

# Around the House

The Magazine for Ronald McDonald House New York. Volume 7, Issue 2



RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE® NEW YORK



**5,000 miles from home in Greece, 4-year-old Anna and mom Dina find strength in each other and from the love and support of many.**

Spring 2012



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On the cover: Anna Kaprou spent her fourth birthday in the hospital in late February, but celebrated in style a week later after returning to the House. Her mom, Dina Faita, gives the delighted birthday girl a big hug and kiss. (Photo by Nina Friedman.)



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.

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# President's Letter



Bob Ray

#### Dear Friends,

Catch the spirit of spring and you'll catch the spirit of Ronald McDonald House New York. Spring always reminds me of nature's beauty and reflects a new, positive start. It also reminds me of the special season when we recognize one of the most important elements in the success of our charity — our volunteers!

Sacha Lainovic, a member of our board of directors, adopted the House's programs six years ago. Through our Comprehensive Youth and Family Services Program, funded by his family's Naddisy Foundation, the groundwork was laid for our world-class programs and

an ever-changing array of innovative activities that support not only our kids with cancer, but their siblings and parents, as well. His story is a family affair that I know you'll enjoy.

On April 17th, we paid tribute to four outstanding volunteers: Edith Dolowich, Clemencia Colon-Neyland, Ruth Schlossberg and Richard Tegmeier. Each was presented with the Hope Award, the highest recognition that can be bestowed on a Ronald McDonald House volunteer. A capacity crowd of fellow volunteers, families and friends filled the Macy's Living Room as we honored these deserving volunteers and celebrated National Volunteer Week in grand style.

In other news, we continue to update our facility with repairs to the façade of our 22-year old building that are needed to comply with Local Law 11. In addition, 42 of our guest rooms will be completely renovated in the next three months, keeping us on point with our ongoing maintenance program. And finally, as we strive to make our building and operations greener, we've undertaken a major energy-saving effort that involves building a power plant on the House's roof to meet all our energy needs. Gas-fired turbines will provide an extremely efficient and cost-effective means to reduce our carbon footprint and establish the House as a New York City LEED Certified building.

The story of the Kaprou family is a touching one that explains our ongoing support of families from Greece. Our inspired teen rock band and chorus of children and parents, as well as our budding reporters in Press Crew, are examples of the program enhancements that keep our activities fresh and lively for the families we serve.

Over the winter and early spring, fundraising for the House continued in full force with our 18th annual Skate With the Greats event, the representation of Team Ronald in the NYC Half-Marathon, a reception to introduce the graphic arts industry to the House, and our fifth annual participation in The New York Pops gala at Carnegie Hall.

As we pay tribute to our remarkable corps of 750 volunteers, who generously give their valuable time, we note with gratitude the sacrifices that so many make to support our special kids and families who are battling cancer. With our sincere appreciation, we salute each and every one of you!

Gratefully,

William T. Sullivan  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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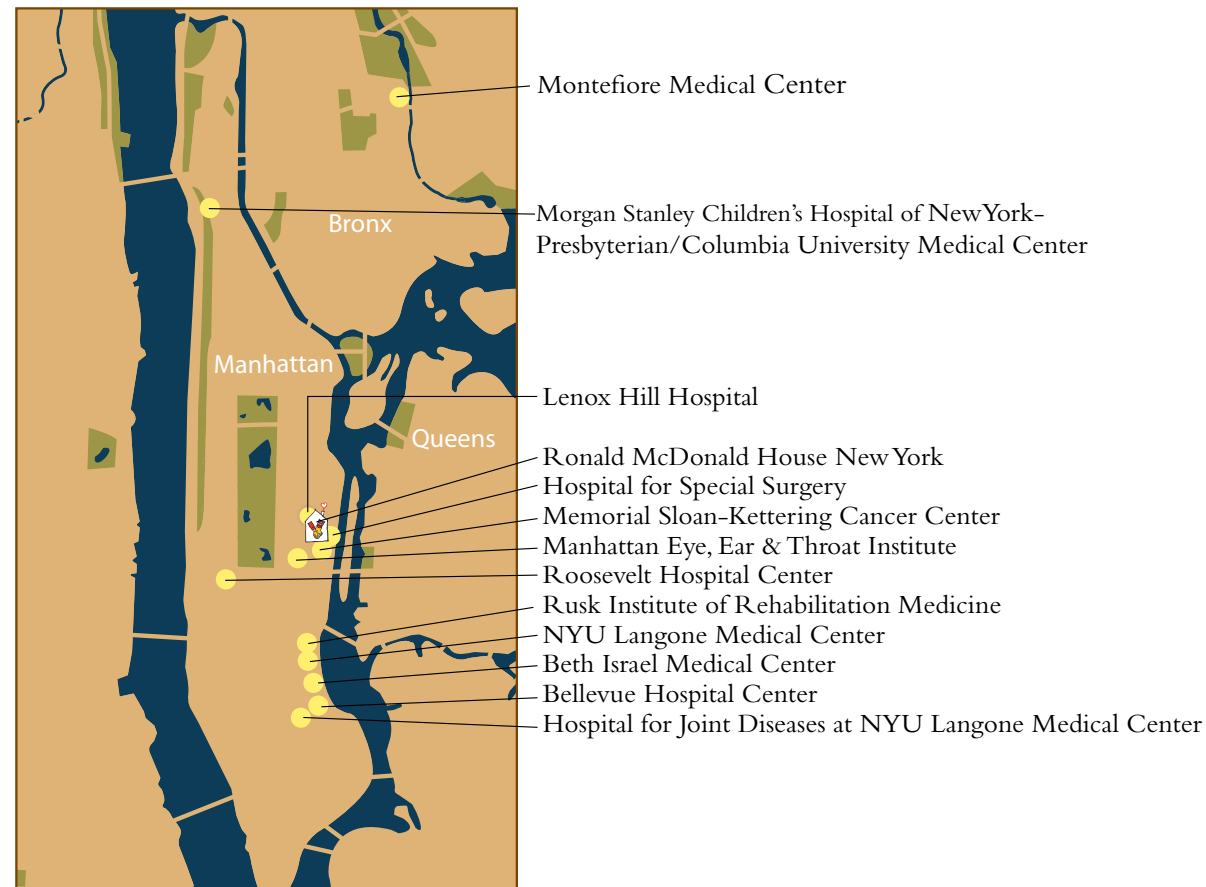
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# Thank You

## New Playroom Furniture

Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Furqan Tejani, playtime just got more interesting for the tots at the House. An elaborate new play kitchen, inviting tables and chairs, and arts and crafts materials galore have fired up imaginations and creativity in the tots' playroom.

