



HOUSE HAPPENINGS

A Newsletter for the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston Family



We are EXCITED!!! It's May and our House is welcoming children and families again. After four years, our new playground is finished except for the final touches, and our House is once again blessed with donations and volunteers working in many ways to support the kids and families. It is so heartening to see activities resuming and you, our RMHG family members, filling our House with so much love.

Around the House



The Clear Creek Small Church Group (CCMCG) donated wall clocks, brooms, and zip-lock bags for the House. Thanks to Barbara Carpenter and her group for supplying us with some essentials on our wish list.

April meals and treats were delivered by Cosmic Cookers, Broadway Church of Christ, the Moore Sisters, Drs. Pat Lanier and Bill Posnick, Maryellen LeDuc, Heart of Refuge, First Baptist Church, Tuwanna Moore, Galveston Rotary Club, Era Matthews, Home Depot, John and Jan Brick, Listen to the Cries of Children, Warriors 4 Bikers Charity, Emilia Olvera, The Darlings, and Paula Friesner. These meals are SO appreciated by our families. If you'd like to contribute, please schedule with Janie Puentes (Janie@rmhg.org or 409/762-8770 ext102).

Gale Holley brought us a sizable check, always appreciated to help us balance our budget.

The UTMB Class of '23 PA Students delivered a birthday cake for Luis Sanchez Pinto, who celebrated her 18th birthday at the House.

We have two new personal shoppers who are volunteering on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. Tuwanna, who is employed by Barrios Technology, also hosted a

curbside meal. Vicki is a retired speech pathologist with hospital volunteer experience. She's vaccinated and hopes to sign up to assist in the afternoon. To keep safe, the families cannot go out and do their own shopping for necessities and those special things they miss from home. These personal shoppers help fill that void. Thank you!

Easter Blessings



The children's Easter was brightened by many thoughtful people who disrupted their own Easter celebrations to bring fun to the kids and families.

Tom Lewis brought ham for all. Mrs. & Mrs. Easter Bunny (aka Wayne Lewis & Marina Newsom) of Vidor, Texas brought Easter baskets and smiles.



Warriors Bikers 4 Charity paid us a visit, laden with huge Easter baskets. Turns out the Easter Bunny has many forms! The happiness of the kids says it all. Thanks so much to the bikers for bringing joy and warming our hearts.





Commander Jorg Kitchen of VFW Post #4820 District 2 of Port Neches, TX brought bags and bags of goodies.



New Board member Natalie Hodge and her mother Natalie Maxey brought Easter toys. The kids love it when Natalie visits! Many thanks to all who made Easter special for our kids and families.

Yaga's Wild Game Cook-off - May 13-14

This fun event benefits Yaga's Children Fund. The percentage they give to our House depends on our volunteer participation during the event. You can sign-up to volunteer on-line at <http://www.ycfund.org/volunteer/>. (Be sure to indicate you're supporting the Ronald McDonald House Galveston so we get the credit - and the \$.) Janie Valdez, Terri Prescott, Emilia Olveda and Laurie Popovich have already signed up for us. Thanks! You can also sell or purchase meal tickets and raffle tickets to get us points; contact the House at (409) 762-8770.

Fall Gala - October 27

Mark your calendars! Our annual gala, postponed for over 2 years because of Covid is finally in the planning stages.

Staff News

Dave Lewis will be joining the House as evening janitor this month, while Lenor Lima goes on maternity leave for a few months. We are all delighted we will soon be welcoming a new Ronald McDonald House family member!

Happy Birthday

- May 4 - Margie Chavarria
- May 5 - Maria Gleason
- May 12 - Maryellen LeDuc
- May 19 - Meg Byars
- May 27 - Graciela Estrada



Happy Volunteer Anniversary

13 Years - Nancy Lopez

If you'd like to be a volunteer, contact Janie Puentes (Janie@rmhg.org)



Upcoming Events

Mahjongg - May 4

Don't forget, our Mahjongg fundraiser will be at the Galveston Country Club, May 4, 2022 from 11:00 to 4:00. Come as a group or as an individual player. Lunch and desserts are on the menu. There will be a Kendra Scott pop-up shop for the PERFECT Mother's Day gift (or birthday or anniversary or just because), and a raffle with FABULOUS prizes. **If you can't come and play Mahjongg, drop by and peruse the jewelry or buy raffle tickets. Raffle tickets are also available from the House before the event.**



Other News

Many thanks to Ann Anderson for her donation for the play area storage closet. Maryellen LeDuc's dream has been for a closet stocked with art materials and games that the children can access while outside.



