

The Scoop: What's Happening at St. Mary's

[St. Mary's and NYC Parks Team Up for Environmental Fun]

18 young patients at St. Mary's Hospital for Children became nature experts this summer thanks to an innovative educational program at Flushing Meadows Corona Park called It's Easy Being Green. This inclusive recreation program brought together differently-abled children to learn about science, the environment, and each other through arts and crafts, simple experiments, and other hands-on activities.

Children from St. Mary's and a local youth center learned how to identify trees by the shape of their leaves, build their ideal park using just their imaginations (and some model-making materials), and even "walked and talked" with the animals at the Queens Zoo. A program for children ages six through thirteen, It's Easy Being Green combines the Parks Department's expertise in the field of recreation with St. Mary's extensive knowledge of therapeutic activities. It's Easy Being Green is a collaborative project of St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children, Unisphere, Inc., and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. The pilot program was funded through a grant from the Roslyn Savings Foundation.



[St. Mary's Goes Green]



St. Mary's children aren't the only ones with an appreciation for the environment. For the second consecutive year, St. Mary's has been recognized by Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E) for our "remarkable achievements" in improving environmental performance. H2E gives special recognition to facilities that make exemplary efforts toward eliminating mercury, preventing pollution, and minimizing waste.

Spearheaded through the efforts of our Green Team (photo at left), St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children has introduced green products, recycling programs, and energy conservation methods throughout the Healthcare System to help create an environmentally safe atmosphere for our patients, families, visitors and staff. The committee's efforts haven't gone unnoticed. In 2006, St. Mary's was recognized by Energy Specialists for our outstanding energy conservation efforts and is now used as a case study to promote innovative conservation methods throughout New York.

[St. Mary's Receives International Recognition]

St. Mary's reputation extends far beyond the borders of New York—or even the U.S. for that matter. Over 200 healthcare representatives from around the world came to Singapore to hear St. Mary's Dan Coletti, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President of Inpatient Programs (photo at right), present two separate sessions on Palliative Care at the 18th World Congress of Children's Hospice International. Dr. Coletti spoke about St. Mary's techniques for evaluating our palliative services, as well as on our training program for Doulas, who are specialists in helping children and families with end-of-life care. Doulas are volunteers who offer emotional, spiritual, and logistical support during this difficult time.



In addition, St. Mary's recently hosted visits from organizations in Korea, Japan, and Ireland. Representatives came to our campus in Bayside, New York to study St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children's methods, programs, and operations.

[A Homecoming for Care At Home's Namesake, Katie Beckett]



The 2007 Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the Home Care Association of New York was no ordinary meeting. St. Mary's Peggy Donahue, RN, Vice President of Community Programs (photo at left), was given the honor of presenting Katie Beckett (seated) with a Congressional proclamation in honor of her life work on behalf of children with special healthcare needs. Ms. Beckett is the woman who fought for health coverage to keep medically complex children cared for at home. Once a medically fragile child herself, she helped to transform the nation's health system with the Katie Beckett Waiver Program, now referred to as the Care at Home Program.

St. Mary's has the largest Care at Home Program in New York State, with approximately 450 children and families receiving services through our program. Our own Peggy Donahue was St. Mary's first nurse in the field, helping to start that program in New York nearly 15 years ago. Today, St. Mary's combined short and long-term home care programs and services treat nearly 4,000 children each day throughout the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, Westchester and beyond. For more information on St. Mary's home healthcare programs or to make a referral, please call (718) 281-8627 or (800) 270-2478.

St. Mary's Kidsnews

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If you would like your name removed from the mailing list, please write to St. Mary's Foundation for Children, 29-01 216th Street, Bayside, New York 11360

St. Mary's Kidsnews

Thanks for Supporting Our Events!

Upcoming Events

2007 Tribute Dinner: Building Hope, Restoring Lives
Wednesday, November 7, 2007 • Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers, NYC
Come for an evening of fun and philanthropy honoring Board Member Vincent L. Riso of the Briarwood Organization. With the help of Jeffrey Levine, Event Chair, Arnold Gruber, Sponsor Chair and James Riso, Dinner Chair, it is sure to be an extraordinary night. Contact Gail Fass at 718-281-8816 or gfass@stmaryskids.org for tickets or information.



Vincent L. Riso
Tribute Dinner Honoree

SAVE THE DATE: 2008 Walk for St. Mary's Kids and Family Fun Day
Sunday, May 18, 2008 • Belmont Park

Join us at the Walk for St. Mary's Kids at picturesque Belmont Park with 430 beautiful acres located on the border of Queens and Nassau. Easily accessible from all major highways and the Long Island Railroad.

