

LOVE NOTES

A Publication of Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Tampa Bay, Inc.

Tragic Life Tests Faith of Mom Who Adopts Critically Ill Baby Out of heartbreak comes love and inspiration for others



Pam Crockett's life has been filled with tragic twists and turns. Adopting a new premature baby is only one of the challenges that she has encountered in her 36 years.

Pam stayed at the Tampa Ronald McDonald House for four months while her newly adopted son went through one surgery after another to correct his many medical issues. She became the unofficial "resident counselor" as each new family arrived to deal with their own child's medical crisis. Pam is just one of those people you want to open your heart to, partly because you can sense the wisdom behind her smile. Her wisdom comes from suffering pain and tragedy, enduring 27 surgeries over ten years, and having the faith to continue.

In her twenties, doctors told Pam that she was unable to

conceive. She and her husband decided to adopt twin boys. Five years later, she became pregnant with Emilee, and then two and a half years later with Delana. She now had a houseful of children, but an unhappy marriage led to separation from her husband.

In 1997, Pam was hit head on while driving her two daughters (aged 4 years and 18 months) to daycare. One moment she was looking through the windshield and listening to the girls playing; the next moment she was in excruciating pain, wondering why she could hear strange sounds - labored breathing, a chain saw, and the feel of rain on her face before all went dark.

When Pam awoke four days later, she heard the worst news of her life. Her two little girls were killed in the accident, and were being buried that day. She realized that the labored breathing she had heard were her little girls' last breaths before they died. Even as she grieved for her daughters, she had to deal with her own serious injuries. Her leg was crushed and her chest and heart were punctured.

Later that day, Pam's parents signed a release to have her leg amputated at the thigh. The prognosis was not good, a 10% chance of survival. Her doctor,

in an attempt to try to save her leg, decided to fly her to Atlanta. In her grief, Pam was having a hard time finding a

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reason to live. Doctors did save her leg and her body eventually healed, but her life had changed forever. Day by day, she progressed and finally was in physical therapy where she met Joe Crockett, an occupational therapist. Joe helped her through that difficult time as she learned to walk again. Best of all, she found hope and, in these unlikely circumstances, romance. They were married a year and a half later.

Pam and Joe talked about having a child together, but Pam's tubes were tied after the birth of her second daughter.

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Getting Into The Swing of Things For Our Families

19th Annual Charity Golf Classic November 16-17, 2007 Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club

Round up your clients, friends and co-workers for another fun outing on some of the best greens in Tampa Bay while raising money for our Ronald McDonald House program.



The tournament begins on Friday with lunch on the patio followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 pm. The evening's activities get off to a rousing start with dinner, drinks, a silent auction and raffle, followed by awards and a Casino Night.

A sponsor breakfast kicks off early Saturday morning with the final round finishing at noon, followed by an awards luncheon.

Two-day team sponsorships begin at \$1,800 and individual play is \$300. You can have a great time while helping our pediatric families in their time of need.

To secure your sponsorship, contact Janice Davis at (813) 258-6430, ext. 1 or jdprmh@tampabay.rh.com. Download the registration form on our website rmhctampabay.com under Events.

Dear Friends,

I am very excited to announce our fourth Ronald McDonald House, to be built inside the new All Children's Hospital, scheduled for completion in early 2009. This 14-bedroom house will provide a quiet and restful haven for parents who are unable to leave their child's hospital bed for any length of time. With your support, the addition of this newest house will make us the single largest Ronald McDonald House Charities in the nation serving one hospital.

We have already kicked off our \$750,000 Capital Campaign, and I am pleased to report that progress is excellent. Although ACH will provide the bricks and mortar, we are responsible for the furniture and fittings, all the things that will make this space a "home-away-from-home." This is a unique opportunity for your company or family to leave a lasting legacy by sponsoring a room that will bear your name.

We could not even consider building a new house without the generous support we have received from all of you. On behalf of the 30,000 families we have served in our 27 years, we thank you each and every day.

Sincerely,

Janice L. Davis
Executive Director

calendar of events

Oct. 17	Bunco - St. Pete RMH ACH Education Center	Dec. 13	Holiday Open House Tampa RMH
Nov. 16-17	RMHC 19th Annual Golf Classic Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club	Feb. 23	Run for Kids BayWalk, St. Pete

For more information, visit our website at rmhctampabay.com

Love Notes is published twice per year for families and friends of Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Tampa Bay, a not-for-profit organization that provides comfort and care to children and their families by supporting local Ronald McDonald Houses, its cornerstone program, and by making grants to other local not-for-profit organizations that help children in need. The Ronald McDonald House of Tampa Bay provides a home-away-from-home for families of pediatric patients at area hospitals. Comments and questions may be mailed to Ronald McDonald House of Tampa Bay's three locations:

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tampa Bay, Inc., 28 Columbia Drive, Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 258-6430
702 8th Ave. South St. Petersburg West (727) 821-8961
401 7th Ave. South St. Petersburg East (727) 821-8961
35 Columbia Dr. Tampa (813) 254-2398
rmhctampabay.com

Written & designed by Alison Barrick

Light a Light & Share a Night



Without your help . . .

children like Maxine, her mom and baby sister Yasmearn would have no place to stay while Yasmearn's twin gets well enough to go home.

This holiday season, please consider giving a donation in lieu of your usual gifts to underwrite a family stay at the Ronald McDonald House. For each donation you send, a holiday light illuminates our Houses and provides our families with important symbols of love, hope and support from you.

Your gift makes all the difference for parents whose sick or injured children are being treated in nearby hospitals. We will send you a beautiful commemorative brass ornament for a gift of \$50 or more, and a paper ornament for smaller gifts. Any gift you can send is much appreciated. Please watch for our upcoming mailing.

Capital Campaign Update

New Ronald McDonald House inside All Children's Hospital

Why do we need a new 14-bedroom house inside the hospital? Because many families are afraid to leave their child's side for more than a few minutes at a time. Even a short walk to a nearby Ronald McDonald House is too far when your child is critically ill and needs constant support and attention.

