reeves, Jr.

### PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Vivian Harris \*  
\* deceased



## What's New at Your House?

### Jon Lawrence Shevell "Legacy of Kindness" Seventh Floor Terrace



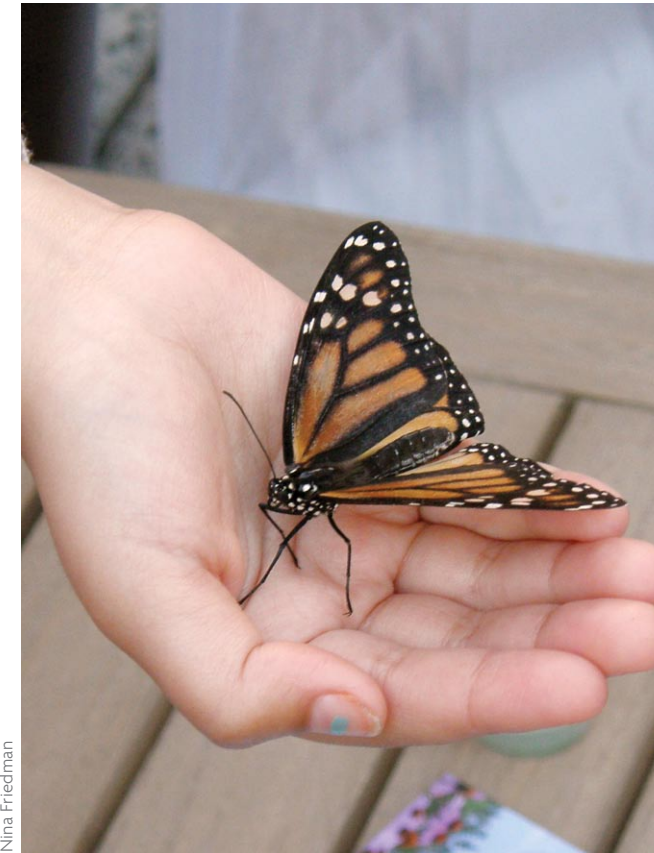
Jase, Charmaine and Mother Cynthia Lim, a family from Singapore, enjoy the butterfly garden on the Seventh Floor Terrace

#### Built to Last

The hallway leading toward the terrace is lined with circular plaques offering educational tidbits about butterflies and nature. With its alternate function to serve as an educational experience for our young residents, this terrace does not disappoint.

Sparing no detail, the Operations team set out to ensure that the terrace would hold up for many years within our 84-room facility. The first step included the installation of a top of the line Kemper roofing system. Known as the preeminent manufacturer in the waterproofing and roofing industry, Kemper is a leader in eco-friendly roofing materials.

The terrace also features decorative Hanover pavers that are not only attractive, but also guarantee up to 50 years of solid wear. To nourish the gardens, a sophisticated irrigation system has also been installed that proved its worth during last summer's heat wave to maintain the color in the garden's variety of catmint, buddleias, and black-eyed susan, evergreens and deciduous plants.



#### Monarchs, Mariachis and the Miracle of Migration

In September, our kids participated in the migration process of the monarch butterfly. As the butterflies made a pit stop in New York City on their annual trek from Canada to Mexico, the children helped to tag the butterflies, while learning about insects and geography. The event's theme was the "miracle of migration," since knowledge of how the butterflies make the nearly 3,000-mile journey is still a mystery.

In a workshop led by volunteer Richard Stadin of Mastervision, also a representative of Monarch Watch, the children saw live examples of butterflies in each stage of life. After tagging the butterflies, our budding entomologists were entertained by a traditional mariachi band as everyone sang "Buen Viaje" to the departing butterflies.

We're grateful for the thoughtfulness of the Shevell family. We are also pleased to announce that Jon's father Myron "Mike" Shevell has also joined the Ronald McDonald House New York Board of Directors! Mr. Shevell is the chairman and CEO of New England Motor Freight, Inc., a multimillion-dollar trucking company based in Elizabeth, NJ.

Welcome to our Board, Mr. Shevell, and thank you for your compassion and leadership.

#### Staff

**William T. Sullivan**  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
[wsullivan@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:wsullivan@rmb-newyork.org)

**Winifred Cudjoe**  
Director of House Operations  
[wini@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:wini@rmb-newyork.org)

**Joseph Guidetti**  
Chief Financial Officer  
[jguidetti@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:jguidetti@rmb-newyork.org)

**Richard H. Martin**  
Director of Development  
[rmartin@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:rmartin@rmb-newyork.org)

**Patrick Lenz**  
Director of Human Resources & Volunteer Development  
[plenz@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:plenz@rmb-newyork.org)

**Daniel Badillo**  
Evening Manager  
[dbadillo@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:dbadillo@rmb-newyork.org)

**Michael Ballew**  
Director of Donor Management Systems  
[mballew@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:mballew@rmb-newyork.org)

**Nelida Barreto**  
Director of Programs  
[nbarreto@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:nbarreto@rmb-newyork.org)

**Teresa Eggers**  
Assistant to Director of Human Resources Volunteer Services  
[teggers@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:teggers@rmb-newyork.org)

**Mel Farrell**  
Building Engineer  
[mfarrell@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:mfarrell@rmb-newyork.org)

**Cherilyn Frei**  
Director of Family Support  
[cfrei@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:cfrei@rmb-newyork.org)

**Natalie Greaves**  
Director of Communications  
[ngreaves@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:ngreaves@rmb-newyork.org)

**Suzanna C. Houston**  
Assistant to the President & Director of External Affairs  
[sbouston@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:sbouston@rmb-newyork.org)

**Jerome Kelton**  
Development Officer  
[jkelton@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:jkelton@rmb-newyork.org)

**Pauline Kim**  
Senior Accountant  
[pkim@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:pkim@rmb-newyork.org)

**Karen Kirk**  
Assistant Director of Development, Director of Special Events  
[kkirk@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmb-newyork.org)

**Darlene Lord**  
Assistant to Director of Operations/Manager  
[dlord@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:dlord@rmb-newyork.org)

