

# Around the House

The Magazine for Ronald McDonald House New York. Volume 8, Issue 2



RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE® NEW YORK



Penelope Buttress is a little ray of California sunshine whose spirit and charm will brighten any room.



RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE NEW YORK

Spring 2013



# Contents



6



10



14

On the cover: Penelope Buttress, 4, from San Diego, CA.  
Photo by Charles Manley



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.

- 1 **President’s Letter**
- 2 **Staff List and Partner Hospitals**
- 3 **Wish List and Thank Yous**
- 4 **What’s New at Your House?**
- 5 **Spotlight on Your Board**  
Dr. William L. Carroll, M.D. — NYU MC
- 6 **Volunteer Spotlight**  
Hope Awards Recipients
- 7 **Family Profile**  
Penelope Buttress
- 10 **Community Snapshots**
- 12 **Programs**  
Swing Into Spring  
ISE
- 13 **Giving News**
- 14 **Event Highlights**
- 17 **Calendar of Events**

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# President's Letter

## Dear Friends,

There is much to be said about the dawn of spring, where the change of season reminds New Yorkers that there is new life, new hope and renewal just around the corner. After the long, difficult winter that the residents, volunteers and staff at Ronald McDonald House® New York have just experienced, I can tell you that we are ready to turn the corner. Our 35-year history of providing aid and comfort to our families also reminds us that the hope in our lives will always be a constant companion in this difficult and enduring battle against pediatric cancer.

Thirty-five years ago, "the House that love built" was introduced to New York City as the fulfillment of a dream held by our President and Founder, Vivian Harris. It was one of a handful of Ronald McDonald Houses in existence at the time. Mrs. Harris believed that if New York City could exist as the center of the world's most progressive treatments for cancer, then this great city deserved nothing less than a world-class facility where families could feel secure in a supportive environment.

Today, this House and its impressive 84 guest rooms embodies the spirit of hope and resilience that Mrs. Harris and our guests have continued to rely on during the most difficult days. I have also asked Peter Corritori, Jr., president and CEO of Clarity Imaging Technologies,

Inc., to serve as our volunteer chair of this anniversary committee. Peter has graciously accepted and we are grateful for his leadership.

Our sixth annual Hope Award Ceremony honored four outstanding long term volunteers: Bernice "Bunny" Barb; Lynda LaMonte-Garmong; John Rohs; and Kenneth Schulman. Ronald McDonald House New York is blessed with over 750 core volunteers who continue to be the backbone of the organization and augment all of the wonderful programs that make this facility a truly essential place for kids and their families.

In this issue of *Around The House*, you will meet Board Member William L. Carroll, M.D., director of NYU Langone Medical Center's Cancer Institute, who shares his considerable talents and insight as a member of our Hospital Outreach committee, as well as the audit committee.

Four-year-old Penelope Buttress and her parents have fought a long battle against neuroblastoma. Buoyed by hope and faith, their journey has led them to our doors from San Diego in what we believe will bring about a triumphant result.

Our penchant for hospitality extends beyond our guest rooms and basic amenities. We hope that you will experience that hospitality during one of our many fundraising events this year.



Charles Manley

Peter Corritori and William T. Sullivan

With the summer months approaching, there's still time to kick things off with Team Ronald McDonald during our "Heroes" volunteer fundraiser event. The warm weather also makes way for great outdoor activities. You can contribute toward a great cause while enjoying a great day of golf on a world-class course. Registration is now open for our upcoming outings at Hudson National Golf Club, Baltusrol Golf Club and Sleepy Hollow Country Club and Trump National Golf Club.

With your help, Ronald McDonald House New York has made impressive strides in the fulfillment of its mission. We have been inspired by each of your thoughtful contributions and we hope to continue to build on that mission with your support.