Recent Events

St. Mary's Festival of Food and Wine—Hundreds turned out for this donor appreciation event, which featured tastings from some of the area's finest restaurants and wineries. Special thanks to Lillian Bossio of Bossio, Ross & Associates, New York Adjustment Bureau, and Cardiovascular Associates of New York for your support.

St. Mary's 21st Annual Golf Outing—Golfers returned to the greens for St. Mary's 21st Annual Golf Outing, honoring Stephen Brent Wells, Managing Director of The Solaris Group and Chairman of the Board of St. Mary's Foundation for Children, with the William S. Straight Humanitarian Award. Special thanks to the Ace Sponsor, D3 LED.



To learn more about events at St. Mary's, call us at 718.281.8890 or visit www.stmaryskids.org

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St. Mary's Kidsnews

Newsletter of St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children • FALL 2007

Moving at the Speed of Technology: St. Mary's Goes Paperless

For years, healthcare and information technology seemed to be at odds with one another. While advances in medical treatments and procedures have made huge gains, the introduction of electronic patient information has been slow and unsteady for many healthcare organizations. But not St. Mary's.



As we roll out our new Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system, St. Mary's staff participates in ongoing training and system optimization classes.

St. Mary's is now moving at the speed of technology with the recent implementation of a state-of-the-art electronic medical record (EMR) system. Studies have shown that adopting EMRs can significantly improve patient safety, staff productivity, and operational efficiencies by automating time-consuming and

error-prone manual processes. Fueled by a desire to further improve the coordination, delivery, and quality of care, St. Mary's jumped on the EMR bandwagon in 2006 and hasn't looked back. Thanks to the generous support of the New York City Council and the Mayor's Office, the first phase of this multi-year project included the design and implementation of an information solution for our rapidly growing Home Care programs.

On any given day, St. Mary's healthcare professionals see nearly 4,000 children throughout New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester and beyond. That's not only a lot of children, that's a lot of paper. To support our mobile workforce, over 200 tablet PCs were distributed to nurses and therapists to enable home care staff to capture and document vital information at the point of service. With the new EMR, manual processes such as referrals, admissions, transfers, orders, progress notes, and billing information have been replaced with an automated data exchange that takes a fraction of the time and effort.

In addition to saving time, the new system is helping to improve communications among departments and provide enhanced case coordination. Prior to the EMR, nurses and therapists did not have access to each other's notes. The new system promotes collaborative care by making information available to all authorized users.

>Continued on page 2

Jorge: St. Mary's Miracle Child

When Jorge came to St. Mary's after being struck in a hit-and-run, he was almost completely paralyzed. At 12 years old, he would also need to re-learn how to read, write, and speak. His mom spent every available minute with him at St. Mary's, providing love and support, while his dad brought him home on weekends.

Jorge underwent extensive rehabilitation in St. Mary's renowned Traumatic Brain Injury program, working with speech, occupational, and physical therapists. Despite memory difficulties, he excelled at St. Mary's on-site school, PS 23, where he learned advanced algebra at age 16.

Appreciated by all for his charisma and quick wit, Jorge was often voted by the other kids at St. Mary's to represent them at community meetings. They all hummed "Hail to the Chief" when he entered the room and shouted "El Rey," which is Spanish for "The King."



Jorge (aka El Rey) celebrates his farewell from St. Mary's with a fiesta replete with a full mariachi band. Olee!

When posing for a group photo, Jorge would encourage others to make funny faces. Then, he would keep a straight face so everyone else looked silly.

Upon his discharge from St. Mary's, a full mariachi band performed as Jorge was cheered by a giant group of friends. A fitting send-off for El Rey.

Jorge now attends the Henry Viscardi School, from which most students go on to college.

President's Message



There's something very special about St. Mary's staff. They are as compassionate as they are passionate about their work with children with special needs.

They are innovators in their fields. They are mentors to colleagues and families. They are enthusiastic advocates for children. Whether developing new treatment strategies, conducting groundbreaking clinical research, or caring for and nurturing our young patients, St. Mary's healthcare professionals make a significant difference in the lives of our children and families each and every day.

Given our long track record of success in treating children with special needs, one might think that St. Mary's recent string of recognition by colleagues, healthcare organizations, and the media should come as no surprise. After all, great things happen at St. Mary's every day. Yet, it is both humbling and gratifying to see St. Mary's light shine brightly among the ranks of top national and international healthcare organizations.