**Fordham Murdy**  
Evening Program Director  
[fmurdy@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:fmurdy@rmb-newyork.org)

**Antonio Neto**  
Executive Assistant to the President's Office & Office Manager  
[aneto@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:aneto@rmb-newyork.org)

**Jim Rooney**  
Evening Manager  
[jrooney@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:jrooney@rmb-newyork.org)

**Niki Sideris**  
Chairman, Greek Division  
[nikisideris@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:nikisideris@rmb-newyork.org)

**Helen Stafford**  
Volunteer Director  
[hstafford@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:hstafford@rmb-newyork.org)

**Stephen Yarri**  
Controller  
[syarri@rmb-newyork.org](mailto:syarri@rmb-newyork.org)

#### Partner Hospitals

Bellevue Hospital Center

Beth Israel Medical Center

Hospital for Special Surgery

Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Institute

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Montefiore Medical Center

Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian Hospital

The Mount Sinai Medical Center

New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases

NYU Langone Medical Center

Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine

St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center



## Wish List

Thank you for your thoughtful donation of items that help to make the transition a little easier for families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York. Following is a list of items that are urgently needed.

### FOR THE HOUSE:

For further information regarding this Wish List, or to make a donation (NEW items only), please contact Lucrecia Ortiz at 212.639.0200 or lucy@rmh-newyork.org.

### FOR THE CHILDREN

- DVDs (movies, G-and PG-rated)
- New clothing (seasonal, all sizes)
- Diapers (the bio "green" type)
- Baby wipes
- Winter Clothing, coats, gloves

### FOR THE MOMS AND DADS:

**Gift cards:** Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Target, Walgreens, Payless Shoes, JC Penney, Starbucks, Dunkin' Donuts, Duane Reade, CVS, Borders and Barnes & Noble

### FOR THE FAMILIES

- Postage stamps
- Umbrellas
- Rain Ponchos

### ITEMS FOR THE HOUSE

- Paper goods: disposable cups, plates, napkins
- Plastic goods: disposable forks, knives, spoons
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Linens: Towels, blankets for guest rooms
- Pillows
- Clear plastic containers
- Cereal (individually sized)
- Cleaning products:
- "Green" laundry detergent
- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- Copy paper
- Photo paper
- Healthy snacks: Granola Bars

### A SPECIAL GIFT

- Sponsor a room night payment (\$35/night)
- Sponsor a birthday party or special program party

### FOR THE PLAYROOM

For further information regarding Playroom donations, please contact Nelida Barreto, Director of Programs, at 212.639.0205 or nbarreto@rmh-newyork.org.

### FOR ARTS & CRAFTS:

- Feathers
- Drop cloths for tables
- Oil cloth table cloths
- Crayola modeling clay
- Sculpey
- Play-Doh
- Cotton Balls
- Glue guns and glue sticks
- LEGO blocks, people and BIONICLE sets
- Craft foam sheets
- Plastic lacing for lanyards
- Pom poms
- Glue dots
- Glitter glue

### FOR THE GAME ROOM:

- Foosballs
- Ping-pong balls and paddles
- Xbox 360 Games
- Playstation 3 Games
- iTunes Gift Cards (for our new iPad Programs)

### FOR THE TOT SECTION:

- Soft foam building blocks in assorted colors, shapes and sizes
- Baby dolls
- Baby doll clothing and accessories

### FOR TEENS

- Stereo/CD player
- Sony Snap Lab (UP CR20L)
- Blu-Ray DVDs
- Portable Organ
- Upright Piano
- MTA Metro Cards (for school transportation)

### BULK DONATIONS:

If you, your community group or company would like to share donations of new goods, seasonal surplus merchandise or other large-scale contributions, please contact Wini Cudjoe, Director of House Operations, at 212.639.0400 or wini@rmh-newyork.org.

### MACY'S GIFT REGISTRY:

The RMH-New York "Wish List" is also available through the Macy's Gift Registry (First Name: ronald Last Name: mcdonald). For more information, visit our "Wish List" page at [www.rmh-newyork.org/wishlist](http://www.rmh-newyork.org/wishlist).

## Hospitality at the House

From the terraces to the linens, a fresh new wave of breakthrough technology has steadily swept through our hallways. Our hope is that by providing the highest level of comfort and hospitality to our families, they can better focus their energies on fighting cancer.

A long day traveling to New York City or spent in treatment leaves many families longing for a good night's sleep. Thanks to a new partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities and **Tempur-Pedic**® beds, sleep is right there when it's needed most. Each of the twin beds within our facility have been replaced with 168 new mattresses, box springs, frames and mattress covers. Naturally, a delivery of that size on the Upper East Side of Manhattan is no easy feat. The bedding was delivered during the early morning hours over three consecutive weeks, with our Operations staff and a few key volunteers battling the elements to efficiently distribute and install the beds.

This donation reinforces Ronald McDonald House Charities' commitment to providing a healthy environment for our families. Our guests were pleasantly surprised and it wasn't long before compliments poured in to the front desk. For many, the change represented the most luxurious and restful sleep experience that they'd had in a very long time since they had begun their battle with cancer. To keep the momentum going, national partner **La-Z-Boy Furniture** also contributed two sleeper sofas as part of their annual donation.

**The Company Store** has ensured that those beds will be nicely dressed thanks to the provision of 904 pieces of bed linens, towels and blankets.

Through a national partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities, neighborhood appliance superstore **BrandSource**® has provided us with one 40" flat panel television, and three 32" televisions.

And **TekServe's** generosity continues to be a blessing to the House. Our daily activities blackboard has been replaced with a donated 32" display that will highlight programming activities more prominently. To accommodate our bilingual families, information will be displayed in both English and Spanish.

Our guest rooms are experiencing a fresh update thanks to **Benjamin Moore's** donation of 139 gallons of paint, and **Bissell** is also helping to keep our facility spotless for the holidays thanks to a generous donation of a Versus® Cordless Sweeper, carpet refreshers, and eco-friendly cleansers.

We're also grateful to **Metroplex** for their donation of two often-overlooked items that hold permanent spots on our Wish List: bottled water and paper products such as toilet paper and paper towels.