During the day the house will be a haven of comfort and solitude. Families may use the private rooms during the day for rest and respite. Overnight, families may be allocated a room on a night per night basis as required. *If you would like to sponsor a room, please contact Janice Davis at (813) 258-6430, ext. 1.*



DEDICATED ROOMS TO DATE

House Name	Anonymous	\$250,000
Living/Family Room	TB McDonald Restaurants	\$250,000
Kitchen	Southwest Airlines	\$30,000
Library	Duckwall Foundation	\$20,000
Laundry Room	Anonymous	\$10,000
Bedroom	Thomas & Elizabeth Berdis	\$10,000
Bedroom	Shelly Shepperd	\$10,000

AVAILABLE ROOMS

Dining Room	\$25,000
Entrance/Office	\$25,000
Bedrooms (12)	\$10,000

Tragic Life continued

At that time, she had four children, and never guessed that she would want more. They went through two cycles of IVF (invitro fertilization) and Pam became pregnant, only to miscarry in February 2004.

Nine months later, Pam learned that she had breast cancer. She underwent a lumpectomy, and then a double mastectomy to remove both her breasts. Chemotherapy soon followed and the loss of her hair. Life seemed bleak, but Pam never gave up. She and Joe decided to adopt a child, encouraged by a knowledgeable acquaintance.

Pam began researching adoptions online, and one caught her eye. A 19-year old Tampa single mother was searching for parents for her second child, due in April 2007. Pam immediately emailed the agency and received notice the next day that baby Jett had already been born, four months early.

The adoption coordinator advised the Crocketts that the child might not live. But Pam had faith that Jett was meant to be their child and by the end of the month, she and Joe had made the adoption arrangements. With mixed feelings of hope, uncertainty and anxiety about where they would stay with limited finances, they packed up their car for the nine-hour drive to Tampa. On the way, they called the Tampa Ronald McDonald House on the recommendation of the birth mom.

Like many other families who come to RMH, Pam and Joe didn't know what to expect. They were pleasantly surprised that the House offered more than just a roof over their heads; there were meals, companionship, laundry facilities, internet service and so much more. As they dined with other families, they traded stories about concerns for their sick children. This made it much easier for Joe's peace of mind when he returned home to work

while Pam remained behind. They made new friends in Tampa and he knew that she would be fine until his return.

Other anxious moments unfolded when the Crocketts met with the birth mom. Would she like them and what if she did not? Fortunately, Pam felt an immediate connection with the teen mom as she was the same age as her own twin boys. Pam's warm and caring nature immediately garnered good feelings between them and the birth mom was happy that her baby will have such good parents.

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Jett Joseph Crockett was born at 26 weeks on December 31, 2006 weighing 1 pound 11.5 ounces. His intestines were perforated, he had dead bowel syndrome (death of part of the intestine due to lack of blood supply) and a brain bleed which caused seizures, along with hydrocephalus. The doctors and adoption agency did not expect him

to live, but baby Jett has surprised them all. His will to live coupled with the loving care he receives from the Crocketts, along with many medical miracles, makes him a real fighter.

After four months at the Tampa RMH, the Crocketts have returned home to Georgia, while Jett was airlifted to Children's Hospital of Atlanta at Scottish Rite. Pam stays nearby at the Ronald McDonald House, while Joe makes the two-hour drive on the weekends.

Jett is now seven months old and weighs 10.2 lbs. His prognosis has improved and despite fears that he might be developmentally delayed, he seems to be catching up quickly. He has taken on mannerisms from both of his new parents and wants nothing more than to be held.

Pam remarks that the Tampa Ronald McDonald House truly became her second home. She made friends with families and staff, and their care and concern helped her through the difficult times. She credits her faith in God for giving her the strength to continue in the face of adversity; a faith that has carried her through more challenges that one can imagine with much hope ahead.



Joe & Pam Crockett holding their critically ill son during an anxious and stressful time at Tampa General Hospital.

Preemie Baby Had Parents Worried

28-week baby born with rare condition



Daniel D'Sa (pronounced Deesa) was born in Sarasota Memorial Hospital at 24 weeks, weighing just 1 lb. 12 oz. Ten days later he was transferred to All Children's Hospital (ACH) in St. Petersburg to spend the next 118 days in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).

His frightened parents, Philomena and Loyola, rode with their new baby in the ambulance, wondering where they would stay. They were greatly relieved to learn there was a Ronald McDonald House near the hospital that could provide them with food and shelter while they cared for their child. In Philomena's words, "We found respite and angels at the RMH. It helped to know that you had a private room to shed tears; eat a meal; be comforted by compassionate staff and volunteers. It was most reassuring that there were people who helped me smile. This unconditional level of care allowed me to go back to the hospital to face the many challenges of having a very sick child."

The D'Sas did not plan to have a second child. Their first, Mitchell, is 12 years old and going into the 7th grade at Pine View School for the Gifted in Osprey, FL. They had recently made the decision to move from New Jersey to Southwest Florida for a lifestyle change. Then, at the age of 45, Philomena got pregnant. She had been told she was unable to get pregnant again; this was their first surprise. Their second surprise was realizing that although they had insurance, they did not have maternity coverage. The third surprise was giving birth 12 weeks early.

Philomena had a normal pregnancy.

However, she developed a tear in her cervix, and although doctors tried to suture it, her water broke. This resulted in an emergency Cesarean section and Daniel's early birth.

When a child is born at such an early stage, there are often medical complications because of underdeveloped organs. In Daniel's case, he developed a perforation in his stomach requiring intensive care and surgery. Upon his arrival at ACH, Daniel was diagnosed with necrotizing

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enterocolitis (NEC), a gastrointestinal disease that mostly affects premature infants. NEC involves infection and inflammation that causes full or partial destruction of the bowel. Although it is a rare condition, NEC is the most common and serious gastrointestinal disorder among hospitalized pre-term infants.

Philomena's life dramatically changed from working and caring for her family, to revolving around pumping, eating and spending time with her newborn. She read literature about premature babies which opened

NEC affects one in 2,000 to 4,000 births (1% to 5% of NICU admissions.) Kidshealth.org

up a whole new world for her. "The skills and care of the physicians, nurses, respiratory therapist, developmentalist, radiologist, and the many other specialists are truly amazing. Neonatology is an area in medicine filled with pioneering discoveries," she observed. All of her education and life experience left her unprepared for all that she would learn over the next six

months.