Sincerely,

William T. Sullivan  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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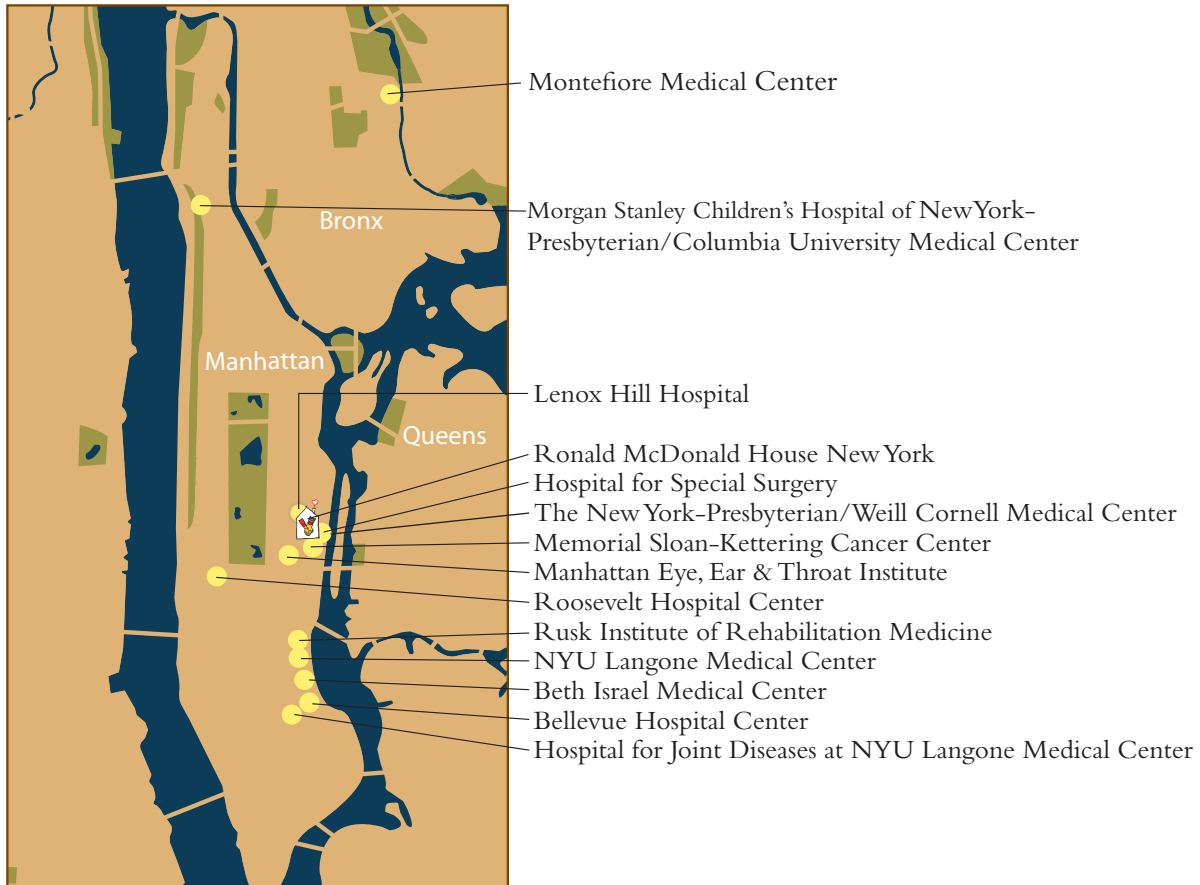
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# Thank You

Thank you to **The Atlantic Group** for their recent donation of 44 desk chairs for use in our guest rooms. In addition to the chair donation, The Atlantic Group also hosts dinners for our families twice per year. As we enter the final stages of our room renovation project, this timely donation was very much appreciated.

**Maison Kayser's** Third Avenue location recently opened to much fanfare for its phenomenal baked goods; however it's the bakery's generous contributions of assorted baked goods that have our families swooning. To date, Maison Kayser has donated nearly \$15,000 worth of items to the House. Thank you!

# Wish List

Thank you for your thoughtful donation of items that help 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
- Strollers
- Plastic Stroller Covers
- Soft fleece blankets

## For the Teens

- Gift cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express
- Movie passes

## For the Moms and Dads

- Gift cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express
- Metro Cards (\$10 increments)
- Postage Stamps
- Phone Cards
- Umbrellas

## For the House—Annual

- 50 Irons
- 25 Ironing boards with covers
- 50 Hair dryers

## For the House—Ongoing

- Paper goods: cups, plates, napkins
- 100 Swifter's and dry replacement pads
- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- Copy paper
- 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 [wcudjoe@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:wcudjoe@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](mailto: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

## 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
- Ping-pong balls and Paddles
- New Wii U Games
- 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 (Rated G AND PG)
- MTA Metro Cards (for school transportation)
- Sony Snap Lab (UP CR20L)
- Upright Piano

## Family Wellness Activities

For further information regarding Family Support and Wellness donations, please contact Cherylyn Frei, Director of Family Support, at 212.639.0100 or [cfrei@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:cfrei@rmh-newyork.org).

- Gift certificates from local spas & cosmetic companies for makeovers, massage, manicures and other services.
- Folding tray tables
- Salon/Spa equipment
- Skin & hair care products
- Professional or spa quality blow dryers, curling irons & flat irons
- Spa robes, slippers, shower sandals, and hairbands

# What's New at Your House?



Charles Manley

## A Note from Peter Corritori

*President and CEO of Clarity Imaging Technologies, Inc.  
Chairman of the 35th Anniversary Committee*

I have always been a big fan of Ronald McDonald House New York and all that the organization does for the kids and families who are suffering the ills of cancer. I am a member of the New York Athletic Club, and the Club has held a long-term commitment to the charity beyond simply financial support.