On behalf of our families, staff and volunteers, we extend many thanks to our sponsors and donors for fulfilling our Wish List requests.

## Give the Gift of Legends This Holiday Season!

Steiner Sports, the most trusted source of Certified Authentic sports gifts and collectibles in the U.S., has established a gift registry that adds a new dimension of hospitality to the world's home-away-from-home.

As the Official Collectibles Company of The New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs and Dallas Cowboys, Steiner Sports has released a catalog featuring autographed photographs of prominent sports stars that appeal to all family members.

Steiner Sports is decorating Ronald McDonald House New York for the holidays (and beyond), and also offering sports fans a unique opportunity to show and share their love for their favorites teams. Many of their remarkable pieces will be available for purchase at special rates, where they will be displayed throughout the facility for families, staff and our many supporters to enjoy.

### The Steiner Hook Up

Brandon Steiner and his team recently visited the House and helped redecorate our Playroom with several of his company's legendary pieces. Mr. Steiner and his team were so moved to help the organization after hearing about a fire that occurred in the lower level area earlier this year.

In addition to a football signed by New York Giants Quarterback Eli Manning, an original signed-bleacher seat from the old Yankee Stadium, and an autographed portrait of Mariano Rivera; our residents can now watch the game on two flat-panel televisions, or play their favorite games like their idols on one of two donated Playstation 3 consoles.

The Playroom was transformed into a sports-lover's dream, and two lucky families received tickets to see the Yankees in action. The entire experience was featured on the YES Network show "Memories of the Game" with the episode airing in October.

Not only will your gift bring smiles to young sports fans staying at the House, but you'll also be making an even bigger difference in all of our families' lives. For each item sold, a portion of the sale price will be donated to Ronald McDonald House New York.

Pieces are available in either 8"x10" or 16"x20".

Bronze level: \$ 250

Silver level: \$ 500

Gold level: \$ 750

Platinum: \$1,000

Sapphire: \$2,500

To find out how you can be part of Steiner's extraordinary effort, visit [www.steinersports.com/rmhnewyork](http://www.steinersports.com/rmhnewyork).



Courtesy of Steiner Sports

New York Yankees Commemorative Pieces



For the past three years, The Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, Inc. has been providing Chantilly Lane animated singing bears and animals to each of children staying at Ronald McDonald House New York.

This annual give-away has been made possible by the generosity and kindness of the PBC International Company, located in Oxnard, California.



## Spotlight On Your Board

### Robert Grubert, Head, US Equity Sales & Trading, RBCCM (New York)

Courtesy of RBC Capital Markets



When Robert “Bobby” Grubert of Royal Bank of Canada Capital Markets joined Ronald McDonald House New York’s Board of Directors in 2009, his commitment represented that of the many hearts and minds at his firm. What began as a lone event sponsorship would ultimately blossom into a relationship that would include monthly dinners and a true bond between our families and theirs. [Tell us about how you initially got involved with Ronald McDonald House New York.](#)

A fellow friend and Board Member, Jimmy Jacobson, introduced me to the House. He said, ‘before you answer let’s go up to the house and take a tour’ and get a better sense of what the House is about. Once you get up here and take a tour and see what’s going on with the families and the kids and the staff, it starts right there. It is part of RBC’s culture to give back to the communities that we live and work in. Our culture starts from the top of the house. We could not do this without:

- The commitment from Mark Standish, our president and co-CEO, and Debbie Freer, our U.S. Capital Markets chief operating officer.
- Gord Nixon’s, CEO of RBC Financial Group, relationship with the House in Toronto
- Leadership behind Skate with the Greats, where we raised \$550,000

[What inspired you to explore other volunteer opportunities after that initial experience?](#)

It is important to see the House. It is infectious—once you come, you become emotionally involved. The connection of when you listen—listen to the families, you listen to a mother talk about what she’s gone through, and she has her child there in her arms. It’s so emotional and so moving, that after two years of that, people asked how can we get more involved? And that’s when it went from a financial commitment to really an emotional connection and willingness of our people at RBC to get involved. This ultimately led to volunteering at the House.

At RBC, we walk the talk. Our commitment to the House is not only financial; we make a difference with our time, and it fits with our values and our framework of how we do business and how we treat our clients.

- Our relationship goes beyond the firm’s financial commitment
- The dinners are consistently “over-volunteered” by our employees. We always have more staff than we could use sign up to help
- We serve approximately 100 people per dinner

[How has volunteering for the House as a group affected RBC employees? More specifically, what feedback have you received from employees after spending time at the House?](#)

It brings people together – it brings our staff together as a team; and it brings families together. I’d say a year ago when we started donating dinner events to the House, the staff at RBC Capital Markets did it because they loved making a difference. And our employees continue to look forward to the monthly visits. Plus, I have heard from families around the House that RBC puts on the best spread. We are very proud of that.

Everyone feels a connection to the families. It could be anything, even a smile—you really feel like you’re making a difference and you look forward to

coming back. These kids are true heroes, and being at the House allows you to see what people are about.

Each person talks about it at the firm, about the personal experience that they’ve had. There are so many emotional ties and connections that it’s difficult to try to articulate the depth of what it does for people and organizations that are involved; you can not fake that.

[What does volunteering on behalf of Ronald McDonald House New York mean to you \(as an individual and a Board Member\)?](#)

It has increased my awareness about giving back. There certainly is an appreciation of what the families go through, especially the children. Everyone knows someone who has been afflicted with cancer and that only enhances the feeling of giving back. That’s the first thing. The connection is undeniable; the staff – it’s sincere, it’s authentic. People come here to volunteer or get involved and immediately feel the power of the House. Having the opportunity to work with people who are in the House from around the world, telling them about New York, gives me pride and a greater appreciation for the community that I live and work in.

As a Board Member, I’m always thinking of ways to introduce others to the experience [of helping out at Ronald McDonald House New York] Whether it’s helping out as a group, sponsoring an event, or fulfilling Wish List requests for the holidays, people are finding ways to contribute in their own unique way.

