

# HOUSE HAPPENINGS

*A Newsletter for the Ronald McDonald House of Galveston Family*



Hurricane, no electricity, no air conditioning, lost food, hot, hot, hot. What a July! Thankfully our intrepid guests "weathered the storm" with help from our loving staff, volunteers and supporters. While

our families elected to stay at the House at night, they were able to cool off during the day at the hospitals. Kudos to those who got our electricity back as quickly as possible. Kudos to those who brought food, fun and comfort to our guests. And huge kudos to our staff members who made the best of the bad situation, while dealing with their own hurricane worries.

We had some losses during the Hurricane. The Sovereign United Supreme Council came with a gigantic donation of household goods and food. A huge thanks to this loving group for some much-needed supplies.



## 50 YEARS

Happy Birthday to Ronald McDonald House Charities, founded 50 years ago. The annual RMHC international conference was held in Chicago in July with over 1700 delegates representing houses in 58 countries. Our House was represented by Margie Chavarria, Lucy Bourgeois, Jessica Sanchez and Paula



Friesner. They are bringing back ideas from the speakers and delegates from other houses on "moving forward together into the next 50 years and serving more families, better".



We welcome Tracy and Richard Rennison, the owners of the Naked Iguana Brewery, LLC to our RMHG family. They sponsored a "pub run" and donated a big fat check from the proceeds to our House. They plan to have future events to support us. They are located at 1828 Strand if you are thirsty and want to say hello and thank you (and enjoy their product!).



## July Happenings

Everyone knows that ours is The House That Love Built. What not everyone knows is that when things look dark, our supporters come through with miracles. Of all our staff, our teacher Lidia Polio spends the most time with the children. They adore her and the lessons she gives them. The classroom is their favorite place to go in the House. Recently we lost some of our funding that supports her salary. The Earl W. and Hazel C. Pierson Foundation came to the rescue with a very large donation to help. Thanks to Sue Manning, Pierson Foundation Board Member, and to her ADPi sister Jodie Trncak for facilitating the donation.

What's the best thing to do on a very hot day with limited air conditioning? Have an Ice Cream Sundae Sunday! Thanks to Paula Friesner, Laurel Sukel, and Paula's grandson Max for helping all to "cool off".



# August

## Happy Birthday

- August 11 - Natalie Ramos
- August 11 - Jesse Rubio
- August 22 - Shirley Jahn
- August 27 - John Brick
- August 30 - Pam Reber



In July Nayla Coultas turned 6 with a Barbie-themed party complete with a cake provided by Rakel Ramirez from Rigo's Café in Texas City. We're so happy to share her special day with her and her new friends at her Home Away from Home. Thanks to our staff and the others who made this day special for her.



Our monthly meal providers came again in July, delighting our families with comforting food. Thanks to all! The Layers of Love Foundation is pictured below. Thanks for the love.



Da Krewe du Roux are our angels, contributing so much. This month they came and cooked a delicious dinner for our families.



Once again Paula Friesner and Laurel Sukel hosted a rollicking fun bingo party for the families.



August 2024

Pat Lanier, Paula Roberts and our Lidia Polio held an art party for our families to create beautiful houses on canvas. The smiles say it all. Not only do the kids love art, but they are also so very talented!



On July 4<sup>th</sup> Americans celebrate our nation. Many of our guests come from other countries and miss their homes. To help celebrate them (and to help them learn about their new friends' countries) Pat Lanier, Paula Roberts and our Lidia Polio held another art party for the families to illustrate their countries.





## Happy Volunteer Anniversary

Gloria Appell - 12 years

Our volunteers are the best! We have some open slots during the week if you'd like to make a difference in the lives of seriously ill children and their families.

Call 409/762-8770 x6 or e-mail [janie@rmhg.org](mailto:janie@rmhg.org) for more information.



Our condolences to Maria Tabaracci and her family on the loss of her husband. May he live in their hearts and minds forever.

## Staff News



For Janie Puentes it's not work--it's a labor of love. She is a lifeblood of our House. She works tirelessly to make it all happen, showing her caring heart to the children and families, and coping with the many emergencies and staffing issues that arise. She shepherds the volunteers, schedules the donated meals and helps orchestrate all

the special events. She's one of the chief architects of the House that Love Built. Congratulations for your 25 years of exemplary service, Janie!

With our new telephone system, our extension numbers have changed. The phone is still 409/762-8770, and the new extensions are:

- 1 - Reception Desk/Volunteer Office
- 2 - Day Manager or Manager on Duty
- 3 - Night Manager
- 4 - Margie
- 5 - Lucy
- 6 - Janie
- 7 - Jessica
- 110-Maintenance - Dave
- 200-West Dining Room
- 302-Boardroom
- 306-Classroom -Lidia

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars to share in the fun. Everyone is welcome.

**October 27, 2024** - Family Fun Fundraiser at the Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier. This is our major fundraiser of the year and is meant to be a super fun day for the whole family—parents, kids, grandparents, as well as singles, seniors and couples. Sponsorships and tickets are now available on our website at [rmhg.org/annual-family-event](http://rmhg.org/annual-family-event) or by calling Lucy at (409) 762-8770 x5.

**November 9, 2024** - Cereal and Suds Run

**March 18, 2025** - Mahjongg Fundraiser



**\$50,000 Iron Shark**  
80 Admissions  
Prominent Signage at Pier  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**\$25,000 Pirates Plunge**  
40 Admissions  
Prominent Signage at Pier  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**\$15,000 Rock N Roll**  
24 Admissions  
Signage at Pier  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**\$10,000 Cyclone**  
16 Admissions  
Signage at Pier  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**\$5,000 Pier Pileup**  
8 Admissions  
Signage at Pier  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**\$2,500 Sea Dragon**  
4 Admissions  
Signage at Pier  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**\$1,000 Carousel**  
2 Admissions  
Print & Social Media Recognition

**A fabulous day for kids of all ages, including all rides, food, games, lots of surprises and FUN!**

For more information:  
visit [www.rmhg.org/annual-family-event](http://www.rmhg.org/annual-family-event)  
Scan the QR code  
or call Lucy at (409)762-8770 ext. 5



## Wish List

With our loss of electricity during the storm we lost our perishable food. We are currently in need of:

- Vegetable/Corn Oil
- Flour
- Sugar
- Carrots
- Garlic
- Chicken
- Butter
- Carpet Fresh
- Windex
- 409 cleaner
- Clorox
- Fabuloso

Call ahead to let us know you're coming~  
409-762-8770 - Curbside Delivery Hours - 9:00am-6:00pm



We hope that you all survived the hurricane with minimal disruption. Life is precious. Our children and families are survivors, who, with your help, are making the best of difficult times. Thanks! We appreciate all you do for the House and for them, providing a safe Home Away from Home, keeping families together, and providing a place where kids can be kids.