Happily, Daniel has gone home to begin his new life in Sarasota. He does not have any continuing medical issues, and although he was initially behind developmentally because of his early birth, he is quickly catching up and is acting like a normal 11 month old. He is a feisty little boy who likes to feed himself and is willing himself to walk. He enjoys strolls around the neighborhood, dips in the pool, playing with toys and having his older brother read to him.

The D'Sas have a philosophical outlook on their experience. Their lifestyle change is much different than planned, but they have learned that their faith will get them through the most difficult of times. Philomena comments that "Daniel is a true miracle and we are blessed to have him in our life. I thank God every day for giving me this precious gift."



ONE HAPPY FAMILY
Loyola and Philomena D'Sa with 12-year old Mitchell and a healthy 11-month old Daniel.

RMH Needs List

While out shopping, why not pick up a few much-needed items for the House? They include, but are not limited to:

Chicken, beef, ham, hamburgers & hot dogs
Breakfast & lunch meats
Dairy (butter, cream, margarine, cheese)
Vegetable oil & salad dressings
Sugar, sugar substitute, coffee creamer
Mayo
Snacks: chips, cookies, crackers,
individual puddings, jello, fruit juice
Pop Tarts
Icing & paper baking cups
Fruit juice - individual size
Instant tea, hot cocoa, Koolaid
Cookie Dough
Cakes & pies

Kitchen & Cleaning

Non-stick fry pans - all sizes
Stainless steel & plastic forks & spoons
Hot & cold 12 oz. cups
Paper plates & bowls
Paper towels & toilet paper
Napkins
Ziploc freezer bags (1 & 2 gallon)
Heavy duty (33 gallon) trash bags
Clorox Ready Mop pads
Clorox Disinfectant Wipes
Lysol Disinfectant Spray
Bleach and X14 cleaner
Dryer fabric softener sheets
Powdered laundry detergent
Scotch Brite scour pads & scrub sponges
Dreft baby soap
Soft Scrub, tub & basin aerosol cleaner
Furniture polish

Miscellaneous

Black felt-tip markers & Whiteout
Copy paper - white, colored & photo paper
Postage stamps
Masking tape & clear packing tape
Clock radios
Port-a-crib sheets
Large citrus juicer
Dish cloths
White pillowcases (standard)
White towels (bath, hand, washcloths)
DVD movies
4 ft. fluorescent bulbs
60 watt light bulbs
Commercial coffee grinder
Prepaid phone & gas cards
Gift cards for: Home Depot, Wal-Mart,
Target, Sam's Club

Please check our website for updated lists for the individual houses.
www.rmhctampabay.com

St. Pete Happenings



Everglades Glass & Mirror Donation

When Wade Beaver's family stayed at the RMH West House he decided that his company should donate mirrors for every room. Wade (at left in white) drove 19 mirrors up from Fort Myers and installed them himself!



St. Pete College of Nursing Comforts Families and Children

The nursing students are a regular sight at the St. Pete Houses. They make many meals and assist with house chores. This also gives the students a chance to mingle with the families. Lisa McKinnion took the opportunity to cuddle one of the newborns, Jaylin Thomas before he goes home to Ft. Pierce.



Curves Fills Our Pantries

Chelie Bracey, Employee of the Year at All Children's Hospital, spearheaded a pantry drive at Curves to benefit all three of our Houses. According to House Director Donna Young, it provided many items for the Houses. It's amazing what one person can do!



20 Year Employees Celebrate

RMHC of Tampa Bay is proud to have three employees celebrate their 20th anniversary in 2007. Left to right are Barbara Cooper, Operations Assistant; Lynn Lippincott, Family Coordinator; and John Modaff, Maintenance.

Tampa Happenings

Hand-painted Peter Pan Mural by renowned artist

Former Disney artist and talented illustrator Phil Jones took time out of his schedule to paint a new mural in the family room. He also designs the covers for each year's Storybook Ball program, and we would be lost without him.



ADPi Cheers Moms on Mother's Day

Local sorority sisters came by the House on Mother's Day to give a beautiful rose and card to each of the moms in residence. Shown are Megan Wright and Rachael Baldwin with Pam Crockett (see lead story.)



Lightning Wives Cook Dinner

The kitchen was full of action when eleven wives of the Tampa Bay Lightning players cooked dinner for our families. Lightning Bug also showed up to entertain and give out goody bags to the kids.



The Maids Give Families a Break

The Maids of Tampa are making our families' lives a bit easier by cleaning our House once a month. Their service provides in depth cleaning of the entire 14-bedroom house, from top to bottom. They do an amazing job with a smile on their face and love in their hearts for our families.



House Support Needed

Sponsor a Meal

- ✓ Create a casserole supper, cook on our gas grill, order in pizza, make breakfast, stew, soup or chili.
- ✓ Bring in a prepared meal for RMH volunteers to set up and serve, prepare and serve the meal yourself or "break bread" with our families after your "chef" work.
- ✓ Contract with a restaurant to deliver meals, pizza, sub sandwiches or send a restaurant or grocery store gift certificate.

Sponsor Fresh Foods - help fund weekly deliveries of fresh fruit or meat to prepare meals for the children and new mothers who need the nutrition.

Update our Medical Library Provide up-to-date medical books, magazines and CDs to help families get information on their child's diagnosis and treatments.

Share a Night Program - help underwrite a family stay for \$10 per night, \$70 a week or more (no family is ever turned away because of an inability to pay). Our actual costs are \$50 per night per family.

Hold a Pantry Drive - collect canned goods, paper products, cleaning and other household supplies - we've got 66 bedrooms, 70 bathrooms & four kitchens!

Be a Volunteer - Looking for a new way to show your community how much you care? Have some spare days, evenings or weekends? All three Houses need volunteers for four-hour shifts, once a week or twice a month, to help support this "home-away-from-home" for families with children in area hospitals. Training is provided. Please call...

Lise Fields in St. Petersburg at (727) 821-8961 ext. 7679 or

Laura Wright in Tampa at (813) 254-2398 ext. 317.

All volunteer opportunities are listed on our website at www.rmhcampabay.com.