On a more personal level, we walked in one night and there was a woman there from Canada who worked for a Canadian company and, our being a Canadian bank, it resonated at that moment. The woman then introduced me to her son, Aiden, and being the new dad of boy named Aiden, it resonated even more.

I walk away from a night at the House feeling as though my day-to-day life’s struggles are not really that significant compared to the struggles of these families fighting pediatric cancer.

## Spotlight

### Comprehensive Education Helps the Healing Process



Sara Jaye Weiss

Elizabeth and Ashlynn Hauser from Appomattox, VA study with our tutor Tara.

At Ronald McDonald House New York, access to education is an important part of life that we believe every family has a right to, regardless of their circumstances.

“When a family arrives at the House, it’s very challenging for them to adjust to a new environment, new doctors, and all of the other stresses that go with cancer treatment,” said Nelida “Nel” Barreto, director of Programs. “Establishing a routine in a world where nothing is routine becomes a great help to them. Just because a child has cancer, it doesn’t mean that they can’t continue to learn and thrive while at Ronald McDonald House.”

Where getting better is the first priority, it’s possible to imagine school taking a backseat to an inconsistent treatment schedule. But there is a solution. Intensive two-hour home-schooling sessions help to ensure that pediatric cancer patients and their siblings who stay at the House remain on track with their studies while they work around their chemotherapy, radiation and other therapies.

A quick visit to our Macy’s Living Room or the dining area just above reveals that serious learning is taking place in spite of illness. What many don’t know is that the process begins long before the family even checks in.

“Once we figure out how long a family is staying, we try to enroll the sibling into public or private school. Our public schools will take children from Ronald McDonald House New York within 24 hours,” said Mrs. Barreto. “If a patient needs school, the parent usually arranges home schooling through the social worker, who makes arrangements through the New York City Department of Education. Then the instruction happens here at the House.”

Teachers make scheduled trips to the House on a daily basis, and students also receive additional support from the five tutors who visit the House daily from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

“It helps them with their confidence,” said Sandy Newell, a 24-year veteran of the New York City Board of Education homeschooling program. “If a child is sick, it’s a knock to their confidence. They can still learn, and they can *do*. In trying to teach something new, when you see that they’re learning and *they know it*, it gives the children confidence and it makes them feel happy.”

When discussing the education program at the House, Ms. Newell said, “I’ve been teaching in homes and I’ve been teaching in hospitals. But nothing is like coming here. You walk in the door and the staff is always supportive. Everyone goes out of their way to assist you. The facilities are top-rate with a computer

(continued)



room, and the space here is well-lit. It's the perfect environment for teaching."

#### Support for the Entire Family

Just how much of a difference does it make? The Hewitt family has been staying on and off at Ronald McDonald House New York since 2006, and their daughter Chloe currently attends Eleanor Roosevelt High School. In the evenings after school, Chloe receives tutoring in several subjects including math, science, French, and language arts.

"They kept her in touch," said Shirley Hewitt, Chloe's mom. "The teachers and Chloe recognized that a great deal would need to be done in terms of reaching that distance to prepare her to enter high school. She had a team of tutors that came in and from January to July, we achieved that. Debbie was the homework tutor, and Chloe had someone to interact with her that she could bounce things off of her because she was feeling so isolated sometimes with the home instruction. Even now, if Chloe runs into any trouble [with her homework], they work around it."

#### Continuing Education While Families Continue the Fight

As with many programs available to our families, the genesis usually stems from a unique necessity. With families coming from more than 70 countries worldwide to stay at Ronald McDonald House New York, a major concern was being able to accommodate those who did not speak English. Of the five tutors who come to the House every day, two of them specialize in English as a Second Language (ESL). Participants include patients, caregivers, and sometimes Ronald McDonald House staff and volunteers.

#### Practical Magic in the Playroom

For more than three years, Christine Taylor volunteered on a twice-weekly basis at Ronald McDonald House New York. With her programs, "Weird Science" and "Drama with Christine," kids (and parents, too!) become captivated by unique science



Bob Ray

Lauren Krolczyk from Amherst, NY, learns about electricity with Volunteer Educator Christine Taylor.

experiments and theatrical presentations — starring themselves as the main characters.

"We do CSI where they learn blood type and fingerprinting. Instead of just doing it, I give them a whole story," said Mrs. Taylor. "Because I remember as a kid anything that was out of the ordinary or unexpected, or had a story line to it. I try to give everything we do some depth and some interest and something more than what you see everywhere else."

Mrs. Taylor's work provides a therapeutic release for children where their young minds embrace new discoveries; forgetting the stress of battling cancer.

"A child will come in and they'll be crying in their mother's arms and they'll be in pain," said Mrs. Taylor. "Their mom will ask them if they want to make an earth quake, and the next thing I know, the same child that was crying is squealing with delight. It's also the beauty of children. I think all of that takes them to another planet. Away from the cancer planet."

And so an idea was born. Several gifted students are helping to direct, produce and star in the upcoming production, "Planet Wannabe."

In the movie, a team of astronauts encounter alien creatures who introduce them to a far-away planet where young people can be whatever they "wannabe." Get it?

But for all the fun that is had here at Ronald McDonald House New York, there is no doubt that healing is indeed taking place.

"I think love and joy and entertainment and music — all those things. I think everything that the House offers, all those little extras, from the dinners, to the entertainment, to what I do — I think it's all a part of the healing process. Anytime you can get their minds into something positive, something exciting. That's gotta help the healing."

To find out how you can get involved and support our educational programs, contact Nelida Barreto at 212-639-0205, or via email at [nbarreto@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:nbarreto@rmh-newyork.org).

## Feature

### John Fitzgerald Clarkson, Jr.: Celebrating New Life

The first time you meet 11-year-old John Fitzgerald Clarkson, Jr., it's very likely that you'll be taken aback by his outspoken curiosity. You will also be charmed by Fitzgerald's wit, enthusiasm for learning new things, and gregarious personality.

Director of Programs Nelida Barreto describes him best: "Fun-loving, smart, witty and imaginative are just a few words to describe Fitzgerald. When he enters the Playroom we all smile. It's a joy having him around."