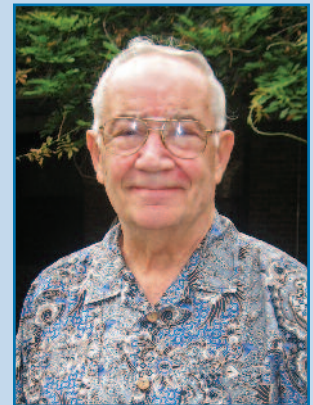
Families have come from around the U.S. and as far away as Vancouver, Canada to seek out unique services such as St. Mary's Feeding Program and the Constraint Induced Movement Therapy (CIMT) Program and camp experience. Prominent publications like The New York Times have featured our clinicians, programs, and services, including a recent in-depth look at feeding disorders. St. Mary's experts have been asked to share their knowledge at prestigious worldwide educational forums. In addition, healthcare organizations from around the world have come to St. Mary's to better understand our model of pediatric post-acute care.

It goes without saying that our recent growth, success, and recognition can be attributed to the contributions of St. Mary's family and friends. This extraordinary team is bound by a common mission to improve the health and quality of life for children with special needs and their families. As many have often heard me say, at St. Mary's we are only limited by our own imagination. I would like to recognize and thank our staff for their tireless work on behalf of our children, as well as the loyal friends of St. Mary's who generously contribute to the continued growth of our programs. Together, there is no limit to St. Mary's future.

Burton Grebin, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer

St. Mary's Champions

St. Mary's Adult Volunteer Program



Bob Dillon, also known as Otto the Clown, visits the children at St. Mary's each month, bringing smiles, laughter, and surprises. When not clowning around, Bob also volunteers in the Foundation office and on the children's units.

The Adult Volunteer Program enables community members who are at least 25 years of age to become involved in a variety of activities at St. Mary's, such as working directly with the children in recreational activities, tutoring, friendly visiting, or classroom assistance. Volunteers can also offer their time and talents in one of our offices, on the patient units, or on a special short-term assignment.

To learn more about volunteering at St. Mary's, please call (718) 281-8684.

SCS Astoria Energy Foundation Leads the Way

SCS Astoria Energy Foundation and St. Mary's are working closely together to improve the health and quality of life for children with special needs and their families. The Foundation provides financial assistance across a wide spectrum of community programs in Queens, helping to provide fundamental and much-needed services to area residents, particularly to children.

SCS Astoria Energy Foundation was first introduced to St. Mary's in 2005 and the two organizations became fast friends. "When one sees the sensitive and life-changing efforts being expended at St. Mary's Hospital for Children, you want to be a part of its program in whatever way you can," explained Chris McGrath, Assistant to the Executive Director of SCS Astoria Energy Foundation. "All of us, young and old alike, benefit from the work, care, and expertise of the professionals at St. Mary's."

In 2006, SCS Astoria presented St. Mary's with a generous grant in support of our highly-acclaimed Traumatic Brain Injury and Coma Recovery Program. Continuing to embrace St. Mary's mission, SCS signed on as Presenting Sponsor of the 2007 Walk for St. Mary's Kids with Executive Director Kathleen Hathaway leading the way as our Walk Champion.

"We are very proud to have established a close link with St. Mary's Hospital for Children, which helps thousands of children, both inpatient and through its home healthcare program, throughout Queens and all five boroughs of New York City." "It was great to be a part of the 2007 Walk and we look forward to working with St. Mary's Hospital into the future."
—Kathleen Hathaway, Executive Director,
SCS Astoria Energy Foundation

SCS Astoria Energy Foundation is already gearing up to support the 2008 Walk for St. Mary's Kids and asks you to join them.

Moving at the Speed of Technology: St. Mary's Goes Paperless (Cont.)

In fact, at the time of the visit, information is generated for clinical documentation as well as billing and payroll, facilitating more accurate and timely billing. Other benefits include the enhanced ability to meet regulatory compliance and easily generate custom reports.

The program is now being rolled out system-wide. Our inpatient facilities in Bayside and Ossining are taking advantage of the system's admission and referral components. So are the Early Intervention program and St. Mary's Metropolitan Home Care for Kids. By the end of 2007, we expect the rest of the organization to be up and running, including the Center for Pediatric Feeding Disorders and Medical Day Care programs. St. Mary's information system will be expanded to exchange records with New York Presbyterian Hospital and other area providers.

As St. Mary's continues to experience unprecedented growth, the EMR will provide our facility- and field-based staff with the necessary tools to ensure the highest standards of care delivery and improve the referral, admission, and discharge for transfers between acute care facilities and St. Mary's inpatient and home care programs.

St. Mary's Awards and Honors



Dr. "Samy" and John were featured in a recent NY Times article on feeding disorders.

