



Baby Doll Bounces Back

He Holds the Future
in His Hands

For the Love
of Le Bonheur

A Lifetime of Care

CARDIOLOGY
The Team With Heart

A Magazine For Friends of Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center



Heart of the Matter

Dear Friends of Le Bonheur,

When I began my new responsibilities as Chief Operating Officer for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in February, I promised to play a very active role in Le Bonheur's future direction by leading the effort to find a new President. I am deeply dedicated to fulfilling my pledge to keep Le Bonheur on course.

While our search continues, I want to assure you that we are doing everything possible to find a person who will bring a level of passion and energy to Le Bonheur that matches our own commitment.

Le Bonheur's vision and grand plans for the future continue to move forward to become a Top 10 pediatric medical center that proudly serves the children and families of the region. Fortunately, we are blessed to have an outstanding group of leaders to carry the Le Bonheur banner forward during this interim period. And because of that exceptionally strong administrative and medical leadership and Le Bonheur's excellent track record in pediatric health care, we have attracted the attention of a number of superb candidates with enormous potential to lead the hospital into the future.

The selection process is moving along swiftly. In the meantime, I guarantee that I will remain involved with the capital campaign and hospital expansion plans. Furthermore, I will work hard to secure the resources necessary to make Le Bonheur a Top 10 children's hospital. Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center has a reputation for excellence in patient care, concern for the patient and research that is highly regarded in the region and nationally. One of our current goals is for Le Bonheur's Cardiac Institute to become one of the best in the country.

In this issue, we will introduce you to Dr. Jeff Myers, our Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery. We'll tell you about our plans for expanding Le Bonheur's cardiothoracic services to include treating young adults, like Lauren Shearon, who were cared for at Le Bonheur as children. Pediatric patients with congenital heart disease who have been cared for by pediatric cardiologists are often lost in the system upon reaching adulthood.

When Dr. Myers accepted our invitation to join us last fall, he said he was interested in re-opening the heart transplant program at Le Bonheur. "Offering transplants enables us to provide the entire spectrum of care," he told us. We also believe in this direction, and, with your help, we will move even faster with the expansion of Le Bonheur's Cardiac Institute.

You can read about Carrington Carter, this issue's cover child and recipient of the first CardioSeal procedure at Le Bonheur in December.

You'll see the faces of those who continue to volunteer for Le Bonheur and who participate in the hospital's many fundraising events. Be sure and mark your datebook and plan to participate over the upcoming months in many of the activities ahead.

An update from Larry Woodard, President of the Le Bonheur Foundation, outlines the hospital's exciting new web site. And be sure to read about Le Bonheur's musical volunteer, Mr. Hank, who is featured on the back cover.

We will continue to keep you updated as our plans evolve, and I urge you to join us in our exciting endeavor to make Le Bonheur one of the Top 10 children's hospitals in the United States.

Deepest Regards,

Peggy Troy, R.N., M.S.N.
COO Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare
Immediate Past President and CEO
Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center

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Le Bonheur, the magazine of Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, is published three times a year for donors and friends of Le Bonheur. The purpose is to demonstrate how Le Bonheur carries out its mission of service to children and families. Comments are welcome. To share your comments about *Le Bonheur* magazine, please write to Le Bonheur Foundation, P.O. Box 42048, Memphis, TN 38174.

Le Bonheur magazine is published in conjunction with Contemporary Media, Inc., publishers of *Memphis* magazine, *Memphis Parent* and *The Memphis Flyer*. For further information, call (901) 521-9000.

For more information about Le Bonheur or on how to give to Le Bonheur, visit our web site at www.lebonheur.org or contact the Le Bonheur Foundation at (901) 572-3308.

On the cover:

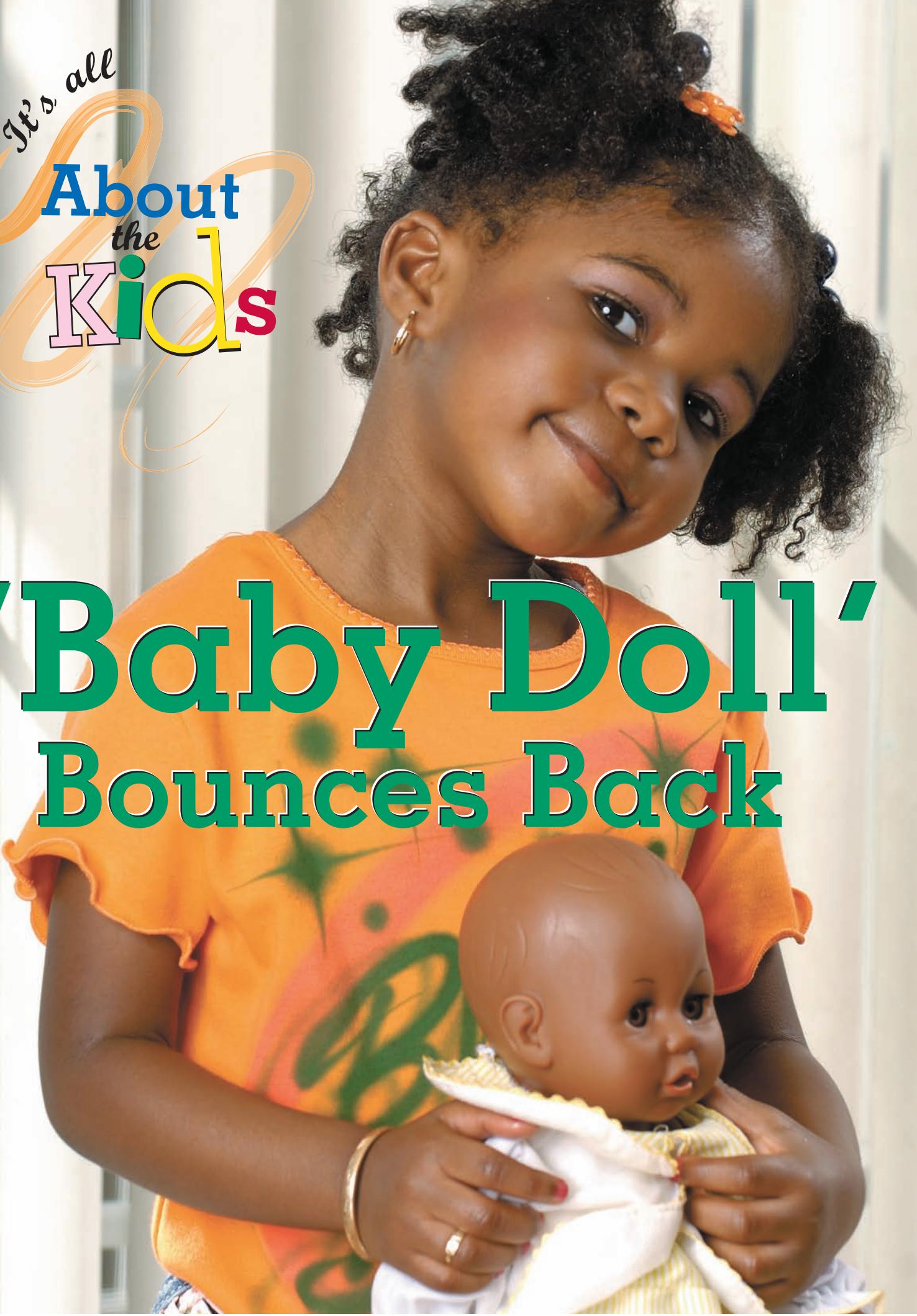
Carrington Carter, almost 4, bounces back to health thanks to Le Bonheur's Cardiac Institute.