When I was asked to chair the 35th anniversary committee, I jumped at the chance. The committee is now deep into the planning and execution of seven impactful events that will highlight your thoughtful contributions toward the fulfillment of the House's mission. This series of events will culminate on December 5th at Ronald McDonald House New York during the annual "Light a Light, Share a Night" celebration. We look forward to seeing you as we celebrate this very important milestone.

Sincerely,

*Peter Corritori*  
Peter Corritori

# Donate Your Vehicle

Help children and families  
battling pediatric cancer.

Contact: Antonio Neto  
aneto@rmh-newyork.org  
(212) 639-0214  
[www.rmh-newyork.org/vehicle](http://www.rmh-newyork.org/vehicle)



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# Spotlight on Your Board

As the head of NYU's Cancer Institute, Dr. Carroll oversees research and treatment operations at NYU Medical Center. He also serves as the head of the Children's Oncology Group's Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia Committee, where he and his peers apply their passion for eradicating leukemia to the creation of better treatments and eventual cures. Dr. Carroll joined the Board in October 2010.

## How were you introduced to Ronald McDonald House New York and its mission?

I was introduced to the house the minute I decided to go into pediatric oncology as a pediatric resident. It's been a long time, since 1978. So whether at Stanford, or here in New York, I've always been engaged with the Ronald McDonald House because of the care that they provide for the patients. Ken Langone and Stanley Shopkorn introduced me to this Ronald McDonald House Board about two years ago and I just jumped at the chance because it gave a way for me to help extend my impact. And then it's so important to the care of our patients — it goes beyond the hospital walls.

## Tell us about your work with our Long Range Planning Committee and more specifically, the Hospital Outreach program.

I was invited to be a part of this process because I thought long and hard about what I could do to help eradicate this burden that childhood cancer has brought to the patients and their families. Medical practice has shifted now, so where it used to be heavily inpatient-



James Nubille

## William L. Carroll, M.D.

Professor; Julie and Edward J. Minskoff Professor of Pediatrics; Director NYU Cancer Institute, Departments of Pediatrics (Hematology/Oncology Division) and Pathology, NYU Pediatric Hematology Oncology

based, now we've shifted to the outpatient area. So the need to stay overnight and close to the hospitals, is still very important to us, but there

are many other aspects of care now involving logistical issues associated with ambulatory treatment and psychosocial issues that require attention.

We have a wonderful landscape here called New York City, which is like no other. I thought of ways that the House could reach out to execute their mission by reaching out to hospitals and working with families. Whether it's education, whether it's related to patient navigation, the medical system is very sophisticated — even for those of us who are a part of it. For some of these families, especially for those who may have some language and cultural barriers, it is impossible and a very frightening task. Ronald McDonald House reaching out and helping families to deal with navigating the medical system and helping patients and families overcome the challenges associated with a diagnosis of cancer has brought people into the House that may not have been connected elsewhere. It's really an extended reach and it's remarkable.

## Tell us about your work on the audit committee.

[Bill Sullivan] appointed me to the committee and it's very interesting because it's very foreign to me. I'm sure it's as foreign as what some other Board members think of the medical system. But I was so impressed with the level of detail and just some of the dialogue that takes place about investments and balance sheets, it's very entertaining for me. I read the whole report, I can follow the presentation and I just admire what they do to keep the organization fiscally sound.

## What is your number one wish for the House and its families?

I think the wish for all of us is that we would be out of business someday and that the need for the Ronald McDonald House would be past us. It's really important for me for the people that are a part of an organization, including our donors, to have a visceral feeling of how critical their mission is and how they impact people on a daily basis. All of us do many things in life, but it's so rewarding to be a part of this organization and to really feel what they do is just so impactful. ■

# 2013 Hope Awards Recipients

## Bernice “Bunny” Barb

Ms. Barb began her relationship with Ronald McDonald House New York in 1997 when introduced to our mission as president of the Women’s Auxiliary group of Temple Emanu-El. The one-time commitment grew to a monthly event where volunteers from the group cook and serve up the comforts of home including a shoulder to lean on and a delicious meal made with love, warmth and care.



In 2012, the ladies of Temple Emanu-El were awarded the Distinguished Community Service Award for their commitment to the House’s mission.

## Lynda Lamonte-Garmong

The Sunday night team has had no shortage of creative ideas to entertain Ronald McDonald House New York residents thanks to the leadership of team leader Lynda Lamonte-Garmong. From hosting an indoor snowball fight to creating cardboard cars for drive-in movie night to the production of Carnival Night in support of Barclays Capital’s evening event, this team has really brought all manner of fun to our families.



Having served as a volunteer for 19 years, Ms. Lamonte-Garmong is a partner at John Dunham & Associates, an economic research-based firm. An active presence in the local community of Larchmont, NY, where she also holds the titles of President of Larch Communications, LLC. and publisher of LarchmontDish.com, Ms. Lamonte-Garmong has worked tirelessly to spread the word about our mission.

