



Ronald
McDonald
House®
of Galveston

Around the House

Keeping families close™

SPRING 2024

NATHAN



Nathan Scott is a little 6-year old bundle of energy. His favorite things are riding bikes and fishing. In January of 2023 he tried to help his Dad, who was burning yard waste, by throwing a gas can into a fire pit. This exploded, causing inhalation and extensive burn injuries to Nathan. He was rushed to the University of Florida hospital in Gainesville where it took three and a half weeks before he was stabilized enough to be transferred to the pediatric burn unit at Shriners Children's Texas Hospital. He now has to return to Galveston for two to three weeks every three months for outpatient care. He and his mom, Katelyn, stayed at the Ronald McDonald House Galveston during their most recent trip. Katelyn is very grateful to be able to stay at our House. While at the House, Nathan spent three to five hours everyday in the indoor and outdoor play-



grounds. He loved riding the bikes outside, making sure to ride every bike at least once a day "so none of the bikes would be left out". Nathan is one of six children, all of whom are into sports. He used to love baseball, but after losing his hand in the accident, he now plays soccer. Katelyn loves the homey feel of the House, especially cooking and sharing healthy meals together. She says that she appreciated that the cooking and laundry routines work so well, and was amazed that one can find anything one would need at the House. It warms her heart to see the kids play and interact even though they don't all speak the same language. Nathan has become close to the children at the House, playing well together—with seemingly no language barrier. Nathan especially bonded with a teenager, Spanish speaking Edwin. They were in in-patient care at the same time and then together at our House. Nathan looks up to Edwin, who plays with him and is amazingly kind. Nathan is now working to learn Spanish. Lonnie Harris, our janitor became his buddy, and Nathan was thrilled when Dave Lewis the Maintenance Manager helped him build a wooden gingerbread house using Dave's tools. Katelyn says that Nathan does not have a very long attention span, but still requested to spend time in the classroom with our amazing teacher Lidia Polio. Back in Florida, Katelyn is homeschooling Nathan, and says their experience at the Ronald McDonald House Galveston was very positive. She is thankful for the wonderful staff at the House and is happy for the possibility to stay with us during future outpatient stays.



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

This is my first letter as President of the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston. I want to thank you for having the trust and confidence in me to lead this wonderful organization. I am humbled by your support, and I look forward to serving as your President.

However, as you know, I need the continued participation and support of each of you to accomplish our mission of providing a home away from home for families of children seeking medical treatment at

UTMB and the Shriners Children's Texas Hospitals. We provide exceptional acts of kindness and support to those patients and their families in need.

We cannot accomplish our mission without the continued support of our volunteers and the financial support of the community. We have an exciting year planned to raise awareness in the community and generate the necessary funds to continue our mission. Our first fundraiser is our annual Mah Jongg Party on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at the Galveston Country Club. Our fundraising team has planned a fabulous party with numerous prizes and raffle items. Thank you for planning and participating in this outstanding event!

Also, our Family Event will be held on Sunday, October 27, 2024 at The Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier. The Family Event generates substantial revenue and results in a wonderful and exciting adventure for the families residing in our House as well as for our community attendees.

Our other fundraising events in 2024 will include our Annual Appeal, the Suds Run, Lights of Love, and possibly some new events; our e-newsletters, website and social media will give greater detail as the dates and details become known. Of course, our Pavers Program on our Pathway to Fun is a yearlong event that raises considerable funds for our organization. Please support these events and be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about them. These activities are the lifeblood of our organization.

Thank you to all our Volunteers, Committee Members, Committee Chairs, and Executive Committee Members participating in The Ronald McDonald House of Galveston. In addition, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our wonderful Staff, who have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to meet our administrative needs and to keep the House operating efficiently each and every day. We are at full capacity and the families have been enjoying fun activities, including Bingo Night, holiday parties, movie night, and special trips to Moody Gardens and the Opera House. The families really enjoy these special activities that enable them to escape the difficult and painful treatments they receive. The children also appreciate their fun learning activities in our beautiful new classroom.

