



HOUSE HAPPENINGS

A Newsletter for the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston Family



Spring has sprung, the grass has riz, we know where the love is! It's at The House That Love Built. Once again, you, our volunteers, staff, supporters and Board, have showered us with all the good things that Spring and new beginnings bring. Our children and families are looking to their futures as they are in the healing processes. We're delighted that our Mahjongg Fundraiser is sold out, that our wish lists are being filled, that so many groups have come to entertain and delight our families, that your donated meals are warming their tummies and hearts, and that you are members of the Ronald McDonald House Galveston Family. Margie Chavarria is the epitome of our Family. We're so grateful for the 34 years of love she has lavished on our House.

Happy Birthday

- May 4 - Margie Chaverria
- May 10 - Laurel Sukel
- May 12 - Maryellen LeDuc
- May 19 - Meg Byars
- May 27 - Graciela Estrada



Wayne Newsome and his friend Liz recently delivered pizzas and clothes and more goodies for our families. Also known as the Easter Bunny, Wayne's family and friends have always brought joy to our hearts, children and families. Pizzas (and Wayne!) always bring smiles!



Spring Break Heros! These University of Mt Union students came to Galveston from Alliance Ohio to spend their spring break volunteering for worthwhile causes. We're so grateful for the time they spent at our House helping out!

March Happenings



We had some very special visitors at the House. The Contreras family from the valley were last at our RMHG 24 years ago when their son was born and hospitalized at UTMB. They stayed with us for 6 months and had the most wonderful memories. They remembered Margie and Janie and how special their stay was. They were so excited to show their son and two other children the special place that helped make their lives easier. They brought lovely gifts for our children and a whole bunch of amazing donations. We are the house that love built. ❤️



A group of young attorneys with the State Bar of Texas did a team building exercise in Galveston, and brought our families bicycles! The kids love them, and we love you. Merrily they roll along - merriment means so much to the children.





April/May2025



The Galveston County Citizen Sheriff's Academy Alumni Association fulfilled our wish for a new washer and dryer for our families. A huge thank you to Sgt Chris Filidei and Deputy Greg Warfield for helping us to unload it! So grateful for all the support we get from the Galveston County Sheriffs, and all they do for community youth. Pictured L-R, Shaddi Sanchez, Ximena Venegas, Luis Sosa, Deputy Greg Warfield, Crystal Morgan Gonzalez, Liz Berguido and Sergeant Chris Filidei. Thanks!

It was a super fun day at the House when the Brookdale Galleria Off Our Rockers Kazoo Band came to visit and entertain our families. They are inspiring! Naomi, the lady holding the flowers, celebrated her 103rd birthday with us. Everyone had the very best time!



This group of young people (the National Charity League, Space City Chapter) always shows up to love and serve. Our House (and the world) is a much better place because of them and all our other volunteers. Our future is in good hands!



Dr. Pat Lanier and Lidia Polio hosted an art party for our children and families. The families so love these special events. Two of the little girls had surgery that day, but they wanted to be part of the party. And all of their bags were so beautiful! It was an amazing time. Little Nayla who had had day surgery sang and delighted all with her singing; after that she felt a lot better. It so warms our hearts. Thanks! If you'd like to host a party or special event call the House or e-mail us at Janie@rmhg.org to set it up.



McKinney Enterprises/ McDonald's Team recently hosted a really yummy baked chicken dinner with desserts and beverages. We're so grateful to this Team who brings such happiness to our families after their days at the hospitals.



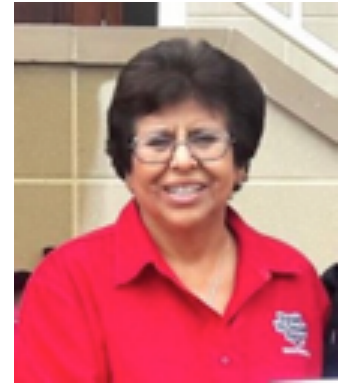
McDonald's restaurants sponsored a fundraising promotion during the month of March with partial proceeds to our House. Here's a crew at McDonald's serving Shamrock Shakes, and a photo of our families and staff testifying at how good they were. Such a delightful crew, and such minty delicious shakes. Thanks for your support! ♥♥♥





Our Margie

Our beloved Margie Chavarria became our Executive Director 34 years ago. She has been responsible for making a difference in the lives of over 24,000 families. She has announced her well-deserved retirement in June. Margie is the face, the soul, and the heart of our House. Margie's welcoming smile is well-known



not only throughout the local community, but over the entire region as she represents us at functions, meetings, conferences and conventions. She is indeed the face of the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston!

Her devotion, untiring energy, leadership qualities, organizational abilities, and remarkable attention to details provides our organization with invaluable continuity and stability.

Margie has a reminder of her personal philosophy in her office. *"One hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of house I lived in, how much money I had nor what my clothes were like, but the world may be a little better because I was important in the life of a child!"* And she has achieved that with tens of thousands of children, whose smiles are a testament to her love and care.