THE LION KING

Storybook Ball 2007
Saturday, May 19
A La Carte Event Pavilion

Our signature event once again drew record attendance and raised almost \$400,000 for our Ronald McDonald House program. Vickii Block and Spellbound Inc. transformed the venue into an African savannah while Busch Entertainment enthralled attendees.

Over 500 guests enjoyed martinis courtesy of Grey Goose/Bacardi, wine by Barefoot Wines and complemented by an African-theme dinner. A rousing live auction featuring a first-class trip on the Orient Express was won by Rob Klingel, our title sponsor. Tino Martinez was presented with the Award of Excellence for his great work with children, and then the guests hit the dance floor where they remained for the rest of the evening.



Ball Chair Theresa Klingel and Guest of Honor/Award of Excellence Recipient Tino Martinez, formerly of the New York Yankees and the Tampa Bay Devil Rays



Title sponsors Rob and Diane Klingel of TSE Industries & The Klingel Family Foundation won the Orient Express Trip during the live auction.

Thank you to all of our generous sponsors!

Title Sponsor

TSE Industries Inc./The Klingel Family Foundation

Simba Sponsors

Tampa General Hospital
St. Joseph's Children's Hospital of Tampa

Nala Sponsors

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Foelgner, Ronz & Straw, P.A.	Wendt Productions, Inc.
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The Madeira Group at Smith Barney	
Marlow Yachts	

Special Sponsors

Barefoot Wine	Grey Goose/Bacardi
Busch Gardens	Premier Beverage
Caspers Company	Spellbound, Inc.



*Dr. Yi-Hwa Outerbridge
(with Felix Cannella) donated an all-inclusive first
class trip on the Orient Express valued at \$40,000
for the live auction.*



*Simba Sponsor St. Joseph's Children's Hospital
of Tampa*



Simba Sponsor Tampa General Hospital

Friends helping friends

The Ronald McDonald House of Tampa Bay is a not-for-profit-organization that provides a "home-away-from-home" for families whose children are undergoing medical treatment at bay-area hospitals. The House relies on the support of individuals and organizations in the community to provide services to families in need. We would like to acknowledge the following individuals and groups who have demonstrated their support in many ways. This list represents contributions received from January 1 through August 31, 2007. If we have erred or omitted anyone, we apologize.

CORPORATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

- **\$77,000+**
- World Children's Day 2006
- **\$36,000+**
- Kimal Lumber Company
- **\$25,000+**
- 2007 Run For Kids
- **\$19,000**
- Southwest Airlines Tampa Fishing & Golf Tournaments
- **\$18,000+**
- United Way Combined Federal Campaign
- **\$17,000+**
- The Tampa Tribune
- **\$14,000**
- The Klingel Family Foundation In honor of Diane Klingel's Birthday
- **\$7,000+**
- St. Petersburg Times
- **\$5,000 - \$5,999**
- Hunt Construction Group, Inc.
- McDonald's "Bubbler" Promotion Ryland
- **\$4,000 - \$4,999**
- Alpha Delta Pi Epsilon Lambda Chapter
- Sarasota Herald-Tribune
- **\$3,000 - \$3,999**
- Dillard's, Inc. Holiday Promotion
- Scrapbook Shoppe Auction
- Kelli Albares
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- Hugh Cotton III
- Catherine Erhardt
- Susan Goldstein
- Lois Grubb
- Mari Heida
- Berta Honey
- Deborah Layton
- Karen Marshall
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- Diane Shea
- Frances Steadman
- Ruby Sugar
- Alexia Wax
- Lauren Zatcoff
- Suncoast Region PCA, Inc.
- **\$2,000 - \$2,999**
- The Bradenton Herald
- General Dynamics Ordnance & Tactical Systems
- Rotary Club of Clearwater Charities, Inc.
- Suncoast Autobuilders, Inc.
- Tampa Bay Downs
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- Grace Lutheran School Builders' Club
- Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary
- New York Yankees Tampa Fdn, Inc.
- Pace Title & Premier Group
- *"Bowling for a Cause"*
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- Carolyn & Wayne Hepp
- Ronald & Goldie Huebner
- Eleanor Kirby
- Joan Mitchell
- Monserrate & Miguel Roldan
- Lena Seyler
- Robert & Denise Seyler
- Anthony & Carol Skey
- Betty & Leon Yohe
- Progress Energy Service Co.
- Rooms To Go
- Ryan Companies US, Inc.
- Sarasota Fantasy Football Challenge
- Showmen's Assoc. Charities Corp.
- Stratonet, Inc.
- Tampa Bay Devil Rays
- Tiki Village Ladies
- Wal-Mart Foundation
- **\$100 - \$999**
- ACH Guild Council
- ACH Guild St Pete Branch
- Admiral Farragut Academy Jr Svc Club
- Aetna Giving Campaign
- Albertson's
- Allstate Giving Campaign
- Alpha Delta Pi Gamma Gamma Chapter
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 8
- American Legion Post 125
- Arlene Welch Elementary School
- Avon Park High School
- Bank of America Foundation
- Bartow Lioness Club
- Bethel Baptist Church Dorcas SS Class
- Brucie Klay's Dance Center
- Captain Curt's Crab & Oyster Bar, Inc.
- Caribbean Isles
- Citrus Aux. FOE 3992 Social
- CNA Foundation
- Florida 50th Original Rockers
- Florida College
- Florida Women in Government
- Suncoast Chapter
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- Full Gospel Bible Teaching
- Gecko's Hospitality, LLC
- Genesis School, Inc.
- Great Explorations, Inc.
- Hillsborough County & Polk County Farm Bureau Women's Committees
- Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office,
- Orient Road Jail Facility
- Insurance Office of America
- J. Harland Company
- Linster Tap Room
- MedSource
- N.O.A.C. Rat Trap #349
- Pfizer United Way Campaign
- Pinellas County Farm Bureau
- Presbyterian Women St. Mark's
- Presbyterian Church
- RBC Dain Rauscher Foundation
- Sertoma Charities
- Spanish Mariners
- Springs at Braden River
- St. Barbara Philoptochos Society
- St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church
- St. Paul Travelers Foundation
- Suncoast Girl Scout Council Troop 247
- Tampa Elks #708 Past Presidents
- Tampa Preparatory School 6th Grade
- Temple Ahavat Shalom, Inc.
- Tiffany and Company
- Trail Blazing Sams #47
- Valleydale Craft Ladies
- Vanguard Payment Systems
- Verizon Foundation
- VFW 8713
- Volunteer Action Committee
- Wal-Mart Supercenter #5220
- Westwork Designs, Inc.
- Women's Club of Mainlands Unit #5
- Zonta Club of Tampa
- **Up to \$99**
- ACH Guild Evening Branch
- ACH Guild Palm Harbor Branch
- America's Charities
- AT&T Community Giving Program
- Children of the Confederacy #947
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- Elks Lodge #2582, Brooksville
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- McDonald's Corp. Regional Staff
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- Spring Hill VFW 10209
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- VFW Post 7122 Ladies Auxiliaries
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- **\$2,000 - \$2,999**
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- John & Christine Tortorella
- Trey Traviesa
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- Deborah Joswig
- Lloyd & Vivian Perkins
- Vicki Sommer
- **\$100 - \$999**
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- Pedro Torres
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 · Jesus Aparicio
 · Gina Archibald
 · Katherine Arpin
 · Linda Atkins
 · Charles Barnett
 · Renee Bauwens
 · Fred & Frances Beach
 · Sandra Beagle
 · Michael Bendel
 · William & Michele Bird
 · Kressie Blosser
 · Brian & Kim Bradley
 · Jamiee & Monty Brand
 · Marion Brasovan
 · Sandra Buckley
 · Marta Burns
 · Jim & Thelma Burrows
 · Joseph & Barbara Cahalan
 · Charles Camposano
 · Crosby Carswell
 · Tom & Joan Catania
 · Chuck & Krissy Castellana
 · Katie Cassedy, Ashley, Carolina & Mimi
 · Shari Cessna
 · Churchill Family
 · Debbie Cintron
 · Erick Clermont
 · Ruth Cooper
 · Kathy Couillard
 · Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Curtis
 · Mark & Gina Davis
 · Bette Demuth
 · Mrs. Vincent DeSalvo
 · Robert Dickens
 · Susan & George DiFederico
 · Bernard & Rita Dodge
 · Brenda Dorn
 · Robert R. Duato, Jr.
 · Jonathan & Cristen Elrod
 · Carmelinda Escuder
 · Lucy Etheredge
 · Connie Facsina & Family
 · Glinda Farley
 · Violet Ferrell
 · Maria & Ricardo Fernandez
 · Michelle Fiedler
 · Linda Finch
 · Tammy & Brad Fischer
 · Arnold & Linda Flynn
 · Mark & Mary Frankle
 · Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Franzi
 · Brittny Friedman
 · Kelly Furry
 · Mary Gallen
 · Agnes George

