Christmas comes twice a year at Wolfson Children's Hospital

The annual Wolfson Children's Hospital Christmas in July Toy and Donation Drive, spnonsored by Jersy Mike's Subs, was celebrated when franchise owners Drew Maider and Austin Whetsel, along with staff and employees, dropped off two trucks full of toys at the hospital rotunda July 25. They also presented a check for the Child Life endowment at Wolfson Children's Hospital in the amount of \$61,694, the results of Christmas in July donations and the 14 stores' Month of Giving campaign in March.

Toys are part of the healing process for young patients at Wolfson Children's Hospital and are needed throughout the year. The toy supply typically dwindles during the summer, so the summer toy and donation drive provides an opportunity for members of the community to give new, unwrapped toys, art supplies, and financial donations to purchase developmentally appropriate toys for kids with special needs.

During the July 25 drop-off event, community members and businesses delivering toys at Wolfson Children's Hospital were greeted by Wolfie, the hospital's mascot, and by Santa Claus (annually portrayed by John Hucks), who delivered more than 3,800 toys (valued at nearly \$39,000) to



Wolfson Children's Hospital Vice President CC Brooks (far right) accepts a check from Jersey Mike's Subs franchise owners Austin Whetsel (second from right) and Drew Maider (second from left), who also delivered two trucks full of toys to Wolfson Children's Hospital during Christmas in July.

children in the hospital. In addition to Jersey Mike's Subs significant contribution, another \$9,361 was collected at the event. Online giving continues through July 31 at ChristmasJuly.com.

Wolfson Children's Hospital treats more than 157,000 children each year in the North Florida and South Georgia region, using toys and art supplies to help soothe, distract and ease the anxieties of children of all ages during treatment for illness and injuries. Child Life specialists use these items to help ease fears by encouraging children to engage in normal activities to make their hospital stay less overwhelming.

Philanthropists step up, match grant for Cathedral Arts Project anniversary

Thanks to the generosity of Delores Barr Weaver, Helen Lane, Joannie and Russell Newton Jr., and Monica and Bob Jacoby the Cathedral Arts Project's 25th anniversary year will finish with the 2017-2018 school year goals met.

Weaver, of Riverside, issued a matching gift challenge to provide \$25,000 if an additional \$75,000 could be secured. The Newtons, also of Riverside, Lane of Ortega and the Jacobys of Ponte Vedra Beach, made sure the challenge was met. Because of their generous support, more than 1,000 local students participated in CAP programs, receiving over 2,000 hours of instruction in dance, music, theatre and the visual arts.

"It was wonderfully gratifying to have four of our most longstanding donors come together with additional gifts in honor of our 25th anniversary. Glad and generous hearts of people like Monica and Bob Jacoby, Helen Lane, Joannie and Russell Newton and Delores Barr Weaver have made it possible for CAP to transform the lives of so many children these past 25 years. They all understand that there is something about the arts that reaches children in ways nothing else can," said Rev. Kimberly L. Hyatt, president and CEO.

Weaver, who has supported CAP's work for over two decades, was its inaugural recipient of the Guardian of the Arts Award in 2006.



Nemours creates new marketing position

Nemours Children's Health System's newly-created position of senior vice president and chief marketing officer was filled by Sarah C. Sanders, formerly associate chief marketing office at the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

In this new role, Sanders will lead the multi-state health system's local, regional and national marketing strategy to help advance the health of children and their families. She will report to David J. Bailey, MD, MBA, president and CEO of Nemours, and will work with geographically diverse marketing and communications teams in Central and North Florida and the Delaware Valley.

"I am delighted to welcome Sarah to Nemours where she will help elevate our enterprise-wide marketing strategy and brand evolution. Her background and experience are a wonderful complement to our strong educational and academic mission," said Bailey. "With her expertise and leadership, we will be able to reach even more families in the U.S. and internationally, fulfilling our promise to help every child in our care reach his or her full potential."

Realtors pack meals, raise funds to fight hunger

The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors held its second annual NEFAR Fights Hunger event May 23, with 250 NEFAR members packing 75,000 meals for hungry children and families in Northeast Florida. Prior to the event, which is conducted in partnership with local charity organization Hunger Fight, NEFAR members raised the money to buy the food to be packed into the meals. Hunger Fight distributes the packaged meals to multiple schools and local agencies throughout Northeast Florida that serve children and families who are food insecure. In its first partnership with Hunger Fight last year, NEFAR raised the money for and 200 members packed 50,000 meals. This year, NEFAR upped the ante by setting goals for 250 members to participate in the meal packing event and for \$18,750 (the cost of 75,000 meals) to be raised. NEFAR member donations exceeded the goal, with \$20,706 being raised. The excess funds raised have already been allocated as seed money for a 2019 NEFAR Fights Hunger event.

The community service project was conducted through the efforts of NEFAR's Community Affairs Task Force, led in 2018 by NEFAR member Lisa Andrews.



Members of the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors came together May 23 to pack 75,000 meals for Hunger Fight.



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