Read her story on page 4.

PHOTO BY LARRY KUZNIEWSKI

It's all
**About
the
Kids**

'Baby Doll' Bounces Back



It was the middle of the night. The clock showed 2 a.m. when Carrington Carter fell off her bed. She was only 21 months old, and when her mother, Tonya, picked her up, there were no signs of illness or physical distress. So Carrington, her mother and her father, Lyndell, went back to sleep and got up as usual at 8 a.m. the next day.

While Tonya was fixing breakfast for her family, Carrington walked in. She was having trouble breathing. "It was like she was having a fainting spell," her mother recalled. When Carrington's lips turned blue, the family became hysterical.

Carrington was rushed by ambulance to the emergency room at Tri-Lakes Medical Center in Batesville, Miss., near their home. Emergency physicians in Batesville called Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis and learned that Carrington possibly had a heart condition. "We didn't understand how this could go undetected for almost two years," Tonya said. "But we never worried about the why. We're just thankful that she is still with us."

Cardiology: Mending the Smallest Broken Hearts



Role reversal: Carrington gives Dr. Rush Waller a check-up.

About a year before this incident, Tonya had taken her daughter to the pediatrician to check Carrington's breathing. "Within only minutes of playing, she would be out of breath and would come to me to pick her up and relieve her," Tonya explained.

Carrington, like many children with breathing difficulty, had been diagnosed with asthma, and was taking Albuterol for treatment.

In looking back, Tonya notes that the only thing unusual about Carrington had been her nighttime crying. "She was born eight pounds, a normal, healthy baby, but she would cry all night long."

On the morning of April 12, 2004, Carrington was air transported to Memphis by Pedi-Flite, Le Bonheur's emergency transport helicopter. In 20 minutes, she was at Le Bonheur where physicians discovered a hole in her heart. While Tonya and Lyndell followed in their car, Le Bonheur Pedi-Flite technicians took complete care of Carrington. She was frightened, as any little baby would be, from the loud noise of the helicopter and by the strangers who surrounded her. Carrington found comfort with her favorite Barbie blanket, which technicians allowed on board.

"They told us to not worry, and to not drive fast, that they would take care of her," Tonya said about the moment that changed their lives. "I was worried about her, but I wasn't worried

By
Kini Kedigh
Plumlee



Tonya, Michaelon,
Lyndell and
Carrington Carter.



about her care. I knew she would be well cared for."

Carrington was admitted to Le Bonheur and treated for pulmonary atresia by Dr. Rush Waller, Le Bonheur's Chief of Medicine and Medical Director of Le Bonheur's Catheterization Lab. This is a rare congenital heart defect in which the pulmonary valve does not develop. Four days and a heart catheterization later, she was released.

Carrington returned to Le Bonheur on May 10 for a pulmonary valve implant. This open-heart surgery was performed by Dr. Christian Gilbert, one of Le Bonheur's pediatric cardiothoracic surgeons.

"We were terrified," recalls Tonya. "We're so thankful for all the doctors and grateful for all her caretakers. We had never been in such a busy and large hospital before. This was reality and we were experiencing all this for the first time. Le Bonheur made us feel so comfortable, with lots of encouraging words and support."

Eight days later, Carrington was back home in Batesville, begging her parents to let her ride her tricycle.

Since then, Carrington, who turns 4 in July, has received several additional heart procedures. And on Dec. 1, 2005, she was the first Le Bonheur patient to receive a CardioSEAL® implant to correct her ventricular septal defect (VSD), a hole between the lower chambers of the right and left ventricles of the heart. Dr. Waller performed this procedure.

Through the new CardioSEAL procedure, pediatric cardiologists at Le Bonheur have expanded their ability to mend a hole in a child's heart without opening the chest or entering the operating room. Before such devices became available, patients with VSDs required open-heart surgery. When Carrington had open-heart surgery in May of 2004 to repair another heart defect, the CardioSEAL was unavailable at Le Bonheur.

"It was a relief to know that there was another option to mend her heart without having to open up her chest again."

– Lyndell Carter

"Dr. Waller explained everything to us before the procedure," said Lyndell. "It was a relief to know there was another option to mend her heart without having to open up her chest again. We just put her care in Dr. Waller's hands."

The day after her surgery, Carrington was playing with her dolls and sweeping her hospital room with a toy dust mop. Shortly after, "Baby Doll," as her family calls her, was on her way home to get ready for Santa's upcoming visit.

"What seemed to be a complicated and scary procedure was done in just one day," says Tonya. "Who would have ever thought you could have your heart operated on one day and then go home the next?"

The CardioSEAL implantation procedure is yet another example of the constant leading-edge advances in Le Bonheur's Cardiac program. Through the work of cardiothoracic surgeons Dr. Chris Gilbert and Dr. Jeff Myers, Le Bonheur's cardiothoracic surgery chief, the team is able to perform procedures that were not previously offered at Le Bonheur.