## John Rohs

Thursday night team member John Rohs is a perfect example of how stellar leadership can be demonstrated in any capacity throughout the House. In addition to serving faithfully once per

week on Team Ronald, Mr. Rohs also volunteers during Ronald McDonald House New York golf outings and other development events, providing a welcoming smile and uplifting humor.



Mr. Rohs retired from his career in investment banking in 2004, and is a cancer survivor himself. The father of three brings a special sensibility to his volunteer experience, often relating to our young residents in ways that helps to encourage them during their battle.

## Kenneth Schulman

Mr. Schulman is a partner at legal firm Pryor Cashman LLP and has been a volunteer at Ronald McDonald House New York since 2005. A member of our Team Ronald nightly volunteer group, he serves on the Tuesday night team helping to provide support to resident families after a long day of treatment. Mr. Schulman actively practices law in the areas of entertainment, licensing, intellectual property, and celebrity and corporate brand development. This expertise has proved to be of valuable assistance to our Development department where Mr. Schulman has co-produced our annual “Make a Difference Evening” event, which showcases talent from the long-running FOX show, “American Idol.” The event has raised more than \$2 million in support of House operations.



In addition to providing pro bono legal services to the House, Mr. Schulman has also introduced many notable celebrities to the Ronald McDonald House New York mission, converting them into volunteers for the cause against pediatric cancer. Such names include Maureen and Steven “Little Stevie” Van Zandt, Jill Hennessy, Paula Abdul, Alan Kalter, and Harry Smith. A 1977 Graduate of St. John’s University School of Law, Mr. Schulman is a true New Yorker with a heart of gold. ■

## Eli’s Donation

For more than 10 years, New York’s neighborhood grocer Eli Zabar has been making a very special delivery to the families of Ronald McDonald House New York. Thanks to this thoughtful donation, families are treated to a wide selection of baked goods and sandwiches to nourish them throughout the day. With treats that include black and white cookies, cheese danish, muffins, meatloaf sandwiches, veggie wraps and pain au chocolat, there is definitely something for everyone.

To families confronted with the financial realities of a battle against cancer, the donated food items are a welcome respite, representing one less thing to worry about when preparing for a long day of treatment. What many are impressed to learn is that their breakfast or lunch has been provided by what can only be described as an institution in New York City.

“There’s a handful of different donations that we do,” said Ross Breen, COO of Eli’s Manhattan. “Frequently, we have a lot left over of a lot of different things. We send sandwiches, bread, rolls, muffins, pastries, cookies. It’s an assortment.” Mr. Breen oversees operations for the company, which includes locations throughout Manhattan’s Upper East Side, as well as E.A.T. and Eli’s Vinegar Factory.

In addition to the morning delivery of pastries, Eli’s also supports the House during the holiday season. At Thanksgiving and Christmas time, longtime volunteer Richard Stadin organizes a group of volunteers affiliated with his temple, Congregation Or Zarua of New York City, and the group assembles at Eli’s retail location.

“People give up their evening before the holiday and they bring their cars and trucks. We supply them with pans and delivery boxes and they come through like an assembly line,” said Mr. Breen. “The volunteers take all the merchandise off of the salad bar, and they also take all of the holiday pastries and Christmas cookies, or buche de Noel and load them up into their cars. The volunteers then bring the items to the Ronald McDonald House as well as a few churches up in the Harlem area. There must be 15-20 people who come to our stores, including the Vinegar Factory.”

For their generosity and thoughtfulness at a time when our families need them most, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for the many people who help to support our families in their time of need. ■



# Penelope Buttress — A Little Ray of Sunshine



Charles Manley

Aaron and Carina Buttress featured with their daughter Penelope.

When Penelope Buttress began learning to walk at 9-months-old, both she and her parents entered a new phase of discovery that held many surprises. As many parents will attest, life with a toddler is a very busy life filled with great vigilance. However, for Penelope's parents, a routine fall led to the telltale signs that their extraordinary little girl was battling a devastating illness.

"Penelope was learning how to walk, and she was cruising around the house and she fell and hit a vase. The vase broke and she has a superficial vein in between her eyes on the bridge of her nose. When she fell, she had a little scrape right there," said Carina Buttress. "It was super minor, but the next morning, Penelope had bruising under her eyes."

With a routine checkup coming up, Penelope's parents brought the bruising to the attention of her pediatrician and after a few days of monitoring, the doctor suggested that the Buttresses take her to the emergency room for tests. Six hours later, an emergency room pediatrician explained that after consulting with other specialists, they believed that Penelope had neuroblastoma, a type of cancer that affects the nerve endings. The primary tumor was located on top of her adrenal gland and extended up around three of her vertebrae. Penelope also had lesions behind

her eyes, which were pushing her eyeballs forward and caused the bruising. Penelope also had cancer in her bone marrow and her liver, and it had begun to spread to her skull.