Despite all of the energy that you see today, it's hard to believe that a little under two years ago, this remarkable young man with extraordinary spirit had arrived from Grenada unable to walk and in severe pain, battling acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL).

"Fitzgerald was on holiday in England and his aunt called and said he just stopped eating," said his father John Fitzgerald Clarkson, Sr. "When he came back to Grenada, we saw that he'd lost weight. He said his hand was hurting him, and his back was hurting him. Then he went to school and he said, 'Daddy, I can not walk.'"

After preliminary tests in Grenada proved inconclusive, the family sought answers nearby in Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago. The doctors had no answers. After returning from Trinidad, Fitzgerald suddenly ran an alarmingly high fever, and his family began to consider other options. With the help of a cousin living in New York City, his father and grandmother Luret brought him to Woodhull Medical Center in Brooklyn in April 2009. The doctors at Woodhull had suspicions of a diagnosis, but they sent the family to

New York University Medical Center for confirmation where they learned that Fitzgerald had acute lymphocytic leukemia.

#### What is Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia?

Acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) is a type of blood cancer that begins with the formation of a single cell in the bone marrow. Also known as "acute lymphoblastic" or "acute lymphoid" leukemia, symptoms include aching in the arms, legs and back, enlarged lymph nodes, black-and-blue marks with no apparent cause, and unexplained fever. Screening for the illness are conducted through specific blood and bone marrow tests that can identify abnormal cells known as leukemic "blast" cells.



Sara Jaye Weiss





Sara Jaye Weiss

Master Chef Fitzgerald specializes in island favorites like saltfish (cod) buljol, and American classics such as pizza.



Nina Friedman

It was a good day for a great catch during a Camp Ronald McDonald summer fishing trip.

According to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, most children who are diagnosed with ALL are cured of their disease after treatment. Options include chemotherapy, radiation, bone marrow transplants and stem cell transplants.

#### Easing the Financial Burden

By the end of their first month in New York City, the Clarksons had depleted their financial resources and they were exhausted from shuttling back and forth between the Manhattan and Brooklyn medical centers without a stable residence. In addition to their lodging woes, their next major challenge became finding and affording food that they were accustomed to.

Living on a farm in what is known as “The Spice Isle” of the Caribbean, the family’s diet consisted mostly of fresh chicken, fish and pork, and root vegetables (known on some islands as ground provisions) such as white yams, and dasheen (taro).

“I just cook what Fitzgerald likes,” said Mrs. Clarkson. “He likes ground provisions, he likes crushed yams, sweet potatoes, plantains. And he likes green bananas and codfish – we call it ‘salt-fish’ at home. Codfish with onions and tomato and peppers, that’s his favorite. We found a place at first on 14<sup>th</sup> Street, and John used to get it from there. At that time, I didn’t even know where 14<sup>th</sup> Street was. Now we go to Brooklyn, on Utica and Church.”

Samuel Agyare, M.D., a pediatrician affiliated with Woodhull Medical Center, was sympathetic toward the family’s situation and offered many words of comfort to the family. He recommended that they seek help at Ronald McDonald House New York. With the help of their social worker at NYU, the Clarksons secured housing at Ronald McDonald House New York, and they checked in at the end of April 2009. With a stable place to call home, they were able to focus on fighting Fitzgerald’s cancer.

#### Treating Leukemia

The fact that Fitzgerald’s hometown was more than 2,000 miles away where pediatric cancer care options were limited in Grenada played a major part in determining his course of treatment. When doctors conducted Fitzgerald’s first bone marrow aspiration test, they removed a semi-liquid form of his bone marrow. The results revealed that his body had already begun to heal. A second aspiration test revealed that Fitzgerald’s cancer had gone into remission.

Doctors advised that Fitzgerald’s best chance for total recovery would be a bone marrow transplant. They would remove what remained of the cells in his bones, and replace it with new marrow that would be able to produce a healthy supply of red and white blood cells, and platelets.

“We went to Columbia, the August of that year,” recalled Mr. Clarkson. “They did a PET, they did an MRI, they did everything to check him out and it was said to me, he was in what you call a solid remission. That was just before the transplant.”

Fitzgerald received his bone marrow transplant from an unrelated (non-relative) donor at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

in August 2009. The procedure was successful.

“Eventually these new cells find their way into the bone marrow, and it’s called engrafting,” explained Chaplain Cheryl Frei, director of Family Support at Ronald McDonald House New York. “They start to colonize inside your bone marrow, and they create new bone marrow. Eventually, that starts to make new white and red cells, and it takes about 100 days. During that time, you’re very susceptible to infection because you have no immune system. That’s where the antibiotics and antifungicides come into play, because your body can’t fight off bacteria, fungus, or anything that we normally do.”

The facilities at Ronald McDonald House New York provided the ideal environment for recovery while Fitzgerald was in isolation. With more than 30 years of experience caring for families fighting pediatric cancer, the staff was well-prepared to accommodate the Clarksons’ needs.

“During that 100 days, you’re typically isolated in a room and the patient has a mask on, or gloves on. The patient has no physical one-on-one human contact,” continued Chaplain Frei. “If the engrafting is successful, that person will have a whole new immune system. If you were AB-blood, you might be A-positive later, or you might be O. You totally take on the immune system of this donor, which is a miracle itself. And that’s what’s happened with Fitzgerald, he’s taken on this immune system, which has totally eradicated all of the cancer cells—all the blast cells that were in his bone marrow that were causing the leukemia. So he’s well and he’s cured.”

#### Complications

A common complication associated with bone marrow transplant procedures is a condition called graft-versus-host disease. With the condition, infection-fighting cells in the transplanted marrow began to consider Fitzgerald’s own tissue as foreign, and they began to attack.

Fitzgerald has lost pigmentation in his skin and hair, however over time, it’s going away as his body continues to heal.