Dr. Tejani, a Thursday night volunteer at the House, is director of nuclear cardiology and the electrocardiograph labs at Downstate Medical Center, University Hospital, in Brooklyn. Over the past four years, he has made sure our various playrooms for tots, tweens and teens all have sturdy and attractive furniture to meet the needs and heavy use of the children at the House. We are deeply grateful for these thoughtful and generous contributions for a key activity area in the House.



Photo by Nina Friedman

## Lumber Liquidators

Lumber Liquidators, the largest retailer of hardwood floors in the U.S., is a proud supporter of Ronald McDonald House Charities. The company recently made available at cost 30,000 sq. ft. of flooring materials for the renovation of all 84 guest rooms at Ronald McDonald House New York (see related story, p. 4).

About two years ago, when the second floor dining room was renovated, Lumber Liquidators made a partial donation of a Brazilian teak floor that "not only looks beautiful, but has also performed magnificently in a high-use area of the House," said Building Engineer Mel Farrell. Our gratitude knows no bounds for these major assists in the renovations taking place at the House. ■

# 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 Children

- Diapers
- Baby wipes

## For the Moms and Dads

- Gift cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Target, Walgreens, Payless Shoes, JC Penney, Starbuck's

## For the Families

- Hand sanitizer bottles
- Postage stamps
- Umbrellas
- Rain ponchos
- Rain boots (all sizes)

## For the House

- 90 Vacuum cleaners
- 90 DVD players (Blue Ray)
- 84 Irons
- 84 Ironing boards with covers
- 84 Hair dryers
- Paper goods: cups, plates, napkins
- Clear plastic storage containers
- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- Copy paper
- 18/10 Flatware
- Oven mitts
- Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D)

## Help a Family Today with a Special Gift!

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

## 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.

## 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 Beach and Pool

- Sun block
- White T-shirt (for the pool)
- Sunglasses
- Large cooler for trips
- First Aid Kits for trips
- Cool baseball caps
- Hand sanitizers

## Nap Time

- Soft fleece blankets

## For School

- 2" binders — hard and collapsible
- Backpacks (regular and wheeled) small, medium and large
- Colorful folders
- Erasers
- Lined notebooks
- Lined paper (3-hole punched)
- Pencil sharpeners
- Red, blue and black markers
- Small hand sanitizers
- Yellow/pink/blue highlighters

## Arts & Crafts

- Glow in the dark lanyards
- Glitter glue sticks
- White oak tag
- Color oak tag
- Oil cloth for tables
- Scrapbook materials
- Scrapbook add-on decorations
- White gloves
- Acid-free paper
- Archival glue
- Crayola Color Wonder paper and markers
- Drop cloths for tables
- Feathers
- Glitter glue
- Glue guns and glue sticks
- Glue dots
- Googly Eyes

- LEGO blocks, people and BIONICLE sets
- Oil cloth table cloths
- Pipe cleaners — assorted colors
- Play-Doh
- Pom poms
- Scissors (blunt and sharp)
- Small Elmer's Glue
- Washing Paint
- White drawing paper

## For the Game Room

- Hoola hoops — all sizes
- Twister
- Card games
- Battleship
- Foosballs
- Ping-pong balls and paddles
- New Xbox 360 Games
- New Playstation 3 Games
- iTunes Gift Cards (for our new iPad Programs)

## For the Tot Section

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

## For the Teens

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

## 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).

# What's New at Your House?

Ronald McDonald House® New York has recently launched three important projects in ongoing efforts to maintain and improve the House's facilities. As always, the new work is undertaken to make the House as safe, comfortable and efficient as possible for our families, volunteers, staff and visitors.

## Façade Repair in Compliance With Local Law 11

New York City's Local Law 11 wisely requires inspections every five years of the facades of all buildings over six floors high to ensure there is no danger to the public from falling masonry or debris. In compliance with the law, Ronald McDonald House New York has contracted the services of a licensed engineer to conduct a thorough inspection of the building's exterior. Colgate Restoration, the same company that did an outstanding job repairing the House's roof, terraces and sidewalk in recent years, began work in March on the rear of the building.

The company, hired after a competitive bidding process, is in the midst of repointing the brickwork with fresh mortar, replacing cracked or loose bricks, recaulking windows and removing loose concrete to meet city standards. Work on the back of the building will be completed in time to open the terrace for summer use, and repair of the remaining three facades is scheduled to be finished by the end of August. While the necessary scaffolding may present a nuisance and an eyesore over the summer, it's all for a very good purpose. We thank you for your understanding. ■



Photo by Mel Farrell

## Room Renovations Underway

While work takes place on the exterior of our building, we're also launching a major project inside the House to renovate all 84 guest rooms. Work began in April on the first group of rooms, with 42 expected for completion by the end of 2012. Plans include full replacement of bathrooms, flooring, closets, lighting and furnishings.

"We're trying to maximize usable space for the guests and introduce materials that are durable, easy to maintain and safe for our children," said Building Engineer Mel Farrell. Carpets will be replaced with wood-simulated vinyl flooring (donated in part by Lumber Liquidators; see related story on page 3) and furnishings will be leather-upholstered to make them easier to clean, he explained.

The room renovations will be done expeditiously, in small blocks, according to Director of Operations Wini Cudjoe, to minimize the impact on room availability for guests. ■



Photos by Wini Cudjoe



Current guest room and bath before renovation.

## House to Generate Its Own Energy, Greatly Reducing Costs

Ronald McDonald House New York is taking steps to become energy independent by summer 2013. The House was awarded nearly \$300,000 in funding from the New York State Energy Development Authority to build a power plant on the roof that will generate almost 80 percent of the building's electricity needs.

"We will save more than \$170,000 a year in energy costs," said Wini Cudjoe, director of operations. Current costs exceed \$300,000 a year, she noted.

"We'll also be reducing our carbon footprint," added Building Engineer Mel Farrell, explaining that natural gas will power the miniature plant. As an additional benefit, he said, waste heat produced by the power plant will be recovered to produce heat and hot water for the building, as well as chilled air, at little cost. Seventy-five such power plants have been completed in New York by the engineering firm assisting with the project, Energy Concepts.

Based in Rochester, N.Y., Energy Concepts has been contracted to design, build and equip the power plant. A compact structure on the roof will house the generator, boilers, cooling tower and chillers for air-conditioning, which will free 2,000 sq. ft. of space in the basement.

None of the construction or installation work associated with the power plant will interfere with operation of the House, said Ms. Cudjoe. ■



Photo courtesy of Energy Concepts

A similar power plant will be installed on the House's roof.

# Spotlight on Your Board

Sacha Lainovic, co-founder and managing director of Invus Financial Advisors, has been a member of the board of directors of Ronald McDonald House® New York since 2007. Mr. Lainovic and his family have generously supported many of the House's activities for children and their families, including Camp Ronald McDonald, the Spring Social and Winter Wonderland.