Once again, thank you for entrusting me with the position as your President. Together, we look forward to an exciting and rewarding year in serving the community through The Ronald McDonald House of Galveston!

All the best,
Alane Nuzum



Winners!

The Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce honored us as the Non-profit Organization of the Year at their annual meeting. We were also delighted that Dreyfus Printing, who has given us undivided support over the years (and who prints this newsletter for us), was named a Small Business of the Year.



WELCOME!

We welcome our new Advisory Board Members Jordan Elton, Katherine Hughes, Angel Martinez and Mandy Rider.



MAGICAL DREAMS

Guests staying in our new Disney room will have sweet dreams of magical places. Thanks to Anne Blanchard and her family who decorated this room in remembrance of little Wade Allen Smith. The Blanchard family has been responsible for years of support and our lavish Christmas decorations, and this year Anne chaired our Lights of Love event. Many thanks to this loving family.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Ronald McDonald House of Galveston is a "home away from home" for the families of children who are seeking medical treatment at University of Texas Medical Branch, Shriners Children's Texas Hospital and the Transitional Learning Center. The House is more than a place to stay; as an alternative to an isolated hotel room, the families and children enjoy cheerful surroundings and the support of other families, volunteers and staff.



Student Volunteers



Heather Peterek



Oppe Student Dancers



Burnet School Folklorico



Coca-Cola



Proletariat



Hooters

Double Dave's Pizza

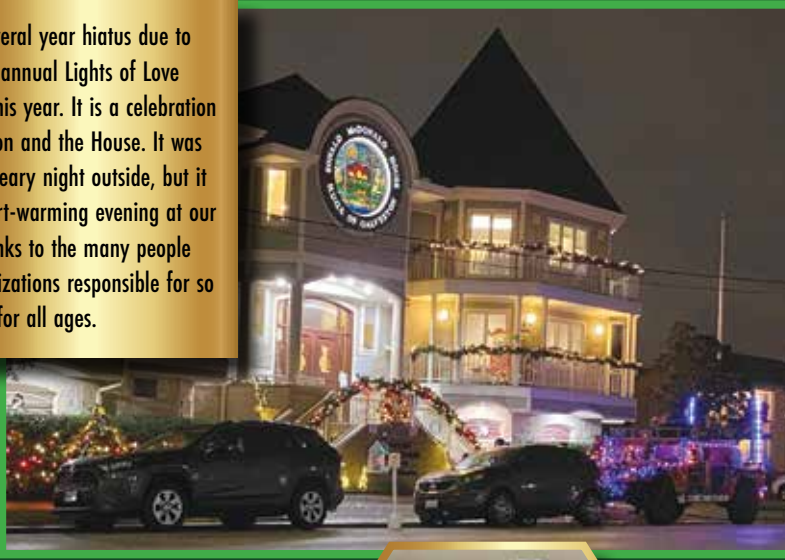
Ben & Jerry's

LOVELY LIGHTS



Santa and Helpers

After a several year hiatus due to Covid, our annual Lights of Love returned this year. It is a celebration of Galveston and the House. It was a rainy, dreary night outside, but it was a heart-warming evening at our House thanks to the many people and organizations responsible for so much fun for all ages.



Feliz Navidad



Cosmic Cookers



Home Depot



Jamaica Beach Police



Moody Bank



Board Members



Brothers Produce Company



Southwest Airlines



Newsome Family & Friends



The Moore Sisters



Janice Pierson and Laurie Popovich



McDonald's



FAMILY PLAY DATE

We held our second annual Family Fun Day at the Galveston Historic Pleasure Pier in October. It was such a joy to include an outing for the whole family as our major fundraiser. Special thanks to our sponsors, and all who came out to ride the rides, play the games and enjoy the day. Word is that it was so successful, we'll do it again on October 27 this year. Mark your calendar!





FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN



It's no fun to need medical treatment. But a goal of our House is to provide fun events to give our children and families respite from all the appointments and treatments. Our wonderful volunteers, supporters and staff brought our kids birthday, bingo, art project, Home Depot kit construction, Mother's Day manicure, Galveston Ukulele Society, Dias de los Muertos, Mexican Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas parties, plus outings to Moody Gardens, the 1894 Grand Opera House and the Diamond Beach movie theatre. For the first time we took the kids trick or treating in the neighborhood to their delight. Parents tell us these fun times are some of the best medicine in their children's recoveries.





US Army Corps of Engineers



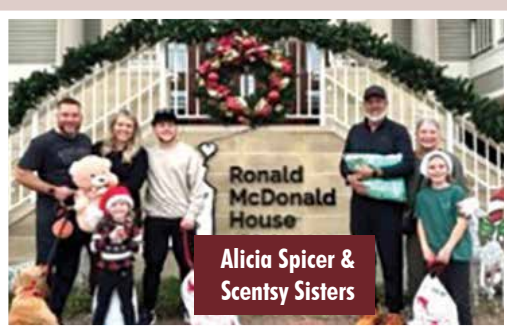
Tennis Tournament Fundraiser



Alvin Bible Study Group



Warriors Bikers 4 Charity



Alicia Spicer & Scentsy Sisters

Gifts of Love



UTMB Resiterns



Cosmic Cookers



Galveston County Sheriffs Department



Bossletics



Sandra De Leon Zumba Group

Wish list items, meals, toys, funds. Gifts from individuals, churches, charitable organizations, businesses, foundations and other groups help keep our doors open. We thank you all!



Osler Student Scholar Bryan Pearson



Newsome Family



Bossletics



Warriors Bikers 4 Charity School Supplies



Junior League



Alpha Delta Pi



Milwaukee Tools



Cavazos International Realty & Jamaica Beach Police



Run, Chicken, Run!!!

Da Krewe Du Roux is one of Galveston's most fun Mardi Gras Krewes. Not only are they fun, but they also give so much to our House. During this year's celebration they held a "Chicken Run" with proceeds going to Shriners and our House. They invited our families to attend to watch the fun and eat some very delicious gumbo. Laissez les bons temps roulez!



A MOUNTAIN OF LOVE



What do 10,645 loads of laundry, 12,756 servings of cereal, 500 rolls of paper towels, 118 jeeps, prizes from Coca Cola, and many volunteers add up to? A parade of colorful jeeps, led by Juan Pena and Galveston Country Sheriffs, descended upon our House to deliver their annual windfall of cereal boxes, laundry soap pods, and, this year, paper goods. A huge shout-out to Penny Ohlemacher who organizes it all for us each year, and a special thank you to the National Girl's Charity League, NASA, and Southwest Airlines for volunteering to unload the mountain of goods.



PLANNED GIVING

The Ronald McDonald House of Galveston is very grateful for the support of our donors over the years. Their generosity has ensured that we can continue the mission of helping children and families as they undergo treatment for serious illnesses. Since our inception, our House has appreciated all the gifts we have received and has worked hard to thank donors and recorded all gifts. During the past several years, we have been fortunate to receive gifts from people we never met. These individuals made bequests to the Ronald McDonald House in their wills, because they believed in our mission and trusted our organization to continue helping families in need. We are forever grateful to these wonderful people whose legacy will help our guest families while they are with us in Galveston seeking medical help for their children. It has truly been "manna from heaven." Planned giving is indeed a lasting legacy! Should you decide to make a charitable gift by will, please think it through carefully. Then meet with your attorney to discuss and update your will, and explain what you would like to do.

Please call our Business Office should you have any specific questions about the needs of our organization. We would love to know of these plans so we might be able to appropriately thank you. It is important to remember that your planned gift could serve as an example for others to follow. Should you want to remain anonymous your wishes will be respected. Whatever the case, please know your support of the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston is deeply appreciated.

Donate in Memory of A Loved One!