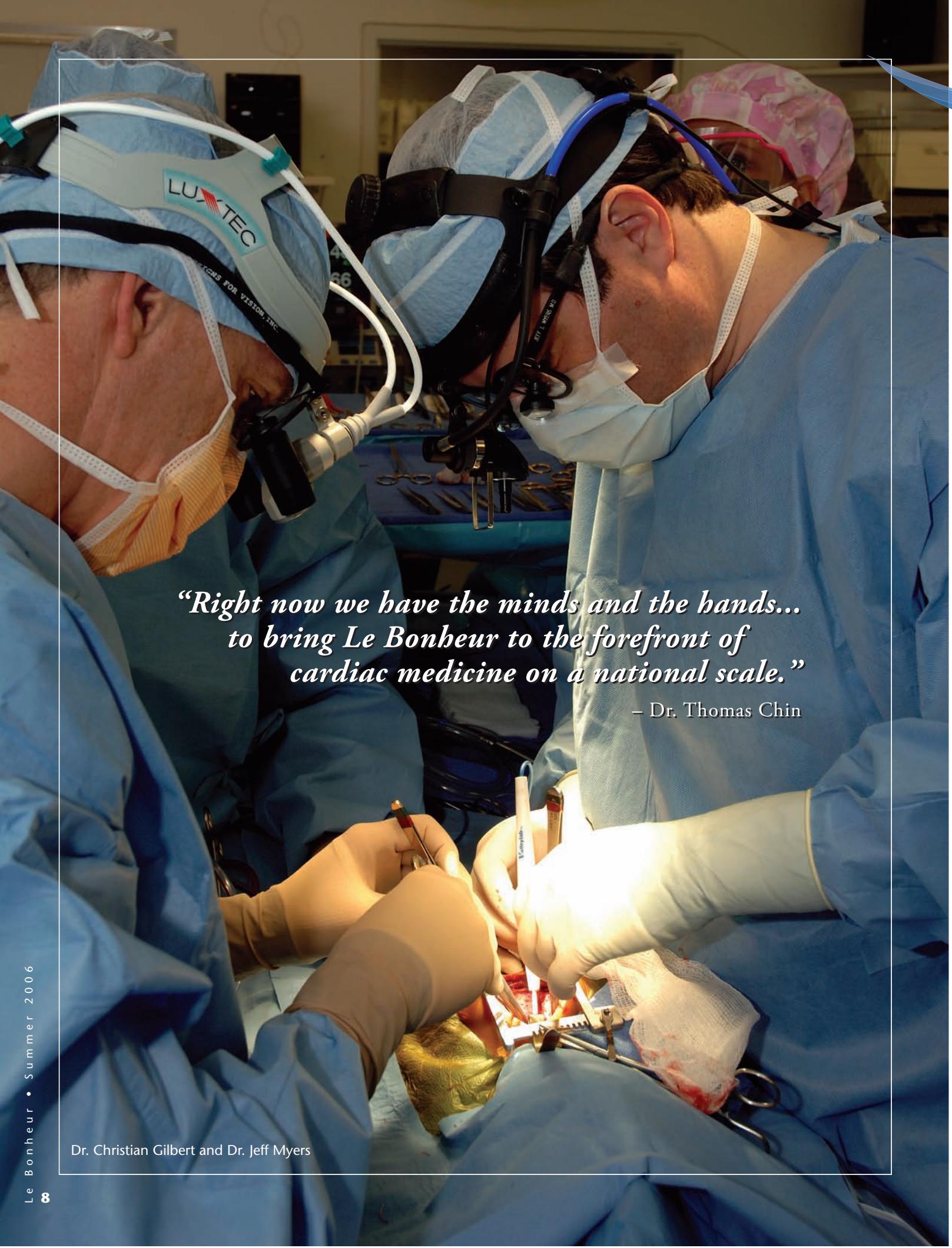
"We have a program here that parents need to know is among the best in the country, and we want it to be even better," said Dr. Myers. "Carrington's procedure exemplifies the true benefits of performing less invasive surgeries – if we don't have to operate on a child, then we won't. It's just what's best for the child – and that's always what we will do."

Today, Carrington rides her tricycle and takes weekly gymnastics classes. "Dr. Waller told us to let her rip, because she was going to rip anyway," Tonya says cheerfully.

A smart, caring child, who loves to give things away, Carrington has boundless enthusiasm for "dressing up." Unaffected by the scars from her surgeries, she remains confident in her direction. She sings. She dances. She's a Disney-esque princess.

Before her most recent surgery, Carrington selected a pair of play high heels, play make-up and a jeweled "crown" from Le Bonheur's Bunny Room. Having been named Valentine Princess at her school this year, and winning the 2005 Central Mississippi Magnolia Pageant in Grenada, Miss., for girls ages 2-3, this aspiring young actress, model and "princess," is already well on her way to stardom. ❤





*“Right now we have the minds and the hands...
to bring Le Bonheur to the forefront of
cardiac medicine on a national scale.”*

– Dr. Thomas Chin

Dr. Christian Gilbert and Dr. Jeff Myers

Cardiac Institute Gives Babies a Fighting Chance

The numbers are staggering. About eight of every 1,000 children are born with congenital heart defects in the United States each year, and nearly twice as many children in the U.S. die every year from congenital heart disease than from all forms of childhood cancer combined.

"Anything that can go wrong does seem to go wrong in the development of a heart," says Dr. Jeff Myers, Medical Director and Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at Le Bonheur. "At Le Bonheur, we see the complete spectrum."

Since 2002, when Dr. Thomas Chin was recruited as Medical Director of Cardiology for Le Bonheur, the hospital's cardiac program has evolved with a long-range goal of becoming one of the top five pediatric heart centers in the country. "We are modeling our program after national benchmarks," said Crystal Thomas, Director of Cardiovascular Services for Le Bonheur. "We want to be great at serving all heart needs, so that no child has to leave Memphis for care."

Cardiovascular disease is the second leading cause of death in the United States in children up to the age of 14, and heart defects are some of the most common congenital defects seen at Le Bonheur, according to Jane Hanafin, the hospital's cardiac service line administrator.

"As a children's hospital, we must be able to treat the health problems most frequently experienced by our children," Hanafin said. "Since cardiac congenital anomalies are one of the most common birth defects, it makes sense that we dedicate resources to establishing a cardiac institute and strive to make it the best in the country. Our kids deserve it."

This is why Le Bonheur has spent the past four years building a cardiac team of pediatric specialists – including nine board-certified pediatric cardiologists and two pediatric cardiothoracic surgeons – who have skills in all aspects of pediatric cardiology. (See pages 13 & 14)

Top-Tier Program Requires Specialized Skills And Equipment

Having a top-tier pediatric cardiology program, such as the one at Le Bonheur, is particularly crucial for the care of newborns. Heart surgeries performed on infants and children to

correct congenital anomalies require extremely specialized pediatric surgical skills far different from those required for adults.

Cardiothoracic surgery procedures at Le Bonheur doubled from 149 in 2003 to 311 in 2004. Catheterization Lab procedures have increased from 1,131 in 2002, to more than 2,700 in 2005. In 2005, the Non-Invasive Cardiology Center at Le Bonheur performed 12,660 tests, a 19 percent increase over the previous year. "We want to completely change the face of congenital heart surgery in Tennessee," noted Dr. Myers.

With fewer than 1,000 pediatric cardiologists in the country, and nine of them on the team at Le Bonheur, the hospital's program is ready to move up to the next level. As Dr. Chin puts it, "Right now we have the minds and the hands, but we need the equipment to go beyond this expertise to bring Le Bonheur to the forefront of cardiac medicine on a national scale."

To meet the expanding needs of Le Bonheur's young heart patients, the hospital's recent accomplishments and current plans include:

- ♥ A Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU) with six to eight beds.
- ♥ Construction of a second Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. (See story on page 13)
- ♥ 3-D Imaging to bring Le Bonheur's cutting-edge Cath Lab to the top level.
- ♥ Cryoablation procedures to offer a safer way to fix rhythm irregularities in the heart. Cryoablation uses a combination of heat and cold during the heart repair.
- ♥ Communication technology to integrate services and information between the Cath Lab and the Operating Rooms to enhance feedback and education opportunities.
- ♥ A pediatric cardiology fellowship program that begins in July 2006 to provide training for two future pediatric cardiologists. Two more will be added each year for the next 3 years.
- ♥ Le Bonheur is one of the first pediatric facilities to use 3-D ECHO technology. (See story on page 15)

Also on tap is expansion of the fetal echocardiogram program. This will allow physicians to better plan for and manage the care of children before they get sick and require surgery to repair the heart defect. Le Bonheur has one of the few sonographers in Tennessee registered in fetal echocardiography and its lab is on track to become the only ICAEL-accredited pediatric Echo Lab in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi. ICAEL is the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories. (See story on page 14)

In addition, Dr. Myers plans to re-open the heart transplant program. "A number of diagnoses will progress to heart transplants," he explains. "This represents a patient population we must now send somewhere else. It's the last group of patients Le Bonheur is unable to treat right now."