Photo by Charles Manley

## Sacha Lainovic

Co-founder and Managing Director  
Invus Financial Advisors

### How were you first introduced to Ronald McDonald House New York?

In 2003, Ken Langone, a board member, invited me to a fundraising event for the House, where one of the families came to talk. Before that night, I didn't know anything about Ronald McDonald House. I was amazed by the family's story and what I heard about their experience at the House. It wasn't a medical story. It was more about how this family was made to feel better and more comfortable as they were going through a medical crisis with their child. As a father, with two kids, I thought this is a nice thing to support.

### What made you decide to get more involved?

In 2005, Ken Langone asked me to join the board. I came to visit the House and was blown away by all that was going on and by the level of support and involvement by the volunteers. I've rarely seen such generosity focused on one project. I joined the board thinking I'd assist the House financially and use my business experience to help it run more efficiently, which is a need at many charities. But at the House, Bill Sullivan

out every Wednesday evening. She loves working with the kids and comes home so happy.

Over time, with Rebecca coming to pick up Miki from the House, she gradually became familiar with it and has gotten involved, too. She and Miki helped organize the Spring Social and Winter Wonderland. Miki even ran two clothing drives at her high school to collect formal dresses and suits for the children and families to wear to the parties. Rebecca comes regularly to the House now to help with events. My son, Stefan, has been away at college, but he gave a hand with the clothing drive and attended the Spring Social.

### What are your goals for the House?

For the near future, to accommodate as many families as possible and make them feel at home. I don't know another organization like this one that offers so many activities and programs for the children and families. It's what impressed me from the start and what makes this place so special. I often think it's a pity it's confined to this building. I'm interested in what else we can do with these resources to help more people. ■



Photo by Sara Jaye Weiss

Sacha Lainovic's wife, Rebecca, and children Miki and Stefan at Spring Social, which they helped organize.



## 2012 Hope Awards Honor House's Exceptional Volunteers

Ronald McDonald House® New York is beyond fortunate to have a corps of 750 volunteers who give generously of their time, resources and caring hearts to make a lively and loving home-away-from-home for our families with children battling cancer. There isn't a single day that our volunteers' dedication and acts of generosity and kindness aren't deeply felt and appreciated by our guest families, visitors and staff members.

Once a year, during National Volunteer Week, we like to take time to formally honor the contributions of several who exemplify the spirit of volunteerism at the House by presenting them with the Hope Award. In a ceremony on April 17th, with board members, staff, families and other volunteers in attendance, this year's Hope Awards were presented to four very special volunteers whose contributions to the House are as unique and irreplaceable as they are.

**Clemencia "Clem" Colon-Neyland** has been a weekly volunteer at the House since 2008. Every Thursday evening, she arrives with a smile on her face and arms open to the families. She and her team members offer conversation over dinner and lots of interaction with the children and their families through arts and crafts and games.

Clem's team members describe her as a "complete volunteer" because of her work on fundraising events and her efforts to introduce new donors to the House. For the past four years, she has served as co-chair of the Team Ronald volunteer fundraiser, slated this year for June 13th at Guastavino's (last year's event raised more than \$500,000). For that enormous task, Clem, who works at Francky L'Official Salon, applies her sense of style and artistic talents to decorating tables and choosing lighting. Her impeccable sense of style and eye for detail are very special gifts that have helped the House to accommodate its families as well as its donors in ways that we could never have imagined.

**Edith Dolowich** has dedicated herself to helping children with cancer for more than 50 years. She began her volunteer work at CancerCare and then

the American Cancer Society. In 1985, she helped found the Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, which raises funds to support Ronald McDonald House and the pediatric unit at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Her colleagues at the Guy M. Stewart Fund consider her a tremendous motivator with contagious enthusiasm. Under Edith's guidance, the Fund has hosted 27 annual luncheons and fashion shows — all accomplished while she worked full-time, until three years ago, at Brooklyn College. Now, at age 93, Edith continues to spend time helping to support the families at the House, and for that we are eternally grateful to her.

**Ruth Schlossberg** is on her second stint as a volunteer at the House. The first was in the mid-1990s, and then, missing the House, she came back more than 10 years ago and has been a dedicated weekly volunteer since. As co-leader of the Sunday night team, she shares responsibility for planning special activities for the families. Since the children often have treatment on Monday, Sunday nights tend to be quieter and calmer in tone. The team often organizes arts and crafts, cooking, yoga or in warm weather, special treats on the terrace, such as tropical drinks, barbecues or even water balloon fights. Once a year, the team puts on a carnival with games, a tattoo artist, stilt walkers, and caricature artists.

Ruth's efforts for the families extend outside the House, too. She has organized trips for kids and their parents to her office at Jones Apparel, where she's in product development, and has secured donations of clothing for families at the House. We thank her for her enormous heart, her generosity in the time and caring that she has given to our families, and her special gift for connecting with our children.

**Richard "Dick" Tegtmeier and Tucker** began volunteering at the House in 2007. They come faithfully every Wednesday evening when Dick and his best friend, Tucker, an 8-year-old Basset Hound, visit with the children and their families. Everyone is happy



Photo by Elissa Davidson

**House President and CEO Bill Sullivan (right) congratulates the 2012 Hope Award recipients, (from left) Richard Tegtmeier with his Angel-on-a-Leash Tucker, Clemencia Colon-Neyland, Edith Dolowich and Ruth Schlossberg.**

to see Dick, but when he arrives with his canine sidekick, there's a buzz as exclamations ring through the House: "Tucker is here!" The kids love playing with him, and he's a buddy to parents, too, offering them much needed comfort and joy.

Dick also donates air miles to the families at the House, and he recently donated a boat to the organization. His family owns a catering company, and every holiday season they bring a gingerbread house for the children and families to enjoy. His daughter, Christine, has generously sponsored the catering for the "Light a Light, Share a Night" holiday celebration.

There's a special joy that comes to a person when they're greeted by our dedicated therapy dog volunteers, and Dick and Tucker's contributions to life at the House have been tremendous. ■

## 5,000 Miles From Home, Anna Kaprou and Mom Dina Find Strength in Each Other and From Support of Many

"Unstoppable" is the word that comes to mind after meeting the mother-daughter team of Dina Faita and Anna Kaprou and hearing about all they have faced together since 4-year-old Anna was diagnosed with cancer almost two years ago. Five thousand miles from their home in Greece, they have made a life for themselves at Ronald McDonald House® New York for the past year, after thinking they would be here for just three months.

"It's going to be okay," is what Dina says to reassure Anna at difficult moments, such as when they're missing the other half of their family — dad Dimitris and 6-year-old brother Spyros, who are in Athens. "Yes, Mommy, it's going to be okay," Anna responds in her grown up way. They have found resilience in each other and from drawing on the love and support of family and friends near and far, new and old.