St. Mary's Feeding Program in the News
St. Mary's Feeding Program was the subject of a feature article in "The New York Times" on August 23, 2007. Times reporter, Ellen Barry, explored the prevalence of feeding disorders in young children and the ensuing challenges for their families. Dr. Ramasamy Manikam, renowned expert and Co-Director of the Center for Pediatric Feeding Disorders at St. Mary's, provided insight into our interdisciplinary approach to the treatment of all types of feeding disorders.



(L to R) Ann Armstrong-Dailey, CEO of Children's Hospice International, with St. Mary's Eileen Chisari, RN, V.P. of Inpatient Services, and Eddie Simpsor, MD, Executive V.P. & CMO/COO.

St. Mary's Life-Affirming Palliative Care Program Honored
St. Mary's Palliative Care Program was honored by two prestigious organizations in 2007—Children's Hospice International (CHI) and Ronald McDonald House Charities of the New York Tri-State Area (RMHC-NYTSA). CHI recognized St. Mary's for developing the first inpatient Palliative Care Program in the U.S. RMHC-NYTSA also recognized this innovative program with a grant to expand our Palliative Care Program, which will include an expansion of our Doula Program into home care services.



Ronald McDonald House Charities presents a check for St. Mary's Palliative Care program. (L to R) Linda Mosiello, RN, AVP, Inpatient Programs, St. Mary's; Margaret Berger, Executive Director, RMHC-NYTSA; Irving Klein, Board Member, RMHC-NYTSA; and Burton Grebin, MD, President and CEO, St. Mary's



(L to R) Caroline Swift from Advance for LPNs presents an award to Miranda St. Andre, LPN, along with Linda Mosiello, RN, AVP of Inpatient Programs, and Karin Williams, RN and Asstnt Director of Nursing.

St. Mary's Miranda St. Andre Honored by Advance for LPNs Magazine
St. Mary's Miranda St. Andre, LPN, was one of three nurses recognized by Advance for LPNs magazine for her significant contributions in the workplace. Miranda was runner-up for the prestigious LPN of the Year Award this fall. "Miranda approaches each challenge with confidence and a smile that is inspiring and infectious. She is a top-notch professional," said Linda Mosiello, RN, DON and AVP of Inpatient Programs at St. Mary's, who nominated Linda for the award. Congratulations Miranda!

Walk for St. Mary's Kids



Walk Grand Marshall John Henry Romano hams it up with Mr. Met.



St. Mary's employees joined in the festivities, including our own Keshel Samy and family.



Nearly 2,000 walkers came out to support the children of St. Mary's.



Children at the Family Fun Day did piggybanks, played carnival games, and enjoyed a fun puppet show.



The Purboy Family and Friends raised roughly \$60,000 in memory of Zachy.

2007 Walk Raises Nearly \$200,000 for St. Mary's

Thousands of St. Mary's friends—patients, families, staff, and supporters—helped make the fourth annual Walk for St. Mary's Kids and Family Fun Day our largest and most successful Walk ever. Held on June 10, 2007 at the Playground for All Children in Flushing Meadows Corona Park, the event attracted close to 2,000 participants who did their part to raise funds and awareness for children with special needs. The event raised nearly \$200,000 to support the programs and services of St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children.

This year's Grand Marshall was 10-year-old John Henry Romano, a gunshot survivor and patient of St. Mary's, who relearned how to walk during five months of intensive rehabilitation at St. Mary's Hospital for Children earlier in the year.

The Walk was followed by a Family Fun Day featuring games, arts and crafts, a visit from Mr. Met, and hands-on activities courtesy of the Queens Zoo, Queens Botanical Gardens, Queens Museum of Art, NY Hall of Science and more!

St. Mary's would like to thank all of our walkers, supporters, staff, and sponsors for helping to make the event such a success. A special thank you goes to our friends at Flushing Meadows Corona Park and SCS Astoria Energy Foundation, the 2007 Walk Presenting Sponsor.

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Supporting St. Mary's

Thank you for your generous support in helping to provide Special Kids with Special Care!



XL Global Services: 12 volunteers donated and planted perennials and a tree in our Cloister Garden this spring. Later that day, they celebrated at a garden party for our children and volunteers.



Gunfighters Motorcycle Club: Santa Claus left his reindeer at home and paid a summer visit to St. Mary's Hospital for Children in the company of over 100 riders from the Gunfighters Motorcycle Club of New York.



New York Dragons: Football players Joe Laudano, Billy Parker, and Paul White touched down at St. Mary's Hospital for Children to hand out footballs, sign autographs, and huddle with the kids.