Furthermore, Dr. Myers is interested in expanding Le Bonheur's program to treat adults who have congenital heart disease. "Pediatric patients with congenital heart disease who have been followed by pediatric cardiologists often get lost in the system after they reach adulthood," explains Dr. Myers. "A lot of procedures weren't developed or successful until the 1970s and 1980s. It's only now that we have 20- and 30-year-olds with congenital heart disease. This will be a huge challenge for us to incorporate their management into Le Bonheur's program. No one has developed a good model for this yet, and this will be a big push of ours to get this going." (See story on page 12)

The next big frontier in pediatric cardiology will be repairing congenital heart defects before birth, and, according to Dr. Myers, such procedures should be available by the time the new Le Bonheur hospital opens.

"Once proven methods are successful, we plan to follow the lead of Boston, Philadelphia and other innovators," Dr. Myers said. "Le Bonheur will be on the forefront as an early adopter to bring to the children of the region this new technology in care." ♥

Story compiled by
Kini Kedigh Plumlee
& **Leigh Ann Roman**



PHYSICIAN PROFILE

CT Surgeon holds the future in his hands.

J. Myers, M.D., Ph.D.
Cardiothoracic Surgery

Dr. Jeff Myers



champions for Children

A

tiny heart, no bigger than a walnut. That's what Dr. Jeff Myers holds in his hands four days a week. Performing the most delicate of surgeries on this complicated organ, he grants a future to the wee ones under his care.

As the new Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, he's a member of a distinguished yet very small group of physicians in the country – one of only about 150 – who have answered the call to perform pediatric heart surgery.

For Dr. Myers, 41, pediatric cardiothoracic (CT) surgery is fascinating. "It combines taking care of kids and surgery," he explains from his office on the second floor of the hospital. "To care for children with congenital heart disease is an amazing feeling. You take patients with the potential for a very short life span and give them the ability to grow up, become teenagers, learn to drive, go to the prom, give them their entire life. It's a great feeling to know that you've done something very powerful for that person."

Dr. Myers received both his undergraduate degree and his medical degree from the University of Oklahoma. He received a Ph.D. in physiology from Georgetown University, where he later completed his surgery residency at Georgetown University Medical Center. Dr. Myers completed his cardiothoracic surgery residency at Duke University Medical Center, then moved to California for his fellowship in pediatric cardiac and transplant surgery, which he completed at the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center. Dr. Myers has also been appointed Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Departments of Pediatrics and Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Throughout his 19 years of training, his growing passion for children and pediatrics is what keeps him going. Up at 5 a.m. daily for some quiet time, he then showers and drives to Le Bonheur, arriving at 6:15. Prior to surgery, he reviews the patient's record and all the medical studies, then, "gets everything else out of my head to focus on the case." From 7:30 a.m. until well into the afternoon, Dr. Myers is in surgery, giving the smallest of patients staying power for surviving.

Cardiothoracic surgeries last anywhere from two to 12 hours. He will do this on his feet, with no breaks, and constant focus. He might eat a Snickers Marathon Energy Bar for breakfast. He rarely has lunch, but enjoys a big dinner with Dahri, his wife of 17 years, and their three children: Cameron, 8, Tyler, 9, and Connor, 12.

Between time with his family and his full weekly schedule, he tries to run an occasional 5K and attend his children's athletic events on the weekends. He laughs if you ask if he watches movies or has read a good book lately, and notes that he doesn't paint, play the violin or perform other artistic endeavors.

He has found time, however, to participate in Children's HeartLink, an organization that provides equipment, treatment and education to Third-World countries to treat heart disease. Children's HeartLink collaborates with medical communities in selected countries to improve the quality of cardiac care and to provide life-saving heart treatment through medical missions. Dr. Myers, who has made several trips to Kenya and displays a photo of one of his young African patients in his office, says he hopes that Le Bonheur will soon have a

By Kini Kedigh Plumlee

"Act of God"

Brings Myers to Memphis

medical team to participate in this international program.

For Dr. Myers, joining Le Bonheur in November presented an ideal situation for him to continue his life-saving work and to help take Le Bonheur's cardiac surgical care to a nationally recognized status.

"To have a wonderful hospital dedicated to the care of children in a great American city like Memphis with an already established cardiac

Whether you call it an act of God or a twist of fate, Hurricane Katrina determined a career turn for Dr. Jeff Myers. Following the devastating storm that blew into New Orleans last August, Dr. Myers and his family left their home in the Crescent City, where he was Chief of Pediatric Heart Surgery at Tulane University Medical Center, and moved to Memphis where he now serves as Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at Le Bonheur.

The twist of fate came only a few days after the storm. Le Bonheur's cardiac service line administrator Jane Hanafin was listening to the radio while driving to work and heard Dr. Myers' harrowing tale of evacuating patients from the medical center there. Only a few days after the storm, Dr. Myers was being interviewed on National Public Radio about the experience, and Hanafin heard the interview. While she listened, her mind began to plan. This radio interview changed Dr. Myers' career direction, and it also put into action a new course for Le Bonheur's Cardiac Services.

While hearing the traumatic tale, it dawned on Hanafin that Dr. Myers, along with other physicians and medical staff in the New Orleans area, could use Le Bonheur's assistance. Perhaps some, she thought, might even be looking for temporary places to relocate during the rebuilding of the city.

After locating Dr. Myers via the Internet, Hanafin—with the consent of Le Bonheur's cardiac team—made contact. Several e-mails and phone calls later, Dr. Myers and his wife, Dahri, visited Memphis and Le Bonheur. It didn't take long for them to decide to make their relocation permanent.

"I remembered his name from the radio interview," Hanafin recalled. "His training and credentials were excellent. It's important for a surgeon to keep his or her skills up, particularly when not knowing how long the situation in New Orleans would go on," Hanafin said.

In the beginning, their discussions centered on a temporary position. However, timing was everything in this particular instance. Dr. Christian Gilbert, Le Bonheur's former Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery, was recovering after major surgery last summer. He thought Dr. Myers would make a great partner, and as he puts it, "I didn't see it as a coincidence. It was an act of God."

This "Godsend" was a tremendous opportunity to rejuvenate the CT surgery program at Le Bonheur. For Myers and his family, including three children – Cameron, Tyler and Connor – the transition to Memphis came at the right time and the right place.

"The spirit of Le Bonheur is unbelievable," Dr. Myers says. "The commitment of Le Bonheur to not turn any child away regardless of their inability to pay is amazing. There's an emphasis on whatever the kids need, and a hospital that operates on this model is wonderful to be around."