"Being at the House, having access to the best medical treatment, finding strength and faith from everyone around us, we have all we need to win," Dina said with her profoundly positive outlook and deep sense of gratitude. "We have a good life here."

Dina has been at Anna's side constantly since she became ill, and not surprisingly, Anna already embodies some of her mom's remarkable strength, grace and clarity. Pushing her baby stroller, the self-assured little girl offers a visitor to the House the chance to hold her baby doll. Then without hesitation, she politely corrects the visitor's positioning of the baby — in Greek and using hand gestures, but making herself absolutely clear. Job done, and everyone's happy and comfortable.

### Gaining access to a promising new treatment

From the moment Anna was diagnosed with neuroblastoma in October 2010, Dina and Dimitris began searching for all the information they could find on the disease and available treatments for it. Neuroblastoma develops in the cells of the sympathetic nervous system and primarily affects young children. It's one of the more



Photo by Nina Friedman

common forms of pediatric cancer and has a high rate of recurrence.

The couple braced themselves to immediately start their barely two-and-a-half-year-old child on an intensive nine-cycle course of inpatient chemotherapy to eradicate the three tumors found on her neck and sternum and the cancerous spots detected on her spine and in her bone marrow. The chemo treatments were rough. In the first round, Anna stopped talking for three days. She lost her appetite and her hair.

While Anna was undergoing chemo, her parents knew that ultimately they had to get her to New York for a promising

new immunotherapy treatment that's offered only at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC). Anna's oncologist endorsed the treatment, which would help finish the job chemotherapy began and put her cancer in remission. Getting access to the treatment, though, would require seeking financial assistance from the Greek government.

Last June, two months after Anna completed chemo, the whole family arrived at Ronald McDonald House New York almost literally on a wing and a prayer. One day before flying here — with an international storm gathering over their country's growing economic



## Anna Kaprou (continued)

crisis — they finally obtained the support they had been pressing for from the Greek government to bring Anna here for ongoing treatment.

It was a conflicted time. The family was grateful and relieved about the treatment option awaiting Anna in New York. But in leaving Greece, Dina had to say her final good-bye to her mother, who was dying from colon cancer after having beaten breast cancer a year earlier. It was this grandmother who had noticed a subtle change in the way Anna walked, the first sign that something might be wrong. Of their parting, Dina said, “She was happy to know Anna was coming to New York.”

### Learning to “go step by step”

Once here, Anna was enrolled in the 3F8 antibody treatment trial at MSKCC. The treatment uses a mouse antibody to train the patient’s immune system to detect and destroy neuroblastoma cells that have survived chemotherapy or radiation. The two-year protocol would require five cycles of outpatient treatments at three-week intervals, with follow-up treatments every eight weeks. But before Anna could begin the 3F8 antibody treatment, she had to go inpatient for two more cycles of high-dose chemotherapy.

At the end of the first month here, Dimitris and Spyros flew home to Greece to resume work and prepare for starting kindergarten. Anna and Dina’s return, however, did not follow later in the fall as the family had anticipated. As they quickly came to learn, experimental cancer treatments don’t always follow a predictable pattern. In October, after Anna’s third cycle of immunotherapy, she had a reaction to the 3F8 antibody. Treatment was put on hold while she received low-dose chemo to suppress the reaction. In December, she developed a bacterial infection in her intravenous catheter that further delayed treatment. Their stay in New York quickly extended into the end of 2011, through winter and now into spring.

“You have to learn to go step by step here,” said Dina with her impressive command of English. “You must decide what is best for your child and you, and



Photos courtesy of the Kaprou family

**Before Anna’s illness, the young family (above) and their extended family (top) in Greece. At right, a loving moment with big brother Spyros.**

then you have to be calm, not anxious. You can’t rush things.”

Good news came in February, when Anna was given the go-ahead to resume immunotherapy. She spent her fourth birthday in the hospital, but the important thing was that treatment was moving forward. In early March, a scan of Anna’s bone marrow came back clear of cancer, and she wasn’t showing any signs of an adverse reaction to the antibodies from her recent treatment. By late March, she was ready for another treatment.

Through all her hospitalizations since she was first diagnosed, Anna has proved to be the model patient, even when she feels terribly unwell. “She is very good with the doctors and nurses, but sometimes with me she has extreme reactions,” Dina shared. “Sometimes she gets very angry or she wants to control me. I let her express her feelings. She’s gone through a lot.”

### Coping with separation

During Anna and Dina’s stay of nearly a year, as they’ve adjusted to the pace of treatment, they’ve also learned how to cope with being far from home and family. Dina said she and Dimitris



Photo courtesy of the Kaprou family

made an agreement with each other that they would be strong and positive and enjoy their lives, even if apart indefinitely.

The foundation of their strength, said Dina, is the support provided by her sisters, Athina and Mary, and by Dimitris’ brother, Makis. They have been present for the couple at every turn, helping whenever and wherever possible, especially with caring for Spyros while his mom is at Anna’s side. Their ordeal was also made lighter by an unexpected and very special friendship with a mom and daughter, Katerina and Kalliopi, they met in the hospital in Athens where Anna was treated. Kalliopi, close in age with Anna, was also diagnosed with neuroblastoma. She and her mom preceded Anna and Dina to New York for 3F8 antibody treatment, and their stays overlapped for a while at the House.

With a time difference of seven hours, Dina calls home before she goes to sleep each night so she can say good morning to Dimitris and Spyros. A visit by Dimitris and Spyros at Christmas reunited the family for 12 wonderful days. Another eagerly anticipated visit came in April and coincided with Easter and Spyros’ sixth birthday. The family patiently, cautiously waits for the day when they’ll all be home together again in Athens.

Until then, Anna and Dina have embraced — and been embraced by — the family at Ronald McDonald House New York. “The House is the best place we can be in these circumstances,” said Dina. “There’s always something for us to do here. We can stay in our room if Anna needs to rest, I can cook for Anna when she needs to gain weight, or we can be out all day having fun.”

Anna loves spending time in the lower-level playroom, where she cooks in the tots’ elaborate kitchen, enjoys painting and eagerly participates in “Weird Science” on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Mother and daughter both look forward to reflexology on Saturdays in the House’s Macy’s Living Room. On warmer days, if Anna’s feeling well, they go to a neighborhood playground or to Central Park. And then there have been all the fun events and parties organized by the House, like the Halloween Big Boo, Winter Wonderland and birthday celebrations.

Dina enjoys the sense of community at the House and meeting other families. “Sometimes you want to share, other times not,” said Dina. “Every family has their moments of disappointment or anger, when they don’t want to talk.