“Graft-versus-host disease can affect any organ within a person’s body. Where you see it on Fitzgerald, it’s manifesting on his skin. The skin is an organ, too,” explained Chaplain Frei. “So when a person gets the graft-versus-host disease, it shows up on their skin, it causes these patches. On a Caucasian person, it might be a red patch. But on a person of color, it might deplete the pigment. So what you see with Fitzgerald, [the pigment] will come back. And as you can see with time, it is coming back. Probably in a year or two, you might not see any remnants of this on his body at all.”

#### Life at the House

Since his arrival, Fitzgerald’s presence has been felt by just about everyone including the other families, staff and volunteers. He’s a founding member of our Press Crew, a team of young journalists who report on life at the House from the young resident’s perspective. In the Playroom and in our hall-



Sara Jaye Weiss

Father and son John Fitzgerald Clarkson Sr. and Jr., with cousin Daniella and Grandmother Luret Clarkson at the May 2010 Spring Social

ways, his dimpled smile always includes an unmistakable hint of curiosity and a sometimes a twinge of mischief.

While his presence has had an impact on the House, his father believes that the House has had an even bigger impact on the entire family.

“Some people say that [we] need to get Fitzgerald back into a routine,” said Mr. Clarkson. “The routine we need to get Fitzgerald back into right now is just to *live*. Eat, sleep, play with people, interacting and living with people.”

“Everybody knows him,” added Mr. Clarkson. “I am very happy with Ronald McDonald House, with the Playroom, the Computer Room, everything, because he is having a blast. As Fitzgerald’s parent, I was very happy to be here. This is something that will leave an indelible impression on me, Ronald McDonald House New York. It is excellent to be here.”

In a few short months, the Clarkson family will be heading home, first visiting with relatives in the United Kingdom (where their battle began), before going back to Grenada. But the reunion will also be full of new beginnings. In June 2009, just two months shy of his transplant operation, they received news from Grenada that Fitzgerald’s mother had given birth to a baby sister back home named Diamond.

The family is hoping that Fitzgerald’s experience will raise awareness of childhood cancers within the Caribbean, and ultimately attract the necessary resources to help families dealing with similar circumstances. Until that time, there will always be a home for families like the Clarksons at Ronald McDonald House New York.





David Rausen

### Dr. Aaron Rausen

He had a heart for service and a wisdom that was unparalleled. When Aaron Rausen, M.D. joined Ronald McDonald House New York's Board of Directors 17 years ago, he brought with him an extraordinary type of leadership that was felt by many.

A pioneer in the field of pediatric oncology, Dr. Rausen held a number of professional titles including Founding Director of the Stephen D. Hassenfeld Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at NYU Medical Center.

"Ronald McDonald House New York will always be grateful for Dr. Rausen's commitment and compassion for the cause,"

said William T. Sullivan, president & CEO of the organization. "Words can't truly express or measure the impact that his contributions have had on our families. In everything he did, Dr. Rausen exhibited tremendous concern for others, and he put all of his energy into those that he knew that he needed it most. In the case of Ronald McDonald House, it was children and families in the midst of a fight that they should never have to endure."

"His gift to us was his uncanny ability to cultivate lasting bonds with just about anyone, and he constantly encouraged his peers to do the same," Mr. Sullivan continued. "Dr. Rausen had gifted hands that provided hope to many families battling cancer, and his work serves as an inspiration for the kind of difference one person can make."

"Dad was a quintessential physician - he was always happy to offer his knowledge and skills to benefit others," said Dr. Rausen's son, David. "He served the medical community with a dedicated and generous spirit - the same spirit in which the Ronald McDonald House does its amazing work. Our family is grateful that Dad's legacy of uncompromising patient care is being honored and will continue to inspire others at the Ronald McDonald House."

Dr. Rausen passed away on July 7<sup>th</sup> following an admirable battle with prostate cancer. On behalf of the staff, volunteers and families and the Ronald McDonald House New York Board of Directors, we are for eternally grateful to Dr. Rausen and his family for his contribution in the fight against pediatric cancer.

### Barbara Nicoll

Earlier this year, Ronald McDonald House New York said farewell to our dear friend Barbara Nicoll. Along with 2008 Hope Awardee Phyllis Hahn, Barbara volunteered as a member of the "Women's Auxiliary Congregation Emanu-El," affiliated with Temple Emanu-El.

Having served at the House for 12 years, Barbara brought a great deal of cheer and love to our children. Here are Mrs. Hahn's thoughts in remembrance:

*Barbara had such love for the children and the House, and everything that it represented. When it was holiday time, we would do a Hannukah party, or we would do a Passover party, and Barbara sang. She was an actress, so that was a highlight. She launched [volunteering at Ronald McDonald House New York] with all of us and it flourished. It was very, of course, very near and dear to her, and she was an integral part of the program.*

## Children's Happy Faces Foundation's Day of Fun Raises More than \$360,000

The words "bright and sunny" couldn't have described the day better as Children's Happy Faces Foundation took to the greens to help families in crisis on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Held at Sleepy Hollow Country Club, with additional foursomes teeing off at Trump National Golf Club, the event raised more than \$360,000 on behalf of Ronald McDonald House® New York. A special "Wish-Hole" raised additional funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Hudson Valley.

"Thanks to the extraordinary support that we have received leading up to this event, Children's Happy Faces Foundation has raised more than \$1 million since our inception four years ago," said David Lipson, managing director of the event's Title Sponsor Century Management Services, and event chair. "When you see the happy faces on these kids, it all makes sense. Without the generous support of such compassionate hearts and minds, we could not have accomplished this tremendous feat."

With 32 foursomes participating at Sleepy Hollow Country Club Championship Golf Course, and 25 foursomes at Trump National, the day's activities included horseback riding, tennis, and dominos. When the sun went down, with a live auction courtesy of Sotheby's, winning was the word with luxury prizes such as a king-sized DUX bed, Randolph Rose bronze sculpture, tickets to "The Late Show with David Letterman," and custom-clothing by Dionisio Vasco. The Parker Reilly Band provided the entertainment as the evening was rounded out with Casino Night tables, a silent auction and also a Chinese auction.