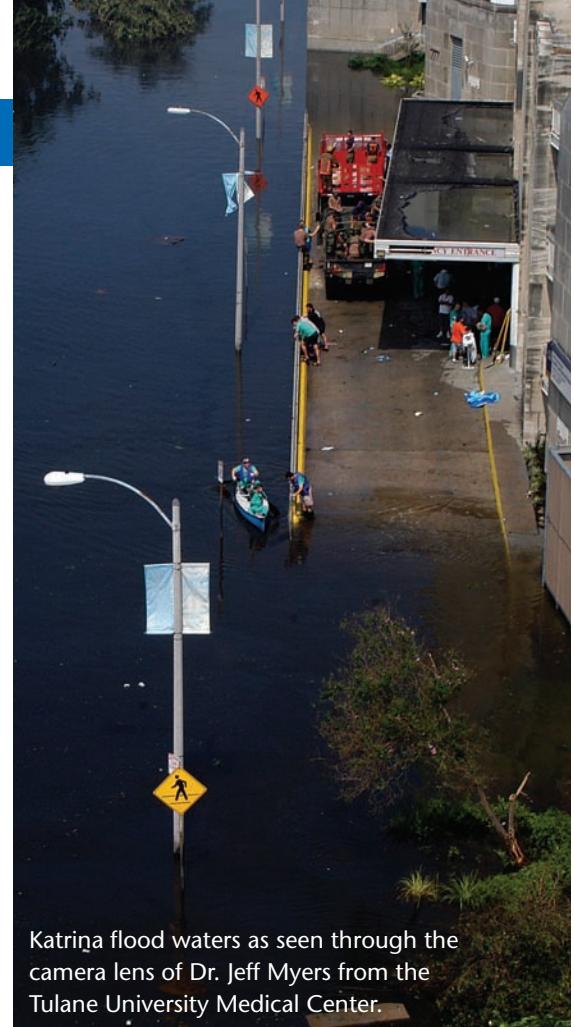
Dr. Gilbert, who returned from medical leave at the end of last year, will be assisting Dr. Myers in the care of cardiothoracic surgery patients. ♥

— Kini Kedigh Plumlee

"The commitment of Le Bonheur to not turn any child away regardless of their inability to pay is amazing."

— Dr. Jeff Myers

program, and to be able to still have something I could add (to the program), made for a great opportunity," he explains. "The idea of taking the program to a regional and national academic level was the deciding factor," he added. "A program that takes care of the youngest to the oldest patients; the simplest heart problems to the most complex; to be able to perform any procedure that needs to be done; all of this should be available here. It's time for Le Bonheur to begin doing clinical research and basic science research and move to the leading edge," Dr. Myers said. ♥



Katrina flood waters as seen through the camera lens of Dr. Jeff Myers from the Tulane University Medical Center.



Pediatric Heart Patients Are Coming of Age

By Kini Kedigh Plumlee

They're growing up. Children born with heart defects that were once fatal are now reaching adulthood. These young adults, now in their 20s and 30s, are learning that their heart repairs are wearing out as they mature. Many young heart patients, who were considered "cured" as children, are just now finding out that they may need a heart tune-up to keep them going.

"We're learning it's a lifetime disease and that we often need to fix things," said Dr. Jeff Myers, new Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. "A lot of heart operations for children weren't developed or successful until the 1970s and 1980s. It's only now that these patients are coming of age, and we have 20- and 30-year-olds with congenital heart disease who may need additional surgeries."

More than half of the pediatric cardiac patients with congenital heart disease — up to

in adults. "It's a huge challenge for us," says Dr. Myers. "A children's hospital is not an easy place for a 40-year-old to have a procedure done, but I believe Le Bonheur can lead the way. A lot of what we do will set protocols and precedents. Our big push will be to get this going."

Young Adult Receives Heart Treatment at Le Bonheur

Most 24-year-olds wouldn't think of coming to Le Bonheur for treatment, but when Lauren Sadowski Shearon was told she needed a pacemaker to regulate her heart rhythm, she didn't consider any other hospital. Her procedure was done on Dec. 15, 2005, and six weeks later, she returned to Le Bonheur for a heart valve replacement.

"Many people

"It's only now that we have 20- and 30-year-olds with congenital heart disease who may need additional surgeries."

— Dr. Jeff Myers

one million people — are now over the age of 18, and the medical treatment of these pioneering patients has been slipping through the cracks. Many are experiencing heart deterioration, irregular heartbeats, enlarged hearts and heart failure. Some may even require a transplant. When caught early, these problems are treatable and preventable. But often, these patients will have serious heart damage by the time their survived birth defect is linked to their new illness.

Outside of children's hospitals, few cardiologists have an understanding of how to care for these special patients, as their disease is completely different from heart disease that develops

asked me why I was going to Le Bonheur for my surgeries," said the Memphis native and Brownsville resident, who had her first heart surgery at Le Bonheur when she was one day old. "This sounded strange to some people, but I knew that Le Bonheur was the best place for me."

Now married and working in Jackson, Tenn., Lauren was born with a congenital heart defect known as Tetrology of Fallot. This is a combination of four abnormalities in the heart. Unless the heart can be surgically repaired, Tetrology of Fallot is fatal.

Lauren received a shunt within 48 hours of her birth. When she turned 1, open-heart

surgery followed to temporarily repair her heart valve. "It is a joy that these patients have survived their difficult infancies to be able to have near-normal benefits of health, education, employment and family life," said Nancy Chase, M.D., who has treated Lauren since birth. "We will continue to be a beacon for these wonderful and courageous young people and for their caring families."

When Lauren reached high school, she began experiencing heart palpitations, so medication was prescribed to control her irregular heartbeat. Throughout her childhood, she always participated in dance, cheerleading, softball and tennis.



Josh and
Lauren
Shearon

When Lauren decided to get married last August, it was determined that, if she and her husband, Josh, wanted to have children, she needed a permanent fix for her enlarged valve. So Lauren returned to Le Bonheur, and on Jan. 26, Dr. Myers performed the procedure.

"I'm doing great!" says the newlywed. "I have more energy and stamina and feel better than ever. This is the beginning of my new life."

In another 20 years, Lauren may need to have her valve replaced again. By that point, technology will have advanced enough that the valve they use then will last her for the rest of her lifetime. ❤

Around the Halls



Dr. Glenn Wetzel in Catheterization Lab.

New Cath Lab Features 3D Views

The second Catheterization Lab for Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center opened for business in April. The new Cath Lab will expand volume and quality in catheterization services, said Crystal Thomas, director of cardiovascular services for Le Bonheur.

"We already have outstanding physicians. We need the ability to have technology that can keep up with their needs. I think that the ability to have two labs will absolutely improve the customer service we provide to our patients and physicians," Thomas said. "The new lab and the new technology will enable us to have even higher quality so that we can be the best in the country."

The Cath Lab accommodates diagnostic procedures, as well as interventional cardiac and radiology procedures. The \$3 million lab includes a fluoroscopy unit. Bi-plane fluoroscopy allows frontal and lateral viewing of the heart which is critical for congenital defects. The new Cath Lab's technology also provides three-dimensional images so that the anatomy can be visualized at a higher level.

At approximately 720 square feet, the new Cath Lab is much larger than the original Cath Lab, which will be used primarily for electrophysiology, biopsies and less complex cases.