Photo by Sara Jaye Weiss

**Anna in costume (above) for her first Halloween at the House’s Big Boo Party. With brother Spyros (left) in Central Park during his visit at Christmas.**

“This is not just a place to stay,” she reflected. “It’s a place to live with dignity. Everyone has respect for each other.”

Dina is especially appreciative of the efforts and fellowship of the volunteers, and the special source of support offered by the House’s Greek Division. “Anna loves Spiridoula Katechis,” she said of the young woman who staffs the division. Dina is proudly aware of the role the Greek Division has played in raising funds for the House from the Greek-American community and in serving more than 10,000 Greek families who have come to New York for treatment over the past 30 years. She is also grateful for the support of the Greek Children’s Foundation.

Anna and her family continue to face their battle with neuroblastoma month by month, treatment by treatment. If Anna remains free of any reaction to her last treatment with 3F8 antibody, she will receive another treatment in late April. And so it goes, not looking too far ahead or making any assumptions. Along the way, this remarkable family will draw on the love and support of each other, their extended family and friends, their treatment team and Ronald McDonald House New York to live as fully as they can, with dignity and faith. ■



# Community Snapshots

At the home-away-from-home for families coming from all over the world in their battle against cancer, our “community” is a broad one. Here are a few highlights of some of the people who have recently touched our hearts at Ronald McDonald House New York.

## Samsung Donates 11 Smart TVs

Samsung Electronics America has helped introduce Smart TVs to Ronald McDonald House New York. The company donated 11 of their new flat-panel, LED backlit TVs, which feature high-def viewing on a minimally framed screen to create an all-picture look. The TV's Internet portal offers premium apps, video chatting capabilities, streaming services and easy searches for content. Guests will be able to connect their computers wirelessly to the TVs.

The new TVs are currently located in the dining room, lower-level lounge, living room, offices and three guest rooms that offer additional functionality for children or family members with disabilities. “Samsung has indicated they'll look into providing Smart TVs

for all 84 of our guest rooms,” said Wini Cudjoe, director of operations. The guest rooms currently have TVs, she explained, but they need to be updated.

“Some of our children must be in isolation,” she added, “and we want them to have access to entertainment while they're in their rooms. The Smart TVs, with their high-quality pictures and interactive capabilities, speak to younger kids.” Plans are underway, she reported, to create a central DVD library in the House so guests may access authorized content on the Smart TVs.

The House wishes to thank Ann Woo, director of brand marketing at Samsung Electronics America ([www.samsung.com](http://www.samsung.com)), for making this generous donation possible. ■



Photo by Mel Farrell

## Love a Good Sidewalk Sale?

As the days get longer and warmer, Ronald McDonald House New York hopes to expand the hours for its Sidewalk Sale, which are currently on Monday, noon to 3; Wednesday, 9 to 3; Saturday, 10 to 3; and Sunday, 10 to 1. More volunteers are needed to join the small corps of dedicated friends who manage the Sidewalk Sale and staff the tables. Donations are needed, too, of new, *not used* items, including toys, books, pictures and decorative objects, soft home furnishings and bulk goods that can be sold for under \$10.

Thanks to all who are helping already with this important source of income for the House. If you'd like to join the effort, please contact Lucy Almonte at [lalmonte@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:lalmonte@rmh-newyork.org). ■



Photos by Natalie Greaves



## Mary Poppins Drops in for Visit and Makes Magic

Thanks to the efforts of Ronald McDonald House New York's newly formed board of associates, families at the House were treated to a magical evening in late March when cast members from the Broadway hit musical “Mary Poppins” dropped in for a visit. In an exuberant sing-along, the cast taught our families the words and choreographed gestures to the tongue-twisting number “Super-calif-ragil-istic-expialid-ocious.” Each child received a “Mary Poppins” tee shirt autographed by cast members and a hard-cover edition of the story of the magical English nanny.

An Italian feast from the kitchen of Tony's DiNapoli added more warmth and fun to the evening and was served up by Board of Associates members Jesse Cole (chairman), Michael Marrale, Guy Weltsch and Joshua Glazer. Special thanks to Leslie Barrett, chair of the board of associates' House Service Committee, for organizing the evening; to Serino Coyne and the agency's CFO, Catherine Reid, for underwriting the dinner; and to Dave Ehle and Disney Theatrical Productions for arranging the visit by the cast from “Mary Poppins.” Um-diddle-diddle! ■



Photos by Richard Martin



## Wagner Middle School Features House Resident Antoinette in Production of “Guys and Dolls Jr.”

The fan-base of Ms. Antoinette Fabian — a large mix of families, friends, volunteers and staff members from the House — filled the front two rows of Wagner Middle School's auditorium one evening in March, when the sixth grader made her singing and dancing debut in “Guys and Dolls Jr.” The effervescent Californian, who has resided at the House for more than three years, returned to school this year for the first time since third grade. Wagner Middle School is one of several schools in the vicinity of Ronald McDonald House New York that welcomes the enrollment of our children who are long-term residents. Two teachers from Wagner who were involved in “Guys and Dolls Jr.” visited the House one afternoon to teach a song and dance routine from the show to other kids at the House.

Being in a big school musical was a thrill for Antoinette, who performs every chance she can get in music programs organized by the House — including concerts with The New York Pops at Carnegie Hall and even as a back-up singer for rocker Alice Cooper (“School's Out”) at his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Her appearance in “Guys and Dolls Jr.” was a dream come true for her ardent fans, too, who have watched her progress over the years in her battle against neuroblastoma. Encore, Antoinette! And thank you, Wagner Middle School for being such a great neighbor. ■



Antoinette post-performance, accepting flowers and accolades from her fans.

Photo by Neida Barreto



# Family Programs

## Weekend of Nature and Fun at Hole in the Wall Gang Camp

Twelve families from Ronald McDonald House New York enjoyed a weekend of adventure, fun and friendship at the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, in northeastern Connecticut. The camp, founded in 1988 by actor Paul Newman in a wooded area on the edge of a 44-acre lake, makes it possible for children coping with life-threatening illnesses to attend sleep-away camp in a safe and supportive setting at no cost to their families. During the summer, the camp offers weeklong sessions for children, and from fall through spring, it hosts weekends for families. Doctors and nurses are on staff to monitor medical needs.

Our families from the House, who visited the camp on one of the first weekends of spring, enjoyed fishing, arts and crafts, woodworking, theater, climbing, campfires, and lots of singing, dancing and laughter, a hallmark of the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp experience. Ronald McDonald House New York has developed a close relationship with the camp over the past five years. Each summer, some of our children are invited to attend camp for a week. Year-round, the camp's hospital outreach specialists regularly visit the House with their Camp in a Suitcase program, sharing fun activities such as claymation, mosaics and painting. We send thanks to everyone at the camp for providing our families with a memorable weekend away, and to our friends at Fashion Delivers for outfitting children and parents with warm, comfortable clothing for the weekend's activities. ■

Photos by Nina Friedman



THIS SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL EDITION HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE USA TODAY MARKETING DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

**Ronald McDonald House Charities®**  
Our mission is to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well being of children.