· Donna Gill
 · Luz Gordian
 · Ruby Goss
 · Donald & Lorraine Grant
 · Sally Haedo
 · James & April Haganey
 · Milton & Heather Hagelberger
 · Joseph & Beverly Halder
 · Howard & Janet Hall
 · William Hancock, Jr.
 · Joan Hansen
 · Daniel & Beverly Harris
 · Debbie Herrington
 · Amanda Hornberger
 · Craig Humphrey
 · Veronica Hughes
 · Brandon Johnson
 · Barbara Judd
 · Wayan Karja
 · Marie Kelly
 · Jerry & Charlotte Kendall
 · Theodore Keyesen
 · Winsome Klay
 · Mr. & Mrs. Ed Krossbar
 · Allen Kulisz
 · Lisa Lackey
 · M. Frances Larsen
 · Kristen Larson
 · Florence Lauture
 · Cynthia & Francis Lee
 · Robin Leffler
 · Lois Leslie
 · David & Elisabeth Lewis
 · Eric Lewis
 · Theodore & Rose Lipinski
 · Mike & Dores Luther
 · Janet & Peter Lynn
 · Olga Macado
 · Kathy & Mark Mandula
 · Gregory & Dorothy Masiello
 · Jean Mattull
 · William & Jennifer McCarthy
 · Richard & Elizabeth McCash
 · Tamera McFarren
 · Linda McLean
 · E. Bradford Miller
 · Shawn & Stephanie Miller
 · Raghu & Sridevi Molleti
 · Karen Moore
 · Bob & Mary Ann Morris
 · Ada Moseley
 · Mr. & Mrs. John Murch
 · Daniel & Julianne Novisk & Family
 · Felicia O'Brien
 · Allyson Peck
 · Seeta Persaud
 · Debbie Petkas
 · Claire Poston
 · Ben Quackenbush
 · Araceli Ramirez
 · Christina & Jorge Ramirez
 · Trevor Reck
 · John Reed
 · Chris Reynolds
 · Beverly Rhodes
 · Mark & Leza Ries
 · Ritchie & Gay Ritchison
 · Peter & Clara Rivero
 · Natalia Rocha

· William & Leona Rock
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 · Julissa Rosario
 · Stella Rushlo
 · Santilli & Carriero Families
 · Robert & Luz Sarmiento
 · Linda Schou
 · Irl & Carole Scott
 · John & Linda Scott
 · Silverstein Family
 · Kristel Stiegler-Darrah
 · Robert & Heather Simmons
 · Deryl Smith
 · Elizabeth Smith
 · Shannon Sell
 · Michelle Simpson
 · Norma Jean Smith
 · Caroline Snyder
 · Carolyn & Paul Steinhauser
 · Diane Stephan
 · Janice Stephens
 · Frances & Joe Stevens
 · Sue Stevens
 · Kathleen & L. Robert Stevenson
 · Sean & Kelly Strickland
 · Linda Swears
 · Ann Talley
 · Thompson Family
 · Dorothy Thweatt
 · Pablo Toledo
 · George & Anita Tuoti
 · Eliana Jenkins Vachon
 · David & Kimberly Varland
 · Norman & Susan Walla
 · Peggy Watford
 · Matt & Julie Weaver
 · Robert F. White
 · Helen Wilson
 · William & Lois Zawislak
 · **MEMORIALS**
 · **Kim**
 · Lorraine E. Noddin
 · **James Alden**
 · Clifton T. Alden
 · **Wendell C. Alderman**
 · Betty Faye & Wofford Stidham
 · **Aiden Almodovar**
 · Jack & Sandra Hill
 · **Gloria Amaro**
 · High-Purity Standards
 · **Dorothy Anderson**
 · James Anderson
 · **John Boresman**
 · Lincolnshire Residents Club
 · **Cheryl G. Brown**
 · Thomas & Deborah Gray
 · John & Leslie Rowe
 · **Jordan Bruck**
 · Patricia Balk
 · William & Michele Barre
 · Lisa Blackburn-Ullven
 · Burns Family
 · Mark & Cheryl Cardano & Aunt Jean
 · David & Patricia Clark
 · Sandra Daggett
 · Devor & Wuchter Families
 · Patricia Fleming
 · Diana Hensley