IMPACT Theatre Group: This talented group performed selections from their repertoire for patients in our Children's Activity Center. The group also donated the proceeds from their "Gala Broadway Revue" to the children of St. Mary's.



A Passover Seder: A seder was held for St. Mary's children, families, and staff with festive tablecloths and Matzah plates decorated by the children of Temple Sinai in Roslyn Heights, NY.



Westchester Horse Council: "Dances With Horses II" was hosted to benefit St. Mary's Rehabilitation Center for Children. More than 450 people, including St. Mary's kids, attended. Proceeds helped purchase therapeutic items on St. Mary's Wish List.



Goldman Sachs: An energetic group from Goldman Sachs spent the morning at St. Mary's planting flowers along the driveway and in front of the hospital. They spent the afternoon playing and creating crafts with some of our younger children.



Pesso's First Annual Summer Party: Over 200 customers and friends attended the first annual Summer Party at Pesso's Italian Ices in Bayside. A portion of the event's proceeds was donated to St. Mary's.

Max

Make a Difference for Me 2007 St. Mary's Annual Fund Campaign

Max entered the world fighting. Born three months premature, Max weighed less than three pounds. Complications soon set in and Max struggled with life-threatening heart and lung conditions. He was unable to eat without a feeding tube, a condition all too common in preemies. Max entered St. Mary's highly-acclaimed Center for Pediatric Feeding Disorders at 2 1/2 years of age and made more progress in the intensive 9-week program than he had his entire life. Today, Max is attending school and continues to grow by leaps and bounds.

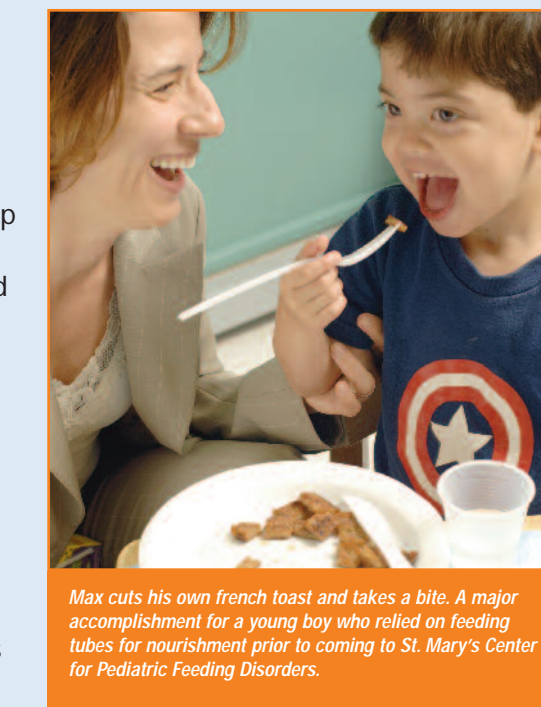
When you give to St. Mary's, your gift makes a significant difference in the lives of children with special needs and their families who depend on you. So many of our ground-breaking clinical programs—like our Center for Pediatric Feeding Disorders—as well as important support services, which are essential to the well-being of St. Mary's children and families, rely upon your philanthropic support.

Make a difference today! Your generosity will help us continue to provide the finest pediatric rehabilitative care available to 4,000 children and their families each day.

Please contact St. Mary's Foundation at 718-281-8890 to learn other ways that you can make a difference, including:

- Tribute programs
- Matching gifts
- Workplace giving
- Planned giving and bequests
- Gifts of appreciated stocks or securities

Thank you for your support and for making a difference for St. Mary's kids.



Max cuts his own french toast and takes a bite. A major accomplishment for a young boy who relied on feeding tubes for nourishment prior to coming to St. Mary's Center for Pediatric Feeding Disorders.

Get Involved!

Want to learn how? Become an advocate for St. Mary's and help us continue to expand our programs and services.

President's Circle
The President's Circle is a giving society that recognizes individuals and private family foundations who make annual gifts of \$1,000 and above. By making a yearly commitment, you lead by example, make a difference in a child's life, and help to shape St. Mary's future.

In recognition of your support, you will be listed on our annual Honor Roll of Donors and invited to our President's Circle Annual Reception.

Ambassador's Committee
The Ambassadors Committee is made up of adult members who volunteer their time, energy, and creativity to serve as advocates for St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children. Our Ambassadors help promote the vital resources at St. Mary's to their families, friends, communities, and business associates.

Teen Committee
This energetic group of high school students meets monthly to help raise awareness for St. Mary's. In addition, committee members host an interactive activity for our children (including arts & crafts, reading, games) at each meeting.

Find out more! Call the Foundation office at 718.281.8890