In addition to Century Management Services, the fundraiser was also supported by a number of notable organizations that included Platinum Sponsor NCB, and Gold Sponsors Efficient Combustion & Cooling Corporation, Hercules Corporation and Mustang Harry's. Morgan Stanley, Hess Corporation, Skanska USA Building, Inc., and the New York Association of Realty Managers also contributed to the day's success.



Above: Children's Happy Faces Foundation Committee Members

Right: Lisa and John O'Hurley with Maria, Frank and Alina Galleta at Liberty National Golf Club



Liberty National Event Chairpersons with Chairman of the Board Stanley Shopkorn

### Liberty National Golf Tournament Raises \$350,000

Superstars from the apparel, entertainment and sports industries joined together in support of Ronald McDonald House New York by playing in a celebrity golf tournament held at the exclusive Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, NJ. Through event registrations and a silent auction, the event successfully raised \$350,000 for the organization.

Chaired by Frank Tworecke, president of the Sportswear Group of Warnaco Inc., the event committee included Richard Wurtzburger, vice president of Peerless Clothing; Mike Setola, president of Greg Norman Collection; and Allen Sirkin, chief operating officer of Phillips-Van Heusen.

"I am very proud of the overwhelming generosity shown by the apparel industry in support of the RMH and look forward to increased participation in the future," said Mr. Tworecke.

"This is the first year of our Celebrity Pro-Am at Liberty National and we couldn't be more thrilled with the response," said Mr. Setola. "The apparel industry's participation in this event to benefit the Ronald McDonald House NY exceeded all expectations."

Twenty-four celebrities joined foursomes that included executives from Warnaco, Inc., Phillips Van-Heusen, Greg Norman Collection, Peerless Clothing, JP Morgan Chase, Macy's, Sean John, AXA Advisors, GQ, and. Celebrities in attendance included New York Rangers legends Rod Gilbert, Brian Leetch and Sean Avery; NFL legends Lynn Swann (Pittsburgh Steelers), Carl Banks (New York Giants, Washington Redskins), and Howard Cross (New York Giants), CBS Early Show Host Harry Smith, and television and Broadway actor John O'Hurley (Seinfeld, Dancing with the Stars).



## LIFE WITH Archie PHOTO DIARY

**On July 29 of this year, the Archie Comics offices were opened for a day-long educational art party. A group of children visiting from Ronald McDonald House New York were treated to a very special day. Read on to find out more about this excellent charity and their great day at Archie Comics.**

**Super Animals Created by the families of Ronald McDonald House New York!**

**WHAT IS THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE NEW YORK?**  
 Ronald McDonald House New York provides a home-away-from-home for children diagnosed with cancer and the family members who care for them while they receive treatment in New York City. The House provides a place for the families to continue normal family life without interruption. To find out how YOU can help to make a difference for the children and families helped by Ronald McDonald House New York, visit [www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org), or to find a Ronald McDonald House in YOUR local area, visit [www.rmhc.org](http://www.rmhc.org).

### Fall Back to School Event

Seven weeks of Camp Ronald McDonald can be a tough act to follow; especially when camp includes a movie shoot, trapeze school outings and trips to the White House. So how did the Programs department help our families with their transition into the fall back-to-school season?

On Friday, September 24, families at Ronald McDonald House New York were treated to a "Fall Back to School" event. More than 80 children received donated school items including backpacks, notebooks, binders, and other supplies in fulfillment of lists provided by local schools. With most of the items donated by BDO Valuation Advisors, LLC, the backpacks also offered an infusion of fun thanks to comic books donated courtesy of Jonathan Goldwater, CEO of Archie Comics Publications.

### Archie and the Gang Visit the Upper East Side

Take a visit to our newly renovated Playroom and you're sure to notice some new, but familiar faces. Thanks to a generous donation from the talented team at Archie Comics Publications the entire gang can now call Ronald McDonald House New York its home-away-from-Riverdale. Via a seven-foot-tall mural, children staying at Ronald McDonald House New York now have a fun new backdrop for Programming activities. Our children even had an opportunity to learn about how comics came to life during a summer camp visit to the Archie offices where they sat with the artists and learned how to create their own characters. Many thanks to John and Penny Goldwater of Archie Comics Publications for their vision and generosity. Their donation of time, artwork and comic books has provided the House with a new resource for creative inspiration and literacy.

Follow us on [www.facebook.com/rmhnewyork](http://www.facebook.com/rmhnewyork) [www.twitter.com/rmhnewyork](http://www.twitter.com/rmhnewyork)

## Fundraising

### Giving the Gift of Hope

#### Adopt-A-Room

For more than 30 years, Ronald McDonald House New York has provided over 25,000 families with shelter and support in an environment filled with love and compassion. It is solely due to the generous support of our friends that we've been able to provide a home that nurtures hope and recovery.

Join the ranks of the New York Rangers, Macy's and the New York Athletic Club, who have all partnered with Ronald McDonald House New York in providing long-term sponsorship of our families!

With **Ronald McDonald House® New York's Adopt-a-Room** program, opportunities begin at less than \$1,000. Individual and corporate donors have a unique and creative way get involved in the fight against pediatric cancer. Here's how you can become a sponsor:

- \$ 750 Personalized Engraving on Dining Room Chair.
- \$ 1,100 Sponsors a Family Stay for One Month.
- \$ 2,500 A Permanent Leaf on the Tree of Life.
- \$ 5,000 Names a Family Room for Six Months.
- \$ 5,000 Permanently Names Benches/Planters in Garden Areas.
- \$10,000 Names a Family Room for One Year.
- \$30,000 Permanently Names an Office.
- \$60,000 Permanently Names a Family Room.

*Your generous support will be publicly acknowledged, including recognition in our Around the House publication.*

#### Tributes & Memorials

Perhaps you may have thought of a donation to Ronald McDonald House New York as a means to mark a joyous occasion, to memorialize a family member or friend, or to celebrate the strength and resilience of someone whose spirit embodies the hope that lives within our House. To make a tribute or memorial donation, please call 212.639.0100.