· Intersearch Friends
 · Fern Jaffee
 · Cynthia Kaminski
 · Gail Munoz
 · Nielsen Media Research
 · David & Ann Palma
 · Jill Shields
 · Daniel Taylor
 · Elizabeth Trinidad
 · Brian Utain
 · James Wuchter
 · **Leyla Grace Buscell**
 · Lewis & Anna Marion
 · **Joseph Casper**
 · Robert & Deborah Lowe
 · Mike Stephens
 · **Aiden Christian**
 · Gary & Jackie Sneddon
 · **Donna Connell**
 · Diana & Tim Brenneman
 · Hendrik & May Van Veldhuisen
 · Paul & Linda Walters
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 · Betty S. Weinstein
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 · **Thomas Culver**
 · Ed & Betsy Wudarsky
 · **Betty Davis**
 · USF St Pete Singers
 · **Billy Dixon**
 · Wofford & Betty Faye Stidham
 · **Jean Downie**
 · Lorraine Noddin
 · **Freeman Durrance**
 · Wofford & Betty Faye Stidham
 · **Marie Fitzgerald**
 · James & Mary Ann Duvall
 · Roma & Kenneth Heystek
 · Maryann Lind
 · Claudia Straw
 · **Kate & Ellie Flahart**
 · Douglas & Barbara Hare
 · **Susan Grady Franklin**
 · Shirley A. Moore
 · **Eleanor Geiselhart**
 · Don & Tinker Bachant
 · Dani & Mike
 · Helen
 · Jodi & Sue
 · Steve & April
 · **James Gifford**
 · John & Emma Gifford
 · **Dick & Helen Gotwalt**
 · Ed & Betsy Wudarsky
 · **Stanley Greenstein**
 · Don & Sis Saltzman
 · **James Hall**
 · Dropout Prevention, Pinellas Schools
 · Jacqui & Marielle Plauche
 · John & Martha York
 · **W.J. Hanley, Sr.**
 · Sharon Grimm
 · Paula Lee
 · Michael & Melissa Mates
 · Francis Quinn
 · **Mrs. Hays**
 · Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gorley