That is becoming a reality, with our talented artists Pat Lanier and Paula Roberts transforming a closet, and new Board member Jodie Trncak and her Alpha Delta Pi sisters purchasing the perfect art cart and supplies to put inside.

Mini Moody's Magical Lemonade Stand - May 7

A return visit by Mini Moody's Lemonade! Abby Popovich, one of our youngest and most loyal supporters, had the first place prize-winning Lemonade Day stand last year, giving a big check to the House. Come out and see her again on May 7th at Moody Bank on the Seawall from 9:15-1:00 for some magical lemonade. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the House.



Jodie Trncak is also spending many hours revamping our classroom, which was devastated by the freeze and flood, and which has been closed because of Covid. This is Randy Trncak putting together the shelving. Thanks to Roderick Means, new Board member, from Sherwin Williams who has generously assisted Jodie in her plan. And a big thanks to Jodie's Alpha Delta Pi sorority sisters for their donations and support.





Playground Volunteers



It's been a long process. But the major construction is done, and our playground was turned over to an army of volunteers armed with



paintbrushes and artistic talent. Carolyn Nelson-Becker, Amber Felts, Michael Hartman, Natalie Hodge, Cheryl Jenkines, Pat Lanier, Colette Lanier, Marilyn Lehman, Heather Townes and Will Peterek, Bill Posnick have been spending hours and hours putting the last



touches on our very colorful playground and area under the House, with help and guidance from our very talented muralist, Cara Moore. They have painted, donated and secured flamingoes and palm fronds. Our water fountain was beautifully and whimsically landscaped. Donald did a great job of power washing, cleaning,

installing, etc. The staff were very helpful with cold waters, treats, moral support and patience! The Island Bicycle Company blew up the numerous balls of all sizes for the playground, and Abraham at Galveston Pack & Ship supplied shipping peanuts to fill the oversized planters.

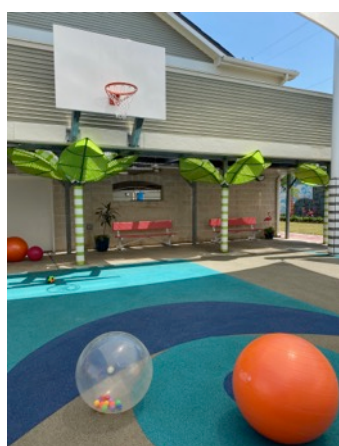




Time to Play!

The kids were able to play for the first time outdoors on Easter weekend. Leilany, Rosa, and Daylin fell in love with the dollhouse and are loving to be able to play in such a delightful, enticing space.

We are celebrating the work of so many in making our new playground a reality. Thanks to all our donors, Susanne Sullivan, Fredell Rosen and everyone else who tirelessly participated in bringing laughter and smiles to our children and families.



Thanks From a Guest

Sometimes our families surprise us. This "Gracias" drawing was left by one of our recent guests. We all know how wonderful our staff is, as are our volunteers and supporters who make the House possible. Mucho Gracias!



Wish List - Most Wanted

These are things our families have put on their wish list:

- Fresh chicken (any type) - Tomatoes
- Cilantro - Serrano Peppers - Corn Tortillas
- MASECA corn mix - Fresh garlic - Potatoes
- Fresh white onions - Cooking Oil
- Chicken Nuggets - Mayonnaise - Sliced Bread

Our full wish list is on the website. Deliveries are accepted from 9:00 - 6:00. If you'd like to help, volunteer or donate, our families and staff would love it! Contact Janie for more info. Janie@rmhg.org or (409) 762-8770 ext. 102.

Happy Spring, everyone!