At the time, Mrs. Buttress was halfway through her accelerated bachelor's program in nursing. Hearing that her little girl had cancer sent her reeling. "When he said neuroblastoma, I thought 'that means cancer.' I kinda just sat there in shock."

Penelope was immediately admitted to the hospital where she stayed for two months. At 11-months-old, doctors performed a biopsy on her tumor and removed a growth about the size of a golf ball. The next day, an emergency back surgery was scheduled when Penelope was unable to move her legs. The primary tumor, which was originally the size of a grapefruit, had begun to swell and put pressure on her spinal column. This second procedure would help to alleviate the swelling and remove as much of the primary tumor as possible. The procedure meant that Penelope would lose part of her bone and affect her spine, which already suffered the effects of scoliosis.

Within two days, Penelope regained feeling in legs and began chemotherapy. However, recovery would prove difficult as she developed a respiratory virus which caused Penelope's lungs to collapse. She was later moved to the pediatric intensive care unit



Natalie Greaves

**Penelope and Carina cut a mean rug at the sock hop.**

and ultimately spent her first birthday in the hospital. Penelope and her mother then returned to San Diego to undergo low-dose chemotherapy while they considered other options.

“I think that in talking with other moms, newly diagnosed or not, I think that the key to all of it is perception. Whatever perception you give them is how they’re going to feel themselves,” said Mrs. Buttress. “I always made everything really happy and tried to shower her with positive things. At her age emotionally, you can’t really expect her to understand. We went to the park, we played on the slide. I was really confident in the fact that I was making the right decision.”

### Life in New York City

After 16 rounds of chemotherapy, the family received the welcome news that Penelope’s scans showed no signs of cancer. In follow-up medical appointments, Penelope’s scans continued to show “no evidence of disease” for four months. On February 24, 2012, Penelope relapsed and scans showed that the cancer had returned and spread throughout her body. She had cancer in her bony and soft tissue, and a new tumor had grown at the site of the primary tumor.

The family was advised to consider Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York City for more aggressive options. After an initial consultation with Dr. Kushner at MSKCC, Penelope went back to San Diego where she underwent four rounds of chemotherapy and



Nina Friedman

**Penelope is always full of spirit no matter the time or place.**

battled neutropenia. Neutropenia is a disorder that results in abnormally low white blood cells, which can leave a patient susceptible to life-threatening illnesses. Eventually, Penelope’s 3-year-old body built up enough immunity to travel. A brief trip to New York City for treatment yielded disappointing results as Penelope’s body did not respond to the natural killer cell therapy.

The family returned to New York City this past February. Penelope is now stable, but her next course of action is uncertain. After two rounds of chemotherapy, the medical team is currently waiting for her liver enzymes to stabilize before she would be stable enough to begin the humanized 3F8 antibody protocol. Through 3F8, antibodies are introduced to a patient’s bloodstream where they will find and attack cancer cells. The patient’s own immune system will then kick in and assist in eliminating the cancer. Until recent years, the most successful form of 3F8 involved the use of mouse antibodies. The treatment that Penelope’s family is pursuing involves a fully human form.

“The waiting is the hardest part,” said Chaplain Cheryl Frei. “There’s a great deal of frustration in not knowing what to expect from one day to the next. For many of our parents, any new information is hopeful information.”

While in New York, Mrs. Buttress works remotely processing medical claims. With a career in the sales industry, Mr. Buttress visits New York City when he can to support his wife and



Charles Manley

The 4-year-old recently celebrated her birthday at the Ronald McDonald House.



Natalie Greaves

Always on the move, Penelope has never let cancer stop her.

daughter. The family's journey has led to friendships with many in similar circumstances and at Ronald McDonald House New York, peer support and their faith both play very important roles in helping the family to cope.

"When Penelope first got sick, a lot of my really close friends dropped off the face of the earth. One of my friends told me that she didn't want to visit us in the hospital because she didn't want to face the fact that little kids get sick," said Mrs. Buttress. "I try to spin it to think that if you believe in whatever higher power, it's not that you're being tested, it's that you're being trusted with this gift."

"Here, I feel like there are so many more activities for the kids if they can't go outside. There's a play room...the people that I've met here have been much more upbeat and I think that's what the Ronald McDonald House here gives to families," said Mrs. Buttress. "The House makes the kids a little bit happier. They have all of these fun activities and so many volunteers that come and do wonderful things for them."

"We go on trips and it's a neat experience for them and it takes more stress off us as parents. Even if I need quiet time in the play room, I can sit and relax and let her go *be*. For the most part, whatever I need, I can find it here. We all kind of lean on each other. We're all in the same situation," she added. "Every story is different and sometimes there's a huge language barrier. But you figure it out. You understand because all of the kids' stories aren't the same, but we're all here for the same reason."

"One of the greatest challenges for many parents is finding a way to maintain a routine or some sense of normalcy in a situation where there is no routine," said Chaplain Frei. "The parents do a wonderful job of supporting each other and we try to provide the families with the resources so that every family member can have an outlet or some form of support."