Friends continued

- **Harlon Johnson**
- Putnam Family
- **Steve Kahn's Mother**
- Teradata Co-Workers
- **Mr. & Mrs. R. Katz's Mother**
- Lorraine Noddin
- **Joan Shepherd Kidd**
- Robert & Stefanie Schatzman
- **James Kinzel**
- Leon & Alice DeMay
- **Kenneth Kleier**
- Fred & Beverly Lapper
- **Andrew Ladicks**
- Jim & Charlene Colburn
- Robert & Kathleen Johnstun
- Floyd & Evelyn Monfort
- Marie Nemes
- Irene Spieles
- **Adeline LaFace**
- Kirk R. Olsen
- **Allie H. Lane**
- Betty Faye & Wofford Stidham
- **Jessica Lott**
- Steve & Lorraine Cors
- **Earl & Flora Manheimer**
- Barbara Rizzo
- **Greg Manley**
- Mary Fritz
- **Dan Matthews**
- Judy Keyak
- **Edith Maute**
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank J. Chimielski
- **Lynn Mealy's Parents**
- Mr. & Mrs. J.S. Stevens
- **Rosie Midulla**
- John & Rebecca Craig
- Dr. Stephen Dickey & Doctors
Walk-In Clinics
- Keith & Valerie Driggers
- Eula Freeman
- Carla Frey
- Barbara Hannon
- Debby Lynch
- Mahoney & Associates
- Robin Pandolfi
- Charles Peterson
- Janet Taylor
- Scott Tuell
- Alexis & Jay Walker
- Brian & Carol Wischnack
- **Sharon Gail Morgan**
- Andy & Carolyn Henderson
- **Anthony Muscara**
- Terrence Breidenbach
- Paul DuVivier
- Mary E. Everts
- **Quenton Nolte**
- Maj. Charles & Mrs. Betyan Straw
- **Gladys Ostergaard**
- Lorraine E. Noddin
- **Kathy Ostoich**
- Rose Borrmann
- **Emory Parrish**
- Keith & Valerie Driggers
- Robin Pandolfi
- Janet Taylor
- **Lt. Gen. Lee M. Paschall**
- Theresa J. Ray
- **Roy Pegouski**
- Janet MacKay
- **Jim Pimpinella**
- Ed & Betsy Wudarsky
- **Rita Ready**
- Susan Sheridan Mack
- **Fred Reeb**
- Madeline & Michael Beiter
- **Antoinette Richer**
- Susan Sheridan Mack
- **Michael P. Romney**
- Edwin & Charlotte Romney
- **Joan Rose**
- Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lapper
- **Dr. Mel Saraceno's Mother**
- Tom & June Fillion
- **Lindsay Schieb**
- Betty Shapiro
- **J.T. & Rachel Schroeder's Mother**
- Kathy Firman
- **Addison Scurti**
- Mr. & Mrs. Jack Abbott
- **Mary Jane Simonini's Mother**
- Tom & June Fillion
- **Taylor Simpson**
- Mary Simpson
- **Aran Singh**
- Dr. & Mrs. Hardeep Singh
- **Dorothy Springer**
- Mr. & Mrs. B. Patrick DeCourcy
- Dan & Florence Galgano
- Linda Herman
- Anne & Bill Higbie
- Donna & Richard Horree
- Roxanne & Thomas Hubert
- John & Margaret Mendrala
- Richard Meyn
- Deborah & Peter Niedermeyer
- Joseph & Veronica Niedermeyer
- Kathleen P. Richardson
- Blanche Shelton
- Cindy & William Sledz
- Barbara & Gary Thiemann
- Utility Programs & Metering II, Inc.
- Catherine Weisinger
- Linda A. Weisinger
- **Helen Sticklorath**
- Jeanne & Walter Schmidt
- **Sammy Sullivan**
- Denise Stefan
- **Mrs. Joan Terry's Son**
- Lorraine Noddin
- **Mary Tomlinson**
- Irene Copley
- **Benito Trevino**
- William & Nancy Hewett
- **Evelyn Vincent**
- Barbara Judd
- Emily & Jackson Parmer
- **Bill Wilkinson**
- Wofford & Betty Faye Stidham
- **Christine Wolf**
- Craig Rahn
- **William Woodward**
- Charles & Geraldine Kirchner
- **Dorothy Wright**
- Deaney Lee
- **Edward A. Wudarsky**
- Ed & Betsy Wudarsky
- **HONORARIUMS**
- **Elijah James Allen**
- Cleaner by Design, Inc.
- **All Children's Families**
- Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Franzi
- **Diane Borree's Birthday**
- Edgar & Joan Vallar
- **Mike Bracewell**
- Roberts Printing & Able Body, Inc.
- **Mike Brink's Retirement**
- Bruce Young
- **Chambers Family**
- Friedman Family
- **Alexander Cobin's 7th Birthday**
- Elizabeth Cobin
- Robert & Susan Kaleel
- **Clissold Family**
- Winer Family
- **Rae Lynn Daniel**
- Robert & Mary Jane Blain
- **Tiffany Decker**
- Jill & Todd Dwyer
- **Amber Engelhart**
- Claire Poston
- **Alena Frey**
- Philoptochos Society of the
Annunciation
- **Muriel Gardner**
- Wellwood Baptist Church
- **Taylor & Aiyla Green**
- Diane Brenner
- **Sophia Paige Hashim**
- Dr. Mark Hashim
- **Jolen Horvath's Birthday**
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bell
- **Justin Howell**
- Peggy Barnhill
- **Hudgins Family**
- Friedman Family
- **Helen Marie Huffstutler & Family**
- Tri-City Electrical Contractors, Inc.
- **Sophia Larsen**
- Diane Larsen
- **Judy Lawson**
- Barbara Judd
- **Judy Lawson's Grandchildren,**
Anthony & Charlotte
- Barbara Judd
- **John Dylan & John Wyatt Mason**
- John & Nancy Mason
- **Jacob Mruk's 2nd Birthday**
- James G. Mruk, D.D.S.
- **NICU**
- Maria Rodriguez
- **Emily Parmer**
- Barbara Judd
- **Monalisa Patterson's Birthday**
- David & Amanda Ambrose
- William & Diane Cox
- **Eric Piburn**
- Brett & Stefany Mills
- **Jason & Monica Pollack**
- Susan Sheridan Mack
- **Austin Pugh**
- Tony & Dianne Reali
- **Gerald Rein's 80th Birthday**
- Don & Sis Saltzman
- **RMH St Pete East Staff**
- Linda Torres
- **RMH Tampa**
- Matt & Tiffany
- **Kyle Rothenberger**
- Joseph & Veronica Conley
- Mary Jane Sbani
- **A.J. Ruiz's 6th Birthday**
- Alexander Blau
- Brynna Callahan
- Alex Cheatham
- Tyler Davis
- Jack Garrity
- Williston Johnson
- Christina Kintas
- E.J. Lasek
- Lizzy Picone
- Alan & Dana Ruiz
- Michael Swanson, Jr.
- McKenna Tagg
- Tess Whitworth
- **Alexa Ruiz's 10th Birthday**
- Samantha Awad & Family
- McKinley Musco & Family
- The Ruiz Family
- Katy Ann Thaxton
- **Stephanie Sanchez**
- Rodrigo Sanchez
- **Scrapbook Shoppe Moms**
- Janice Piechowiak
- **Addison Scurti**
- Michele Lanasa
- Paul & Janice McIntosh
- St. Clement School Faculty
- **Angie Staniszewski**
- Tracy Staniszewski
- **Jordan Steelhammer**
- Souzen Deavers
- **Andrew & Samuel Stein's 2nd
Birthdays**
- Ira & Fern Stein
- **Kaitlyn Stelzer**
- Bruce & Lori Stelzer
- **Reece Tappan's Birthday**
- Michele Gordon
- Bonnie Neal
- Irene Norton
- Joseph & Lisa Pusateri
- Kathleen Scanlan
- Chris & Lori Tappan
- Cherie Lynn Ward
- Marc & Joell Duvo Yonker
- **TGH & St. Joseph's Children's PICU Staff**
- Mrs. Patricia B. Riggs
- **Garrett Toenjes's 7th Birthday**
- Mr. & Mrs. Thierry Beckers
- Kippen & Don Cantin
- Angela Corell
- Joseph & Judy Corsmeier
- Robert & Cheryl Franks
- Anthony & Carol Griffith
- Steven & Julie Groth
- Tammi Hughes



Ballard staff prepare for the grand opening

Ballard Designs, the renowned catalog retailer known for unique home decor items recently opened their first retail store in Tampa's International Plaza. Their June 25th grand opening drew over 600 people who enjoyed shopping, cocktails and appetizers, with Ronald McDonald House receiving a percentage of that evening's sales.

Borders Book Drive Benefits Ronald McDonald House

For the second year in a row, local Borders book stores (and several Waldenbooks) ran a Book Drive for Ronald McDonald House. Thousands of books for children and adults were donated to our Houses, along with a percentage of sales. Their staff also educated the public on our program. We are very grateful for their generous donation and for the support shown by all of you.