"With the additional Cath Lab, we will be able to see more children in a more timely manner," said Dr. Dane Douglas, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC. "Additionally, this will decrease expenses and we can better manage our time."

A second Cath Lab also will reduce delays in providing angiographic services to neurosurgical and trauma services. Angiography offers a definitive study of the blood vessels, in which physicians view contrast in the vessels via X-ray. The larger angiographic suite will allow the cardiovascular team to offer more procedures that are considered hybrid – combining interventional and surgical techniques to accomplish anatomic repairs in a less invasive manner.

The \$1.5 million fluoroscopy unit in the new lab was paid for, in part, by a federal grant of nearly \$1 million from the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration.

Patient volume in Le Bonheur Cath Labs is expected to increase from 574 patients in 2005 to 729 patients in 2008. About 675 patients are expected to come through Le Bonheur's Cath Labs for 2006. — Leigh Ann Roman



The Team With Heart: Pediatric Cardiology

BRUCE ALPERT, M.D., is the Plough Foundation Professor of Pediatrics at University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) and Program Director for the UT General Clinical Research Center. He joined Le Bonheur in 1984 and has built a national and international reputation in his areas of research interest, including predictors of hypertension in minority populations and Marfan's Syndrome.

COURTNEY ANTHONY, JR., M.D., Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, is in practice with UT Medical Group. After several years of private practice in San Francisco, he returned to Memphis where he spent the early part of his career. A retired Colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, Dr. Anthony holds clinics in West Memphis, Ark., and Tupelo, Miss., in addition to Memphis.

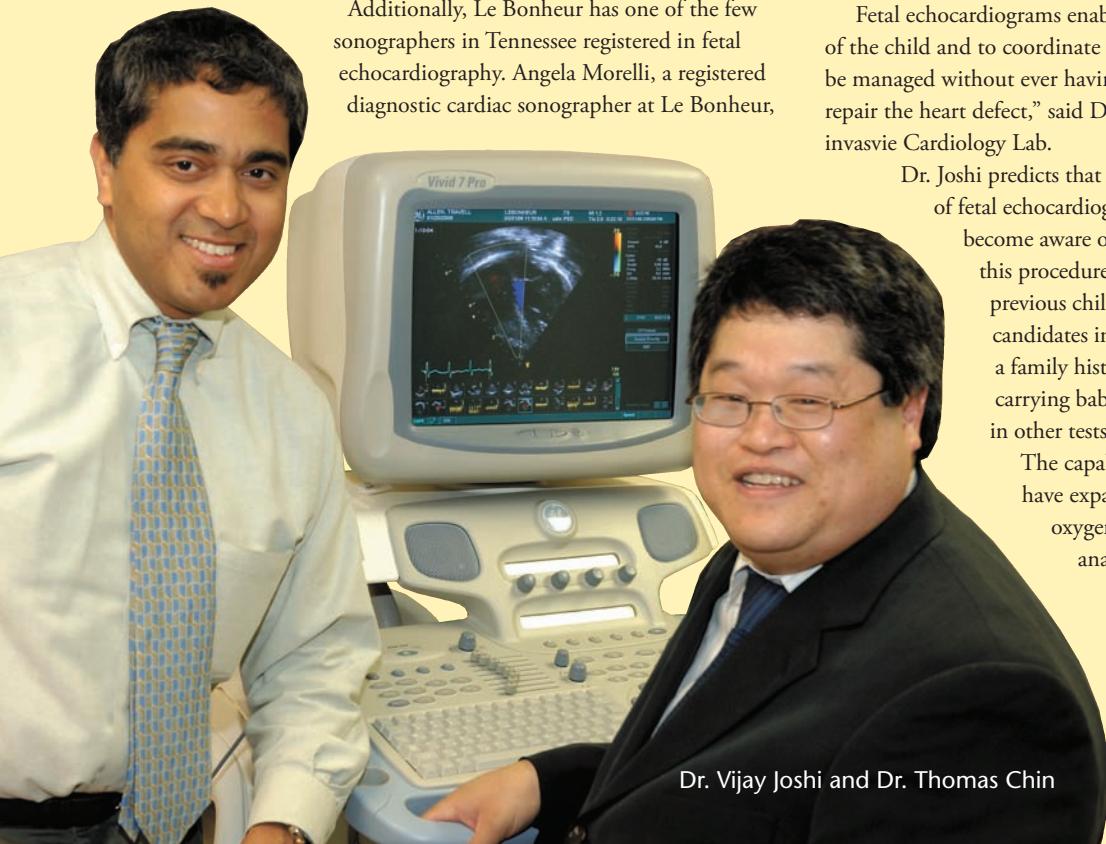
NANCY A. CHASE, M.D., came to Memphis in 1978 as Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC and opened a private practice in 1988. She is very active in the Memphis community and has served on the boards of many medical, civic and arts organizations. Dr. Chase is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC.

ECHO Lab On Track to Receive Accreditation

The Echocardiography Laboratory is on track to be accredited by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL) following a site visit in March.

Once it receives accreditation, Le Bonheur would have the only ICAEL-accredited pediatric Echo Lab in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas. The closest accredited pediatric Echo Lab to Memphis is in Baton Rouge, La.

Additionally, Le Bonheur has one of the few sonographers in Tennessee registered in fetal echocardiography. Angela Morelli, a registered diagnostic cardiac sonographer at Le Bonheur,



Dr. Vijay Joshi and Dr. Thomas Chin

Around the Halls

recently received her fetal echocardiography credentialing from the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography and is one of four people in Tennessee with this certification. She is also registered in adult and pediatric echocardiography. Another Le Bonheur sonographer, Sharon Myers, is seeking her fetal echocardiography credentialing, as well.

Fetal echocardiograms enable physicians to better plan for the care of the child and to coordinate that care. "These babies, ideally, could be managed without ever having to get sick before they go to surgery to repair the heart defect," said Dr. Vijay Joshi, Medical Director of the Non-invasive Cardiology Lab.

Dr. Joshi predicts that Le Bonheur will do an increasing number of fetal echocardiograms as maternal-fetal medicine specialists become aware of the hospital's capabilities. Candidates for this procedure include expectant mothers who have had previous children with congenital heart disease. Other candidates include expectant mothers who have diabetes, a family history of heart disease or those who are carrying babies who have shown a cardiac abnormality in other tests, such as a traditional ultrasound.

The capabilities of Le Bonheur's exercise lab also have expanded, allowing physicians to evaluate oxygen consumption, carbon dioxide production, anaerobic threshold and lung function.

Exercise testing allows doctors to know what is a safe and acceptable level of activity for pediatric patients with possible cardiac or pulmonary problems. This information enables children to have as normal a lifestyle as possible. 

— Leigh Ann Roman

Pediatric Cardiology continued...

THOMAS CHIN, M.D., is Medical Director of Cardiology at Le Bonheur and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Division Chief for Pediatric Cardiology at UTHSC. His clinical interests include non-invasive cardiology and fetal echocardiography.

DANE DOUGLAS, M.D., has had a private practice in Memphis since 1995. His clinical interests include interventional cardiology, electrophysiology and fetal echocardiography. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC.