On a recent evening, Penelope joined her friend Martina for a duet during a volunteer-sponsored production of "The Voice." Their song that evening was "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." This curious little girl, who walks with a slight limp as a result of her second surgery two years ago, is very outspoken and not at all shy about sharing her opinion. Penelope asks questions and is never, ever far from her greatest advocate — her mother.

"I've been told on more than one occasion that she's an inspiration to the other kids who aren't doing so well," said Mrs. Buttress. "She's their inspiration to play and do stuff. It makes me feel good to know that she's here going 'Hi, my name is Penelope. What's your name?'"

Full of faith and ever hopeful, the Buttress family continues to share their optimism and appreciation for life, despite what they've been through. At Ronald McDonald House New York, we are continually inspired by their courage and their spirit. We are honored to share our home with them in their time of need. ■

# 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.

## Jake T. Austin, Youth Ambassador

When Hollywood actor and Ronald McDonald House New York Youth Ambassador Jake T. Austin is in New York City, he always makes it a point to visit with our families. The star, who will be playing Tom Sawyer in the upcoming film “Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn,” not only joined us for our evening party to celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday, but also spent a little time with our teens during a bowling outing.



Photos by Natalie Greaves and Nina Friedman



## Monday Night Team's Sock Hop

Many thanks to the Heller Family Foundation and the Monday night team for bringing the most awesome sock hop experience to East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street for our families!



Photos by Natalie Greaves

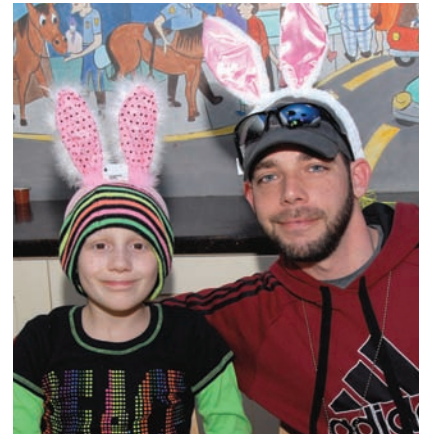


Michael Weisburger



### Board of Associates Dinner

This March, volunteers from The Blades Skating Club of Bedford provided and served dinner to the resident families at The Ronald McDonald House in New York City. The gourmet dinner was provided by Benchmarc Events with additional support from The Gerber Group. The local Bedford-Pound Ridge volunteers included Patti and Charlotte Grunebaum, Scott and Owen Gerber, and Jenny, Evan and Board of Associates member Michael Weisburger.



### Children's Happy Faces Foundation Easter Party

We can always count on the volunteers of Children's Happy Faces Foundation to apply just the right touch during what can sometimes be bitter-sweet holidays. The organization has raised more than \$2 million in support of programs for our families like this year's Easter party.

Natalie Greaves



### Dinner with the Ritz-Carlton

It's always wonderful to have the experts in luxury hospitality in the House. Dinner was a memorable experience that included cupcake decorating for all ages.



Natalie Greaves



### Barclays Capital

Barclays Capital brought a special helping of love when a group of volunteers from the investment bank spent an evening with our families.



Photos by Hassun Banks

Natalie Greaves



### ITG

It's always wonderful to spend time with the warm, smiling faces of our group volunteers during dinner. ITG and its associates ensured that the night was enjoyed by all.

# Programs

## International Securities Exchange

When the International Securities Exchange (ISE) recently revived its “Social Responsibility Days,” we couldn’t have been more excited.

“Our partnership with the Ronald McDonald House New York over the past three years has been one of the most rewarding initiatives we have ever undertaken at ISE,” said Gary Katz, president, CEO and co-founder of the ISE. “I am so proud of the ISE team when I see employees from all departments and levels within the company come together with the common purpose of serving these deserving families and their heroic children. It reminds us all of the importance of carving time out from our busy work days to appreciate each other, our own families, and our extended family at RMH-NY.”

To kick things off, ISE has scheduled a number of service project days where employees will visit the House to help with volunteer projects. The organization will also host four dinner events featuring the divine cuisine of Dinosaur BBQ. The warm weather will also bring back “Summer Jeans Fridays” as a fundraiser to help the families.

Not only does ISE’s staff participation help the House, but the employees enjoy the experience as well. “The staff and families have a spirit of hope that radiates throughout the house, impacting everyone who participates,” said ISE’s Katie Sepulveda. “The staff absolutely loves visiting the house.”

For their big hearts and dedication to our mission, we are grateful for ISE’s support.



We are always thrilled to see ISE in the house.

## Hospital Outreach: Swing Into Spring

Our Hospital Outreach program welcomed spring on a musical high note at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital. The Musical Magic series introduced “Swing Into Spring,” featuring the DIVA jazz orchestra and a few talented dancers from Paul Pellicoro’s Dancesport dance studio.