Monday, April 9, 2012

## Newsline

### The Press Crew

A group of thoughtful children staying at the Ronald McDonald House New York contributed their time and talent to the 2012 McDonald's Worldwide Convention USA TODAY Wrap, reporting from the field and telling the RMHC story through their eyes and ears. We wish to thank these inspiring contributors:



**Antoinette** (11 years old, California) has been a guest of Ronald McDonald House New York for more than three years. Her favorite things at the House are karate, acting, singing, and interviewing people for the Press Crew.



**Ruthnie** (17 years old, Haiti) is a talented artist and writer. She is a continual source of inspiration to her friends.

## Q and A with Linda Dunham

McDonald's® Owner/Operator and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Ronald McDonald House Charities answers our questions



**Linda Dunham, RMHC Board Chair**  
By Khamid and Antoinette, Ronald McDonald House New York Press Crew

**Khamid: How long have you been a part of RMHC? How did you first become a part of it?**  
**Linda:** I have been associated with RMHC for 21 years. I got involved. I was asked to join the Board, and the rest is history. It started with a visit.

**Antoinette: As Chairman of the Board, what do you do?**  
**Linda:** It sounds like a really big job, but it's a fun job. I make sure that the affairs of the Charity are orderly, that we have good governance in place and that we have a sound strategic plan. And get to be a spokesperson for the Charity.

**Khamid: What's the best part of your job?**  
**Linda:** The best part of the job is meeting people like you.

**Antoinette: If you were granted three wishes, what would they be?**  
**Linda:** One, I would want every child to have a healthy and happy life. Two, I would wish for world peace. And three, on a more personal level, I would wish for a cure for cancer.

**Antoinette: If I had three wishes, I would wish for nobody to have cancer, and that those people who lost the battle with cancer would come back and be able to live their normal life again, and my third wish would be that no kid could ever get cancer.**  
**Linda:** (do I feel this is my "home House," I call it that, because this is where I got started.

## Press Crew Featured on Front Page of USA Today

It was the kind of day most reporters and publicists only can dream about. On Monday, April 9th, the Press Crew, a group of kids at the House that publishes a periodic news magazine of the same name, got front-page coverage in a special edition of *USA Today*. We're not talking about a single story. The Press Crew was invited to submit several pieces for the four-page wrap-around published by *USA Today* in cooperation with Ronald McDonald Charities for the recent 2012 McDonald's Worldwide Convention. Press Crew reporters Antoinette (11), Ivanna (11), Khamid (17) and Ruthnie (17) were introduced on the front page, and featured in the issue were their interviews with Linda Dunham, chairman of Ronald McDonald House Charities, and with a 13-year-old resident at a Ronald McDonald House in California.

Press Crew was launched in 2010 under the guidance of Ben Winsten, program associate at the House. With a growing and changing news team, the quarterly magazine's reporters are always on the beat for a good story about life at the House. Equipped with cameras, recorders, iPads and a nose for news, Press Crew reporters document events and activities, interview staff members, volunteers and residents, and share their personal stories of living with cancer. Through their efforts, the kids gain a greater understanding of the workings of the House and provide readers with an inside glimpse of life here from their point of view. The spring issue is hot off the press and can be found on our website at [rmh-newyork.org/RMH-Program/Programming](http://rmh-newyork.org/RMH-Program/Programming) or by contacting Ben Winsten at [bwinsten@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:bwinsten@rmh-newyork.org). ■

From left, Dr. Sherrie Maricle, education director at The New York Pops, and resident Kevin Metzger on percussion; songwriter and former resident Cain Hartung on guitar; and chorus and band members relax in The Magic Shop sound-mixing room.



Photos by Nina Friedman

## House Chorus and Band Return to Recording Studio

Over the winter, Ronald McDonald House New York's chorus and band, The Rockin', returned to The Magic Shop in Soho to record several tracks for a new CD. Among the songs they recorded were Katy Perry's "Baby, You're a Firework," George Gershwin's "Summertime," from the musical "Porgy and Bess," and "Calypso," an original song written and arranged by Cain Hartung, an Australian teen who lived at the House for several years while his brother Dylan was undergoing treatment for cancer.

The House's singers and instrumentalists first visited The Magic Shop last spring to record another song written by Cain with Maria Gentile called "I Will Always Be There." That song is featured on a CD of the same name and is available on iTunes. It also was recently performed at The New York Pops Carnegie Hall gala by pop and soul singer Darlene Love, with the chorus and The Rockin' backing her up (see related story, p. 16).

All these activities have been made possible through Ronald McDonald House New York's ongoing partnership with The New York Pops. Under the guidance of Dr. Sherrie Maricle, who's education director at The Pops, the children and families at the House have enjoyed and benefited in countless ways from music — lessons offered here weekly to numerous opportunities to create and perform music in the studio and on stage. Music is a big part of life here at the House, and we thank Sherrie and The Pops for enriching our lives for the past four years. To many more! ■



# Giving News

## Tree of Life Leaf Dedication in Honor of Annie Zhu

The Tree of Life wall sculpture, found in the lobby of Ronald McDonald House New York, provides families with an opportunity to honor their loved ones and support the mission of the House. On February 29th, the family of Annie Zhu honored her memory on what would have been her 20th birthday by dedicating a leaf in her name for the Tree of Life.

Annie passed away last December in her first year of study at the University of Pennsylvania. She traveled to New York City from her hometown of Flemington, NJ, for cancer treatment, and came to call Ronald McDonald House New York her home away from home. During the leaf dedication ceremony, Annie's father, Cheng, shared this remembrance:

"Over the course of Annie's nearly two years of treatment, we had countless stays in this wonderful House. It had become the extension of our home. Every time we came, we felt so much at home. Seeing the wonderful people at the House was like seeing our extended family again."

In what he characterized as a "homecoming" on Annie's fifth leap-year birthday, he recalled how much she loved the House, and added: "We love this House! We want to see this House full of happiness, inspiration and love forever and ever. Thank you, Ronald



Gathered at the Tree of Life for the leaf dedication were (from left) Patrick Lenz, director of volunteer development; family friend Susan Meserve; Annie's sister, Ida Zhu; her dad, Craig Zhu; her mom, Diane Chen; Cherilyn Frei, director of family support; Bill Sullivan, president and CEO; and Nikki Margarites, director of major gifts.



Annie Zhu.