VIJAY JOSHI, M.D., is Medical Director of the Non-Invasive Cardiology Lab at Le Bonheur and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC. He has been instrumental in preparing the Non-Invasive Cardiology Lab for ICAEL accreditation. In addition, he leads the transesophageal echocardiography support for the cardio-thoracic surgical team and performs fetal echocardiograms.

JOEL LUTTERMAN, M.D. is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC. He is an interventional cardiologist who has been involved with clinical research trials to evaluate drugs and new technology. His efforts are dedicated to adapting methods intended for adult patients and making these procedures "truly designed for children."

RUSH WALLER, M.D., is Medical Director of the Catheterization Lab at Le Bonheur and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC. Dr. Waller, a Memphis native, is an interventional cardiologist. Dr. Waller participates in multi-center trials that apply new devices for transcatheter correction of congenital heart defects in children.

GLENN WETZEL, M.D., Ph.D., is Professor of Pediatrics at UTHSC. His area of expertise is electrophysiology, which focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmia. Dr. Wetzel came to Memphis in January 2005, from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). He has a special interest in cardiomyopathy and is a co-principal investigator in a pending 30-center study funded by the National Institutes of Health on the etiologies and treatment of acute myocarditis in children.



New Fellows Join Le Bonheur

For the first time in 10 years, pediatric cardiology fellows will again be working at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center beginning in July.

"Having the fellowships here will mean we will take on a much stronger academic focus," said Dr. Thomas Chin, Medical Director of Cardiology at Le Bonheur. "We will provide the state-of-the-art in cardiology practice."

According to Dr. Chin, nearly 50 percent of the fellows' time will be spent on clinical and bench research. "By having the fellowship program, it places us in the top level of cardiology programs."

Pediatric cardiology fellow **Kevin Stamps**, M.D., completed his pediatric residency at Le Bonheur and received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). He has been in practice with the Memphis Children's Clinic. He is a member of the



Kevin Stamps
Kenneth Knecht

American Academy of Pediatrics and won the Golden Apple Teaching Award as a resident at Le Bonheur.

Kenneth Knecht, M.D., received his medical degree from UTHSC and completed his pediatric residency at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va. He has worked as staff pediatrician for Naval Hospitals in Ceiba, Puerto Rico (Roosevelt Roads) and in Great Lakes, Ill., since 2004. He also served as group medical officer for Destroyer Squadron Six of the U.S. Navy at the Pascagoula, Miss., Naval Station from 1998-2000. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics.

Le Bonheur is the primary training institution for the new fellowship program. The pediatric cardiology fellowship lasts three years and accepts two new fellows each year. When it is in full swing, there will be six pediatric cardiology fellows practicing at Le Bonheur. 

— Leigh Ann Roman



Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery



CHRISTIAN GILBERT, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Surgery, is a pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon. He came to Memphis in 2003 from Geisinger Medical Center in Pennsylvania. Dr. Gilbert's clinical interests include minimally invasive surgery, valve procedures and adults with congenital heart disease.

JEFF MYERS, M.D., Ph.D., is Medical Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Le Bonheur, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Surgery, and Division Chief for Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at UTHSC. (See story on page 10) 



A Promise of Tomorrow

I have some great things I would love for you to see. But you have to go to the Internet and click on several pages. It's new. And it's all for you and for our other new and long-time friends.

We've been doing some updating of the Le Bonheur web site (www.lebonheur.org) and have added several new pages. There's new information about upcoming events and stories of our great donors and patients. You'll also find information on some special ways you can support Le Bonheur, and the exceptional medical care being done for our young patients.

You can learn about ways to make gifts to Le Bonheur and, at the same time, have income paid back to you, you and your spouse, or others. This particular information, which is found in the Planned Giving section (under Ways to Help), is easy to understand and, best of all, describes ways to do some remarkable things for Le Bonheur kids while saving yourself some taxes at the same time. To me, that sounds like a great combination!

There are other things on the Foundation section of the web site as well. You can make memorial gifts, gifts in honor of an individual, or gifts that are given strictly in support of a particular program. There are many programs listed, and all you have to do is pick the one you want to support. It's that simple. After all, one of the things I want to make certain we always do is give you the opportunity to support the medical program, research or community outreach program that is important to you.

The good you can do in the lives of countless children, because of your generosity, is nothing short of remarkable. And it can begin simply by going to your computer, pushing a few buttons, reading some information that's of interest and importance to you, and you can literally change the world for some children.

The Web Site will be updated on a regular basis, so there will always be new things to read and learn. And if you think we have overlooked something on our site, please send me an e-mail at woodardl@lebonheur.org. At the same time, if you would like to visit with a Foundation staff member about how to coordinate an event in support of Le Bonheur, or discuss a possible gift – either outright or through a planned gift, such as a bequest, charitable trust, gift annuity, gift of life insurance, etc. – just drop me an e-mail. Your request will remain in confidence, and I will make certain you are contacted immediately.

Very soon, the names, pictures and e-mail addresses of the Foundation staff will be on the web site so you will know who to contact about specific questions in the future.

It's amazing what exciting things you can learn about on our web site. You can find out about things that can be of benefit to you and your family. You can sign up to participate in an event without leaving your easy chair. In fact, you can sit in your chair and save young lives. Amazing, isn't it?

Larry Woodard, FAHP
President, Le Bonheur Foundation

LE BONHEUR CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER
50 N. DUNLAP



A Common Thread of Exceptional Care



Volunteer Pours Heart Into Capital Campaign

By Kini Kedigh Plumlee

Susan Graf never dreamed that attending a Le Bonheur Club luncheon in 1996 would turn into a decade-long dedication to children of the region. Today, Susan still pushes the Club's coffee cart and visits with patients and their families on a regular basis. This vivacious volunteer has become one of the hospital's most passionate and enthusiastic ambassadors.

For the past four years Susan has served on the Le Bonheur Foundation Board of Directors and is the current board secretary. As her involvement with the Le Bonheur Club and the Le Bonheur Foundation has increased, she has become one of the most influential representatives in the hospital's current capital campaign to raise \$100 million to build a new facility.

"I do have a passion for children's health care," said the outgoing Le Bonheur volunteer and philanthropist. "When we open the new hospital, it will make as great an impact, if not more so, on the community as it did when the doors first opened in 1952."

Susan has two very healthy daughters. Neither was ever hospitalized as a child. She does, however, have a brother who was born with multiple birth defects. The difficulties Susan's family endured while acquiring good medical care for him left an enormous impression upon her that has lasted throughout her life.

"We never want to think that anything will happen to our children, our grandchildren, even our nieces and nephews," she said. "But we run that risk every day. That's why we need the best facility here, to keep the families intact."

Susan learned at a young age how long-distance health care impacts a family. When she was nine, her mother moved with her disabled brother to Philadelphia for his medical treatment while she and the rest of her family lived in Boston. Her aunt came to live with Susan and her brothers. By age 10, Susan was cooking, cleaning and helping to run the household.