The event also included extra assistance provided by 18 children and one teacher from Incarnation School in Manhattan.



With the help of Dancesport studio, the kids got into the groove.



The DIVA Jazz Orchestra always hits the right note at every occasion.



Many thanks to Incarnation School for helping out!



Jerry Ruotolo

## The Tree of Life

As our stories continue to add new detail to the rich history of Ronald McDonald House New York, the Tree of Life wall sculpture continues to flourish with new leaf additions.

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.

Leaves are engraved with a message and the name of the honored person. Each leaf may be purchased for \$2,500. 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 Nikki Margarites, Director of Major Gifts at (212) 639-0207, or email at [nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org). ■

## 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.

We invite you to show your devotion to serving children and their families battling pediatric cancer by joining the legacy of Mrs. Harris, the late Jon Lawrence Shevell, and many others who have designated Ronald McDonald House New York to receive a portion of their estate through the Vivian Harris Society Planned Giving program.

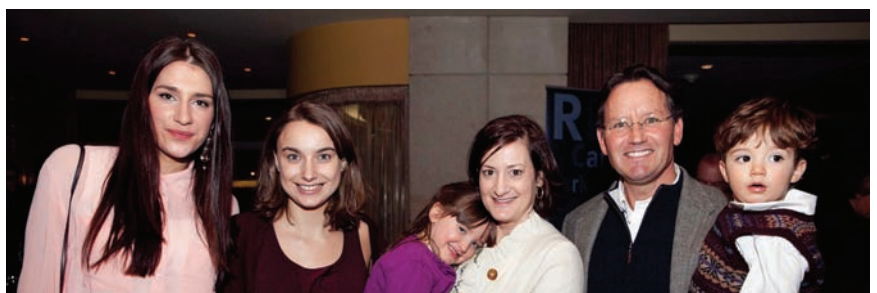
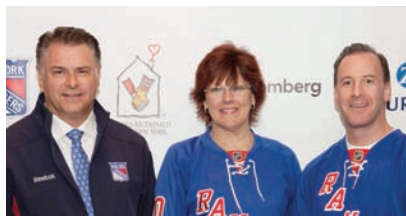
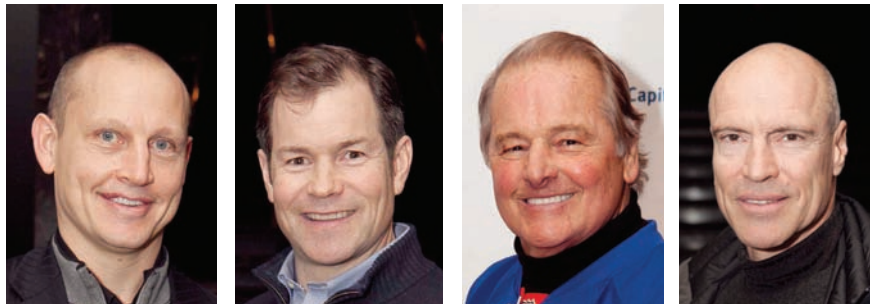
For more information about the ways to support Ronald McDonald House New York please contact Nikki Margarites, Director of Major Gifts at (212) 639-0207, or email at [nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org). ■

# Event Highlights

## Skate with the Greats

On February 1st, the 19th annual Skate with the Greats event raised more than \$800,000. Thanks to the dedicated support of title sponsor RBC Capital Markets and additional sponsorship from Bloomberg, Zurich and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC), this year's Skate with the Greats. Held at the iconic Rink at Rockefeller Center, the event saw record success!

Originally established with the support of alumni greats and longtime volunteers and Rangers legends Rod Gilbert and Brian Leetch, the event also included Mark Messier, Michael Richter, Ron Duguay, Nick Fotiu, Adam Graves, Ron Greschner, Stephane Matteau, Pete Stemkowski, and Gilles Villemure. Olympic Figure Skating Gold Medalist Sarah Hughes, and her sister, Silver Medalist Emily Hughes also joined the families and supporters of Ronald McDonald House New York for the event. The Rangers participation is made possible through a partnership with the Garden of Dreams Foundation, a non-profit charity that works closely with the Rangers and all areas of Madison Square Garden to make dreams come true for families in crisis.



Photos by David Lang





Rangers greats present Mason and his family with a custom jersey.



Bloomberg's Ray Tierney receives his jersey.

Opposite page:

Bottom far left: Olympic medalists Sarah and Emily Hughes.

Top row, left to right: Adam Graves, Michael Richter, Rod Gilbert, Mark Messier

Second row, left to right: Brian Leetch, Ron Duguay, Stephane Matteau, Nick Fotiu

Third row: Platinum Sponsor RBC Capital Markets showed tremendous support.

Fourth row: Thanking Board member E. Randall Clouser and Zurich for their longtime support.

Bottom row: Skating with the Greats!