BORDERS®



Tampa House Manager Betsy Wilkinson with a sample of donated Borders books

Friends continued

- James & Laurie Kerekes
- Erich & Kimberly Klopfer
- Brian & Monique Knapp
- Una Liebig
- Brian & Laura Maiocco
- Jeffrey & Lori Mattox
- Victor & Denise Myerscough
- Rachel & Troy Plota
- Mitchell & Amy Reimann
- Richard & Lori Toenjes
- **Jake Michael Wall**
- Tammy & Jonathan Wall
- **Ryder Williams**
- Brett & Trisha Williams
- **MAJOR IN-KIND**
- Benjamin Moore & Co.
- BISSELL Homecare, Inc.
- Brand Source
- Digital South Communications
- Everglades Glass & Mirror
- The Fresh Market
- Georgia-Pacific Corp.
- Holland Enterprises
- HSN
- Phil Jones
- Kane's Furniture
- Kimal Lumber Company
- Lifestyle Family Fitness
- McDonald's Marketing USA
- Porterfield Family Friends
- Rugs of the World
- Southwest Airlines
- Tampa Bay Lightning/St. Pete Times Forum
- Wallrapp Architecture & Interior Design
- **ONGOING IN-KIND**
- 7-Eleven, Davis Islands
- Atlanta Bread
- Tim Bradshaw, Dog Therapy
- BrightHouse Networks
- Caspers Company
- Children's Wish Foundation Int'l
- CJ Publishers, Inc.
- The Coca-Cola Company
- Helen Conklin, Arts & Crafts
- Foelgner, Ronz & Straw, P.A.
- Marla Geraldo, Massage Therapy
- Kathleen Johnson-Esterly, Dog Therapy
- Arlene Latnik
- Victoria Martin, Dog Therapy
- The Martin-Brower Company
- S & D Coffee
- Debra Schwanz, Dog Therapy
- Mary & Bob Sinibaldi, Dog Therapy
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- Shirley Stepp, Granny Goose
- Don Stratton, Dog Therapy
- Suncoast New Options
- Carolyn Tacker, Dog Therapy
- Tampa Bay Harvest
- Terminix
- Toymakers
- TruGreen Chemlawn
- US LEC Corporation
- USA Mobility
- Gabe Vargo, Boyd Hill Nature Park
- Velda Farms
- Verizon
- Warren E. Conley Corp.
- Whitehall Plastics

Programs



Scholarship Program

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tampa Bay works with schools in our eleven-county area to select deserving sophomore students for scholarships. This year 46 students will be honored at a luncheon on November 14. One of our previous recipients, Laura Jaramillo, now attends Harvard as she continues her academic journey.



Ronald McDonald Care Mobile™

The Care Mobile celebrated its first anniversary this year and is constantly expanding its program to include more schools. Since February 2006 the doctors and nurses on the Care Mobile have treated **1,115** children providing **\$145,000** of free medical services. Services include free medical checkups, sports physicals and dental checkups and referrals to specialists when necessary.

Your generous donation provided...

- New kitchen for St. Pete West
- Fresh fruit for on-the-go nutritious snacks
- Laundry supplies so families can have fresh clothes every day
- Security cameras and systems to keep our families safe
- Fresh coat of interior paint for St. Pete East
- Wi-Fi (wireless) internet access so families can stay in touch with their loved ones
- Monthly utilities so families will be comfortable 365 days/year

Check if appropriate

- My name is misspelled
- My address is incorrect
- I received more than one copy
- I no longer wish to receive Love Notes

Please clip & mail to us noting your request.



New cupboards and counters in downstairs St. Pete West kitchen allow families of transplant patients to remain separate (to reduce infection risks) from the rest of the House.

Upcoming Events

For the Love of Chocolate Gourmet FOOD & WINE EXPO Friday, October 26, 2007 Tampa Convention Center

For all of you chocolate lovers, make plans to attend the first annual “For the Love of Chocolate” event to sample a wide array of chocolate delicacies.

Event producer Gold Productions selected Ronald McDonald House as their charity to benefit from the attendance at this event. Stay tuned for more information in an upcoming e-newsletter or visit

www.gourmetfoodandwineEXPO.com.



World Children’s Day November 9-20, 2007

Support RMHC while enjoying your favorite McDonald’s foods. On November 20th McDonald’s will donate \$1 for every Beef or Chicken Extra Value Meal© and Chicken McNuggets sold.

From November 9-20 customers can donate \$1 towards RMHC by purchasing a “Hand” that will be displayed instore during the event.

Take the night off from cooking and support RMHC this November.



Run For Kids Saturday, February 23, 2008

Plans are well underway for next year’s event, sponsored by Pediatric Services of Florida, which annually raises funds for our Ronald McDonald House Program.

Bring your little ones and make a day of it in beautiful downtown St. Petersburg where they can meet Ronald McDonald and participate in their own “Pelican Mile” run.

For more information visit www.runforkids.com



**2007 RMHC of
Tampa Bay Board of
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**Do you want to
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about House events
and happenings?**

*Visit our website -
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Longtime donor leaves legacy

Remembering Warren Conley

The name Warren E. Conley Corporation is well known in our Ronald McDonald Houses because it is on the many cleaning products that we use daily. Warren was a great friend and visitor to RMH.

In 1985 Warren Conley was introduced to the Ronald House program and fulfilled our need for the donation of cleaning products.

Though his company headquarters is in Carmel, Indiana, Warren was a snowbird who often stayed in his Florida condo. House Director Donna Young fondly recalls, "Warren developed a bond with the West House. He loved to bring

donuts and joke with the staff." Rich Young, Donna's husband comments, "Warren was an old-world gentleman. He was an intent listener with a quick mind that grasped the essence of problems."

In later years, Warren's visits were curtailed by his health, but his passion for RMH never waned. He annually attended our golf tournament luncheon and had a "reserved seat" at the head table.

His son Kevin and daughter Lynn now run his company, and continue their father's tradition of donating cleaning supplies to our Houses.

Warren passed away earlier this year at the age of 89. At the memorial service, Donna Young thanked his family for "sharing their dad with us all of these years." Warren left provisions in his will to our Ronald McDonald House so that families can stay at a place that he considered his "home-away-from-home."

In honor of our friend, a room at the West House will be named for him. When families visit that room, Warren will surely be smiling down at them. He will always be a part of our home and remain in our hearts.