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(Continued)



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 Moody Gardens
 The Naked Mermaid
 National Charity League
 Space City Chapter
 Nederland B.A. Ritter Senior
 Citizen Center
 El Nopalito Restaurant
 Oak Farms - Houston
 Odyssey Academy
 Oscar Mayer
 The Pink Foyer
 Priority Power
 The Proletariat Gallery & Public House
 Rigos Cafe
 Ronald McDonald House Charities
 Greater Houston
 Rotary Club of Galveston
 Rotary Club of Galveston Island
 Rudy's "Country Store" and Bar-B-Q
 Seventy7 Runners
 Sherwin Williams Paint Store
 South Texas Boiler Industries
 Southwest Airlines Houston Center
 St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church
 Temple Emanuel Christian Church
 Top Choice Landscaping Services
 The Trevino Group
 United We Stand
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 UTMB - Interprofessional Education
 and Practice
 UTMB - Lab Administration
 UTMB - Resiterns
 UTMB - School of Health Professions
 UTMB - School of Medicine
 Physician Assistants
 UTMB - School of Nursing
 VFW Post 4820 District 2
 VFW Post 880
 Warriors Bikers 4 Charity
 West Point Baptist Church
 Wharton County Foods, LLC
 Wildflower Design and Events
 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc

Canisters

American Kitchen
 Bambu Ochoa Taqueria
 Ben & Jerry's
 Broadway Drug Store
 Chalmers Hardware
 Chocolate Bayou Community FCU
 Nopalito #2
 El Jardin
 Evia Partners, LTD
 Hummel's General Store
 Jamaica Beach Food Store
 Jamaica Beach hardware
 Kites Unlimited
 La Estacion Restaurant
 La Kings Confectionery
 La Mixteca Mexican Restaurant
 MOD Coffee House
 Mosquito Café
 Murdochs
 Pilgrim Cleaners
 Pilgrim Cleaners Stewart Rd
 Quality Cleaners
 Rita's Italian Ice
 Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory
 Seven Seas Grocery
 ShyKat Deli & Bakery
 Star Drug Store
 Starbucks @ UTMB
 Strand Brass
 The Original Mexican Café
 UTMB- Coffee Shop





**Ronald
McDonald
House®
of Galveston**

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Keeping families close™

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The House That Love Built®

**Ronald McDonald House
of Galveston**

301 14th Street
Galveston, Texas 77550
409-762-8770

For more stories and information on our
House, please visit us online: www.rmhg.org

SAVE THE DATE!

October 27 will be our third annual Family Fun Event at the Galveston Historic Pleasure Pier. Bring the whole family (or just yourself) to play at our annual fundraiser. Keep checking our website for updates on sponsorships, tickets, raffle and donation opportunities.

Wish List

GROCERIES

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
Vegetable Cooking Oil
Butter
Rice
Tomato Sauce

Serrano Peppers
Orange Juice
Tuna
Mayonnaise
Maseca Corn Flour

Sugar
Evaporated Milk
Sweetened Condensed Milk
Coffee Creamer
Sliced White Bread

Frozen Pizza
Hot Dogs
Ice Cream
Bottled Water
Snacks

KITCHEN

Paper Plates
Paper Bowls

Straws
Napkins

Paper Towels
Food Storage Bags

Trash Bags (all sizes)
Non-Latex Gloves

OFFICE SUPPLIES

White Copy Paper

Postage Stamps

Flashlights

D Alkaline batteries

CLEANING SUPPLIES

Toilet Bowl Cleaner
All Purpose Cleaner

Furniture Cleaner
Glass Cleaner

Disinfectant Wipes
Disinfectant Spray

MISCELLANEOUS

Luggage

Duffle Bags

Contact Janie Puentes at 409-762-8770 ext. 102 or janie@rmhg.org. Curbside deliveries are accepted 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

#RMHG

#LoveLivesHere

#TheHouseThatLoveBuilt

#KeepingFamiliesClose

www.RMHG.org

Thank You for Your Support!

Donations May Be Made on our Ronald McDonald House Galveston Facebook and Web Pages

Please like our Facebook Page