- Birthday
- Memorial
- Thank You
- Get Well
- Wedding
- Holiday
- Thank You
- Anniversary
- Other

#### Double the Impact of Your Gift!

A matching gift from your employer will help to make an even bigger difference this holiday season. In fact, your company's match may be as much as 100 percent! Visit us at [www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org) and use our matching gift tool to see if your employer is among thousands of NYC companies that have already enrolled.



### The Tree of Life

Visitors to Ronald McDonald House® New York have noticed that The Tree of Life wall sculpture continues to flourish with new leaf additions; especially with our most recent additions including a leaf placed for our beloved Founder Vivian Harris.

More and more families are honoring loved ones with the installation of leaves. This vibrant symbol of life and strength provides each family with an extraordinary way to memorialize and celebrate the life of someone special.

The financial support generated for Ronald McDonald House New York from The Tree of Life enables us to offer more than just a place to sleep when families travel to New York City for their child's cancer treatment. Like a tree, the House provides shelter, has many branches of support and gives us strength in times of turmoil. The House is a home-away-from-home, a place with an extended family and life-long friendships with those who are there when you need them.

Leaves are engraved with a message and the name of the honored person. Each leaf may be purchased for \$2,500. Your leaf will be placed on The Tree of Life and you will receive a beautiful glass tile in your loved one's name. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help us continue to offer services to families arriving today, tomorrow and in the years ahead.

For more information or to purchase a leaf, please contact Director of Development Richard Martin, at (212) 639-0206, or [rmartin@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:rmartin@rmh-newyork.org).



# Calendar of Events

## Save the Date

### DECEMBER 1, 2010

Greek Division Holiday Party  
Time: 5:00 PM  
Location: Bohemian National Hall,  
321 E. 73<sup>rd</sup> Street

### DECEMBER 2, 2010

Light a Light! Share a Night!  
Time: 5:30 PM  
Location: 405 E. 73<sup>rd</sup> Street

### DECEMBER 8, 2010

Fall Theatre Benefit, "Spider-Man: Turn  
Off the Dark"  
Time: 5:30 PM Cocktails & Dinner  
8:00 PM Theatre  
Location: Foxwoods Theater, 241 W. 43<sup>rd</sup> Street

### DECEMBER 10, 2010

Z100's Jingle Ball  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Location: Madison Square Garden

### DECEMBER 17, 2010

Maritime Industry Annual Outing  
(Mashomack Fish & Game Club)  
Time: 9:00 AM

### JANUARY 17, 2011

Skate with the Greats  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Location: The Rink at Rockefeller Center

### MARCH 20, 2011

NYC Half-Marathon  
Time: 6:00 AM  
Location: Transportation from Ronald  
McDonald House New York

#### LIGHT A LIGHT, SHARE A NIGHT

Give the gift of shelter, hope and love this holiday season!

For more than 30 years, families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York have benefited from the generosity of kind, compassionate supporters who recognize the financial burden caused by cancer. Families staying at the House are asked to pay a nominal fee of \$35/night, however no family is turned away for its inability to pay. Through our Share a Night program, millions of New Yorkers have helped to bridge the gap by providing much-needed funds that help us to provide more than just simply shelter, but a true home-away-from-home for families from more than 70 countries worldwide. We hope you will join us as we celebrate our Share a Night program.

For more information on how you can help support a family's stay at Ronald McDonald House New York, visit [www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org), or call (212) 639-0600.

#### Date: Thursday, December 2, 2010

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street (Between First and York Avenues)

#### SKATE WITH THE GREATS IN 2011!

Join us for our 17th Annual "Skate with the Greats" event as the New York Rangers kick off their 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Rink at Rockefeller Center alongside our families and dedicated supporters.

Sponsored by RBC Capital Markets and Zurich Financial Services, attendees will enjoy an evening of cocktails and a buffet dinner before hitting the ice for skating with some of the city's greatest heroes in hockey. Special photo and autograph opportunities will also be available. For more information about purchasing a corporate or family package, contact Richard Martin at 212.639.0206, or [rmartin@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:rmartin@rmh-newyork.org).

#### Date: Monday, January 17, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: The Rink at Rockefeller Center

(Entrance at 30 Rockefeller Plaza between 49th and 50th Streets)



## Saluting Our Loved Ones: Cantor Fitzgerald's Annual 9/11 Charity Day

This past September, Ronald McDonald House New York was given the privilege of participating in Cantor Fitzgerald's 9/11 Charity Day; the company's day of service honoring the lives of loved ones lost during one of our nation's most tragic events. Heavyweight Boxer Eddie "Fast Eddie" Chambers served as our Celebrity Ambassador as he spent time on the trading floor helping to execute trades.

While Eddie served in his official capacity, John Fitzgerald Clarkson, Jr., Ashlynn Hauser and their families were on-hand to learn about the exciting world of financial services.

As part of Cantor's Charity Day, a portion of the day's commissions were donated to local charities in addition to the organization's 9/11 Fund.

Ronald McDonald House New York is grateful to Cantor Fitzgerald's leadership for their consideration of our cause.



Heavyweight Boxer Eddie Chambers (pictured second from right) and Cantor Fitzgerald CEO Shawn Matthews (pictured center) with Ronald McDonald House New York families, staff and volunteers.

Thank you for caring for our kids.



Marian Goldman Photography

[www.mariangoldman.com](http://www.mariangoldman.com) | telephone (212) 989-5377



## *When Compassion and Kindness Heat Up the Rink*

On Monday, January 17th, the New York Rangers will kick off their 85th Anniversary with one of their most inspiring performances of the year. You're invited to join us as we Skate with the Greats.

The Rink at Rockefeller Center  
(Entrance at 30 Rockefeller Plaza  
between 49th and 50th Streets)

**6:30 PM to 8 PM**

All packages and tickets include cocktails, buffet dinner, special photo and autograph opportunities and skate rentals.

**For more information, visit [www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org).**

Title Sponsor RBC Capital Markets



**RBC Capital Markets**

Additional Sponsorship by  
Zurich Financial Services



**RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE® NEW YORK**

**Ronald McDonald House New York**  
405 East 73rd Street, New York, NY 10021

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

NEW YORK, NY  
PERMIT NO. 4365