McDonald House New York and everyone in this House."

Each leaf dedication adds new detail to the rich history of our House and is a testimony to the love, support and sense of community that families have experienced here. The donations generated for the House from the Tree of Life enable us to continue to offer families much more than just a place to sleep when

monthly bill will continue to be issued by your local utility while you opt to receive the benefit of reduced supply cost from Starion.

When you switch to Starion Energy, the company will donate an initial gift of \$10 per household (\$25 per business) to Ronald McDonald House New York. As long as you remain a Starion customer, the program keeps on giving month after month and year after year. With each monthly bill, Starion will contribute \$1 to \$2 to the House.

You can take advantage of this opportunity to reduce your monthly electric bill while helping to sustain the vital work of the House by visiting



Cake-cutting by the House's president and CEO, Bill Sullivan.

they travel to New York for their child's cancer treatment. We are deeply grateful for the Zhu family's generous gift.

For more information on the Tree of Life, or to purchase a leaf for your own loved one, please contact Nikki Margarites, director of major gifts, at 212-639-0207, or nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org. ■



www.choosestarion.com/rmhnewyork. You can learn more and sign up right there or by calling Starion at 800-600-3040.

Thank you for considering this additional, sustaining way to support the work of Ronald McDonald House New York. ■

# Fundraising Events

## 18th Annual Skate With the Greats

On a mild mid-February evening, 900 enthusiastic supporters turned out at Rockefeller Center's ice rink for Ronald McDonald House New York's 18th annual Skate with the Greats. The evening's draw, of course, was a chance to meet and glide around the ice with some of the current and former legends of the New York Rangers hockey team. No slap shots or hip checks. Instead, a magical evening of cocktails and dining, skating on one of the world's most beautiful rinks, feverish bidding on auction items and endless autograph signing — all for the sake of a passionate cause.



The House's president and CEO, Bill Sullivan (left), with Jim Flanagan, partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers and treasurer of the House's board of directors, and Ronald McDonald.



New York Rangers team members (from left) John Mitchell, Artem Anisimov and Brandon Dubinsky.



Former New York Rangers Rod Gilbert (left) and Brian Leetch (right) with House resident Kevin Metzger, who was named an honorary Ranger.

On hand were current Rangers Brandon Dubinsky, Artem Anisimov, Mike Rupp and John Mitchell, as well as alumni greats Rod Gilbert and Brian Leetch, who helped introduce the event 18 years ago and, through the Garden of Dreams Foundation, have been ardent supporters of the House ever since.

The evening raised more than \$700,000, surpassing last year's event by more than \$100,000, thanks to a robust live auction and the raffling of a brand new Honda Pilot SUV. Over the years, Skate with the Greats has helped raise more than \$7 million to help the House provide a home away from home for families fighting pediatric cancer.

The event was sponsored by RBC Capital Markets, Zurich Financial Services and PricewaterhouseCoopers. Members of the event committee included RBC's Robert Grubert\*, managing director; Deborah A. Freer\*, chief operating officer-USA; Jennifer J. Hadiaris, vice president, market structure strategy; Liz Wintrich, vice president; Michael V. Marrale\*\*, head of U.S. sales trading and sector strategy; John E. Beckwith; Hans Kertess; Sarah Dougherty, vice president, client and marketing strategy; and Ken Petschauer; as well as James F. Flanagan\*, partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers; E. Randall Clouser\*, executive vice president, Zurich Financial Services North America; Nick Botta, chief financial officer, Pershing Square Capital Management; Val DiFebo, chief executive officer, Deutsch, Inc.; Dan Royal, Janus Capital Group; and Mike Woods, meteorologist, Fox 5 New York.

\*Member, Board of Directors, Ronald McDonald House New York

\*\*Member, Board of Associates, Ronald McDonald House New York



Event Chairs Kathy Presto and Diane Romano with the House's president and CEO, Bill Sullivan.

## Graphic Arts Industry Gathers to Support House

In early March, more than 50 graphic arts industry executives and representatives of nearly 25 companies gathered at Ronald McDonald House New York to get their first look at the House and learn about its services and programs. The reception, which organizers plan to make an annual event, raised \$14,000 for the House.

Kathy B. Presto, vice president of strategic sourcing and marketing solutions for Williams Lea North America, and Diane Romano, president and chief operating officer of HudsonYards, initiated and chaired the event. They were moved and inspired by their first visit to the House and wanted to share the experience with industry colleagues. The House looks forward to welcoming them back for more events and activities.

Sponsors for the evening were National Distribution Alliance, HudsonYards and Williams Lea North America. Other industry supporters included Access Direct, Buckley Dunton, Cenveo, Diversified Global Graphics Group, Earthcolor, EarthDigital, Front End Graphics, Hearst Magazines, Horizon Paper Co., Limited Brands Direct Media Production, The Newark Group, NYU, Pharnaid Solutions, Pipeline PS, Presstek, Printing Industries Alliance, Prometheus Global Media, Quad Graphics, Robin Tobin & Associates, RR Donnelley, Sandy Alexander, Tanaseybert, Unigraphic and Xerox. ■



**House's Chorus and Band Perform With Darlene Love at New York Pops Gala**

Our friends at The New York Pops marked their 29th anniversary with a star-studded gala at Carnegie Hall on April 30th. Among the featured acts were children from Ronald McDonald House New York's chorus and rock band, in performance with the legendary pop and soul singer Darlene Love. Ms. Love, perhaps best known for her hits "He's a Rebel" and "Christmas (Baby, Please Come Home)," led a riveting rendition of "I Will Always Be There," a song written by teen Cain Hartung, a former resident of the House, in collaboration with Maria Gentile. Cain wrote the song for his brother, Dylan, who was in treatment for cancer. (See related story, p. 13.)

Under the baton of Music Director Steven Reineke, the gala evening

honored the renowned theatrical songwriting team of Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, whose extensive body of work includes such major Broadway shows as *Ragtime*, *Once on This Island*, *Seussical* and *My Favorite Year*. More than \$135,000 was raised in ticket sales for the House through the leadership of Event Chair Bob Gasser, president and CEO of Investment Technology Group.

Through the efforts of The Pops' education director, Dr. Sherrie Maricle, the group has worked in partnership with Ronald McDonald House New York since 2008 to bring opportunities to the children and families to create and perform music. Each year, the House's chorus and band have been invited to perform at The Pops' gala. We congratulate our friends at The Pops, and thank them for helping to make music such a big part of our lives at the House. ■



Photo by Richard Martin

**Singer Darlene Love visited the House to rehearse with the children for The New York Pops concert at Carnegie Hall.**

**Team Ronald Runners Raise \$30,000 in Half-Marathon**

With a perfect morning for running 13.1 miles, two dozen supporters of Ronald McDonald House New York donned the Team Ronald jersey for the NYC Half 2012 on Sunday, March 18th. They raised nearly \$30,000 in contributions for the House, which was one of 75 official charity partners for the race, organized by the New York Road Runners Club.