It hasn't been easy; Margie has capably guided us through hurricanes, reconstructions, rebuilding, House additions, a pandemic, recessions and uncountable emergencies, predicaments and calamities over the years. Thank you, Margie for your dedication. The children and their families, the Board Members and the community all acknowledge your many accomplishments. Congratulations from us all! We love you and you will always be a part of our House and hearts. Our congratulations, our very best wishes for your next stage, and thanks for being one in a million!



Cosmic Cookers came and cooked their monthly dinner for our families. It was Mrs. Ginny's (Susan Crippen's mom) birthday and the families sang happy birthday to her. It was such a lovely evening! Thanks to Susan and her Cosmic Cookers for bringing the love.♥ Other meals were provided in March by the Broadway Church of Christ, the Moore Sisters, Drs. Pat Lanier and Bill Posnick, Maryellen LeDuc, the

First Baptist Church, the Temple Emanuel Christian Church, the Galveston Rotary Club, United We Stand, Layers of Love, Vera Carmona, The Brick Family, Southwest Airlines employees, the Galveston Lions Club, and our House Operations Committee. The Alpha Delta Pi Sorority sponsored a fun crafting event, and we premiered our new movie equipment with a showing of Encanto. Chris Salgado's Burnett School classroom donated Spanish reading books and supplies for our classroom. These meals and special events are an integral part of helping our children and families cope with their conditions. It brings such joy to see the smiles on their faces.

Volunteer and Staff News

We welcome our new staff members. Tammy Cervantes and Melissa Orjuela are new weekend managers, and Daisy Martinez is our evening manager. We're delighted to also welcome our new weekly volunteers, Pam Bailey and Kim Helm. We're so glad all of you are now members of the Ronald McDonald House Galveston Family. You are all making a difference in the lives of children and their families!

Happy Volunteer Anniversary

- Nancy Lopez - 16 years
- Meg Byars - 12 years
- Anne Murray - 3 years





VOLUNTEER Spotlight



Pam Buzby

Pam was born and raised in Sarasota, Florida. She attended South Florida University and Covenant College. She works in Corporate Records Management for Occidental Petroleum (Oxy). She has two grown sons who live in Florida and Galveston. She recently lost her 16-year-old Schnauzer, Gracie, but she now has a Grand-doggy--her son's poodle Tyson. She loves gardening and walking on the beach. She just moved from Houston to Galveston and wanted to get involved with new volunteering opportunities so she can meet people and contribute. Her personal philosophy is: "Always Do the Right Thing", and she's always willing to help where needed. We're so glad she's helping our House! Welcome to the Ronald McDonald House Family.

May 9-10, 2025 - Yaga's Wild Game Cookoff

Throughout the 28 years of the Wild Game Cook-Off, the Yaga's Children's Fund has allocated an excess of \$2,000,000 for Galveston County children's charities, including generous contributions to our Ronald McDonald House. By volunteering on behalf of our House, your contribution will be counted towards the funds we receive. There are many volunteering opportunities, and it's a lot of fun! Please volunteer on our behalf. You can sign up on-line at [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOB4CAFA929A1F58-55694240-2025#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOB4CAFA929A1F58-55694240-2025#/) (or click on the link on the e-mail.) Be sure to indicate you're volunteering on behalf of the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston.

October 26, 2025 - Family Fun Event Fundraiser

We said we wouldn't do it again. But 2024's Family Fun Event at the Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier was so much fun and so successful, it will be back by popular demand in 2025. **Hope to see you there on October 26th.**

Our Monthly Wish List

Bottled Water Mayonnaise Ketchup Bread Sliced American Cheese Deli Meat Salty Snacks Assorted Chips Capri Sun Drinks Orange Juice Cooking Oil Paper Plates	Carpet Fresh Dish Soap Disinfectant Wipes Ajax (Blue) Disposable Gloves (Small/Medium) Lysol Aerosol (Store Brand) 10-Gallon Trash Bags
You can drop items off curbside or use our Amazon wish list to have things shipped directly to the House. Call ahead to let us know you're coming ~ 409-762-8770 ext. 280. Curbside Delivery Hours: 9:00am-6:00pm	

Happy Mother's Day!



Are you wracking your brain for a gift for that special someone? We extended our Pathway to Fun, and now there are more opportunities for that brick to honor your loved one. What better way to immortalize your Mom? You can order them on-line at www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/rmhg, use the form attached to this e-mail,

or call Lucy at the House (409/762-8770x107). Our thanks to all of you who have donated bricks to date! And our wishes for the happiest Mother's Day ever to all the Moms.

Happy Spring!

However you celebrate your springtime events, may you and yours have the blessings that you have bestowed on our House.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars to share in the fun. Everyone is welcome; we'd love to see YOU there!

April 16, 2025 - Mahjongg Fundraiser, Lunch and Desserts. Sold Out - Thanks for your support!