### Children's Happy Faces Casino Night

A Children's Happy Faces Foundation event can always be considered an eye-popping extravaganza, and the second annual Casino Night at Fino Wall Street was no exception. The event, which raised \$38,000, included complimentary cigars and an open bar for attendees, as well as an abundance of entertainment to keep the fun going.

Casino night included two Texas Hold'em tables, blackjack tables, craps, a roulette wheel, raffles, silent and live auctions, as well as an Italian buffet, live jazz quartet, and a fur show by "Not Just Mink." This year's event included in-kind sponsorship by Macanudo Cigars, and Oasis Spa, all topped off with a special appearance by master magician, John Savarese.



Casino Night was a great success!



Always thankful to the Children's Happy Faces Foundation team for their dedication to the cause.

Photos by Hassum Banks

## Event Highlights (continued)



Builders of Hope Attendees

### Third Annual Builders of Hope Awards Reception

The Third Annual Builders of Hope Awards Reception raised more than \$120,000 and entertained 125 guests. Chaired by Richard Kennedy, co-COO of the Metro New York Region, Skanska USA Building, Inc., and Richard T. Anderson, president, New York Building Congress, the event honored Thomas J. Webb, P.E., executive vice president & general manager, Metro New York Region, Skanska USA Building, Inc.

In the weeks leading up to the event, the Skanska team spent time with our families by serving dinner and participating in activity hour. We were honored to have them spend so much time with us in the facility, helping to lift the spirits and lend their support to our families.



Skanska dinner with the families



We are grateful to our event leadership!

Photos by Natalie Greaves

### Greek Division Events

The Greek Division closed out the year 2012 with many good tidings and cheer during this year's Christmas party. As His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America, honorary chair of the Greek Division, presided over the evening's celebration. Held at the New York Athletic Club, the Greek Christmas party was chaired by Mr. John A. Catsimatidis, chairman & CEO of Red Apple Companies. Board member Peter Georgiopoulos, Founder & Chairman of the General Maritime Corporation was honored during the event.



Event Honoree and Board Member Peter Georgiopoulos



Chairman John Catsimatidis



Thanking his Eminence and the Greek Orthodox Church for their leadership

Photos by Dimitrios Panagos

# Calendar of Events

## Save the Date

### **Achilles Mavroumatis Memorial Golf Classic**

Friday, June 7, 2013

11:00AM to 5:00PM

Clearview Park Golf Course  
202-12 Willets Point Blvd.  
Queens, NY

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

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Registration: 10:30AM

Shotgun: 12:30PM

Hudson National Golf Club  
40 Arrowcrest Drive  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY

### **“Heroes” Team Ronald Volunteer Event**

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

6:00 -11:00PM

Gustavino's  
409 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street (Directly  
beneath the 59th Street Bridge)  
New York, NY

### **2013 Aquaphor NYC Triathlon**

Sunday, July 14, 2013

5:00AM

Hudson River and 98<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY

### **Fourth Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Baltusrol Golf Club**

Monday, July 22, 2013

Registration: 9:00AM

Shotgun: 12:30PM

Baltusrol Golf Club  
201 Shunpike Rd.  
Springfield Township, NJ

### **Eighth Annual Marsh Golf Tournament at Hudson National**

Tuesday, June 11, 2013 • 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., chief client officer, U.S. and Canada 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) 639-0210 or [kkirk@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmh-newyork.org).

### **“Heroes” Team Ronald Annual Volunteer Event**

Wednesday, June 19, 2013 • 6:00 p.m.

The love and dedication of our volunteers are vital factors 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 [teggere@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:teggere@rmh-newyork.org) or (212) 639-0712.

### **Fourth Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Baltusrol Golf Club**

Monday, July 22, 2013 • 9:30 a.m. Registration

Baltusrol Golf Club will serve as the new location for our fourth annual apparel industry celebrity golf outing. Participating foursomes from the industry will enjoy a day of golf alongside notable sports and entertainment celebrities at the site of seven U.S. Open events and the fifteenth USGA national championship. The event will be led by Event Chairman Rich Wurtzburger of Peerless Clothing; Morris Goldfarb, G-III Apparel; Keith Goodman, Ross Stores; Brendan Hoffman, Bon-Ton Stores; Peter Hunsinger, *Golf Digest Magazine*; Jeff Kantor, Macy's; Michael J. Setola, Tharanco Lifestyles; David Sirkin, PVH Corporation and Frank Tworecke; Allen Sirkin; and Michael Balmuth, Ross Stores. For more information, please contact Director of Special Events Karen Kirk at (212) 639-0210, or [kkirk@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmh-newyork.org).



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# 2013 “Heroes”

**A Team Ronald Volunteer Event**

**Wednesday, June 19, 2013**

**6:00PM- 11:00PM**

**Guastavino’s**

**Buffet Dinner, Dancing, Raffles, Silent Auction**

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