The exhilarating course took runners on a six-mile loop through Central Park, then down Seventh Avenue to Times Square, across 42nd Street to the West Side Highway for a riverside stretch of road to the Battery, and then through the underpass to a celebratory finish on Water Street. A festival awaited the runners and their guests at South Street Seaport.

Among the members of Team Ronald were Joan O'Hanlon Curry and Rosanna Veras, both running the event for the second year in a row for Ronald McDonald House New York.

**Joan Curry** is relatively new to running, having entered her first race ever just two years ago, but she has long

been familiar with the House. She's a pediatric oncology nurse practitioner and nurse manager at Montefiore Medical Center's Children's Hospital and previously worked at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. "The House does so much for our patients," she said. Entering the half-marathon, she noted, blends two of her passions — running and helping children with cancer.

*Favorite part of race:* "Going down Seventh Avenue to 42nd Street and over to the West Side Highway. Times Square is kind of wild early in the morning," she recalled. "There's still stuff going on."

*Her finish:* "My first 5k were great, and I find that with each run I learn a little more and make new strides."

When **Rosanna Veras** worked for Lehman Brothers, she was one of the company's regular volunteers at the House. After the firm closed in 2008, she wanted to find a way to continue supporting the House, but it was difficult to volunteer regularly with the demanding schedule of her new job as an executive assistant at Cemex, a Latin American cement company. Joining Team Ronald for the half-marathon was a perfect opportunity. "Running keeps



**Joan Curry Rosanna Veras**

me healthy, and this race is a way to give back to the House," she said. Rosanna also ran the full marathon last fall for Team Ronald.

*Favorite part of race:* "Running through Times Square. You feel like you're part of a show. Broadway performers from different shows come out to sing. People dress in costumes, there are cheerleading groups, and some people are playing music. Everyone's energy is so positive. It's an awesome experience."

*Her finish:* "A little better than last year."

For information on joining Team Ronald for the ING New York City Marathon, taking place Sunday, November 4th, contact Michael Ballew, donor management director, at [mballew@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:mballew@rmh-newyork.org), or at 212-639-0209. ■

**Save the Date**

**Ronald McDonald House New York 20th Annual Gala**  
Monday, May 21, 2012  
6:30-9:00 p.m.  
Waldorf-Astoria  
New York, NY

**Seventh Annual Marsh Golf Tournament at Hudson National**  
Tuesday, June 12, 2012  
Registration: 10:30 a.m.  
Shotgun: 12:30 p.m.  
Hudson National Golf Club  
40 Arrowcrest Drive  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY

**"Open Arms" Team Ronald Volunteer Event**  
Wednesday, June 13, 2012  
6:00 -11:00 p.m.  
Gustavino's  
409 East 59th Street (Directly beneath the 59th Street Bridge)  
New York, NY

**2012 NYC Triathlon**  
Sunday, July 8, 2012  
5:00 a.m.  
Hudson River and 98th Street  
New York, NY

**Third Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Ridgewood Country Club**  
Monday, August 13, 2012  
Registration: 9:00 a.m.  
Shotgun: 12:30 p.m.  
Ridgewood Country Club  
96 West Midland Avenue  
Paramus, NJ

**Seventh Annual Marsh Golf Tournament at Hudson National**

Tuesday, June 12, 2012 • 10:30 a.m. Registration

Join us at Hudson National Golf Club as the insurance industry takes to the greens to support our mission. Presented by lead sponsor Marsh, the world's leading insurance broker and strategic risk advisor, this year's event will once again be chaired by Timothy J. Mahoney, Jr., president, Global Risk Management, at Marsh, Inc. Ranked in *Golf Digest's* Top 100 Golf Courses in America, Hudson National offers 260 pristine acres of outstanding beauty. For more information, please contact Director of Special Events Karen Kirk at 212-639-0130, or [kkirk@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmh-newyork.org).

**"Open Arms" Team Ronald Annual Volunteer Event**

Wednesday, June 13, 2012 • 6:00 p.m.

The love and dedication of our volunteers are vital ingredients in the success of Ronald McDonald House New York. These extraordinary individuals — now 750 of them — gather together one evening each year to celebrate their shared experience and to raise additional funds for activities for children and families at the House. This year's gathering will feature a silent auction, raffle, dancing, open bar and food provided by Tony's Di Napoli. Bruce Dimpflmaier, general manager of Tony's, is chair of the event; co-chairs are volunteers Jef Campion and Clemencia Colon-Neyland. For tickets and additional information, contact Terri Eggers at [tegggers@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:tegggers@rmh-newyork.org) or (212) 639-0712.

**Third Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Ridgewood Country Club**

Monday, August 13, 2012 • 9:30 a.m. Registration

Ridgewood Country Club will serve as the new location for our third annual apparel industry golf outing. Participating foursomes from the industry will once again enjoy a day of golf alongside notable sports and entertainment celebrities. The event will honor Allen E. Sirkin, president and chief operating officer of Phillips-Van Heusen, and will once again be led by Event Chairman Frank Tworecke, president of the Sportswear Group, Warnaco Inc. Committee members include Mr. Sirkin; Richard Wurtzburger, vice president, Peerless Clothing; Michael J. Setola, president and CEO, Greg Norman Collection; Michael Balmuth, CEO, Ross Stores; Morris Goldfarb, chairman and CEO, G-III Apparel; Peter Hunsinger, president and publisher, *Golf Digest Magazine*; Ariane Romano, director of sponsorship activation, Phillips-Van Heusen; and Keith Goodman, vice president and group divisional merchandise manager, Ross Stores. For more information, please contact Director of Special Events Karen Kirk at 212-639-0130, or [kkirk@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmh-newyork.org).





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## The Vivian Harris Society

The Vivian Harris Society honors the memory of the founding president of Ronald McDonald House New York. During Vivian Harris' 26-year tenure as president, she nurtured the families residing at the House and inspired our staff and volunteers. She was a tireless and gracious leader with an innovative vision for improving services for families battling childhood cancer.

Members of the Vivian Harris Society embody our founder's triumphant spirit and help sustain her vision by including Ronald McDonald House New York in their planned giving. We invite you to join the Vivian Harris Society by making a gift to the House in your estate or retirement plan.

If you would like to know more, please contact Richard Martin, director of development, at 212-639-0206 or at [rmartin@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:rmartin@rmh-newyork.org). He can discuss with you how to arrange a gift that best meets the needs of your beneficiaries, supports your goals for asset protection and maximizes tax-savings. A discussion never places you under obligation. ■