"It was so hard on my mother to go alone, and get an apartment in a strange city so she could stay with him," she recalled. "It's such a stressful time to begin with, caring for a child undergoing neurosurgery in the 'dark ages,' and also worried about her children at home. When I started pushing the coffee cart as a volunteer, it brought it all back to me."

For Susan, building the new hospital is essential. Personally, she is most thrilled about the Le Bonheur's Club's project to finance a Parent Resource Center within the new facility. Plans for "The Le Bonheur ClubHouse," as it will be called, features a kitchen area, computer access and a family room. "It will be an oasis for families, parents and children alike, to get away from their hospital room and be secure in the knowledge that they are safe and medical help is right here," she says enthusiastically. Her private dream is that Le Bonheur will one day have an overnight facility for all the hospital's parents.

Alan, her husband of 26 years, is an Executive Vice President and CFO of FedEx Corp. When his schedule permits, he can be found at Susan's side, pushing the snack cart, delivering hot coffee to parents, distributing magazines to visitors in waiting rooms, and offering a warm smile and some friendly conversation.

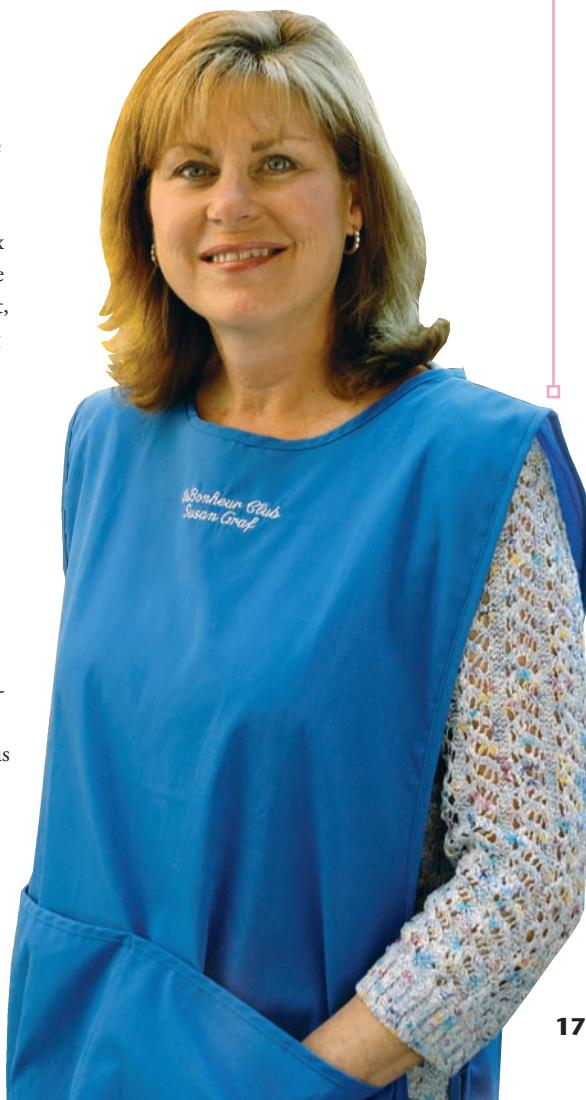
"There's nothing more important to our children than providing the best medical care available," Susan says. "Le Bonheur is our community's children's hospital. It is all encompassing, and we must make Le Bonheur available to every child."

Susan and Alan have made a \$1 million gift to Le Bonheur's capital campaign, designated for the Emergency Department waiting room. They have also been very generous through the years to the Le Bonheur Club's fundraising efforts.

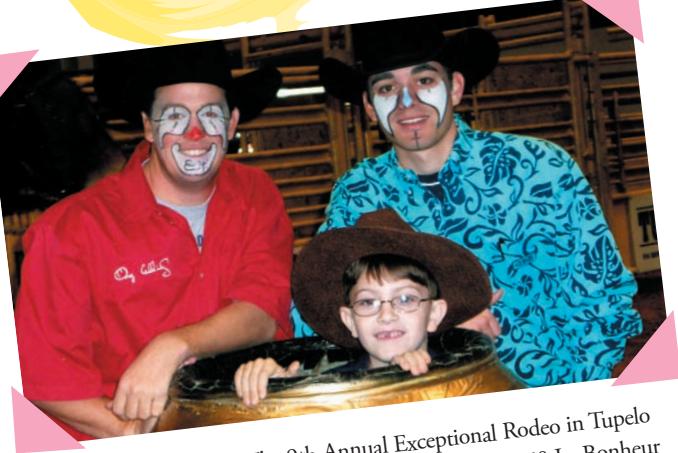
"It all adds up, no matter what the size of someone's donation," she said. "Not everyone can have an elaborate party, but anyone can cook burgers on the lawn or host a spaghetti dinner at their church or

civic organization. I am constantly amazed at how willing people are to donate according to their means."

As a fundraiser for Le Bonheur, Susan says the greatest challenge is making the community aware of what Le Bonheur does. "People don't know about the quality of our medical staff, and the quality of care the hospital provides. Le Bonheur treats over 130,000 children a year and many of the children who receive surgery at Le Bonheur are referred from St. Jude. When people donate to Le Bonheur they are caring for our kids. Once they see Le Bonheur, they appreciate what is here. We've just got to keep reminding them."



Scrapbook



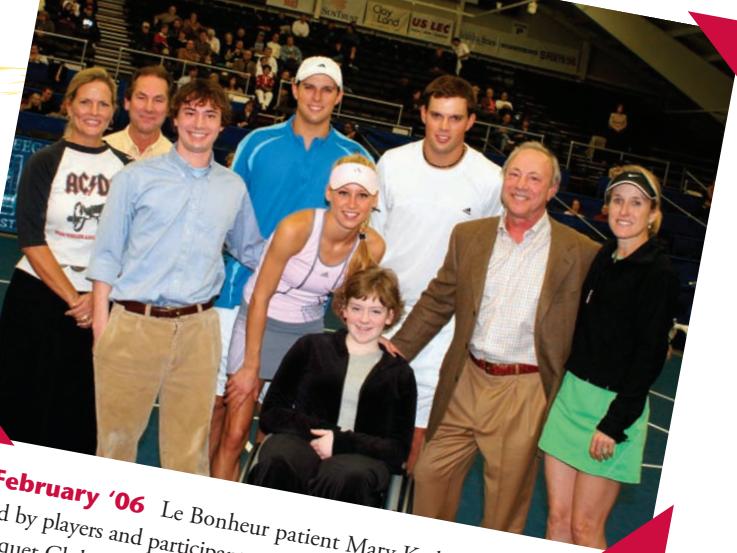
January '06 The 9th Annual Exceptional Rodeo in Tupelo was held at the BancorpSouth Center on Jan. 21. Some 50 Le Bonheur patients were invited to participate in the event which allows children the opportunity to get on the arena floor with professional cowboys and learn about the rodeo. This year's rodeo raised \$10,000 for Le Bonheur.



March '06 St. Agnes Academy Upper School choral group, the Starlettes, held the first "St. Agnes Idol" competition on March 24. Much like the popular television version of *American Idol*, six talented students competed for the title in the Le Bonheur fundraiser which raised more than \$4,000. Pictured: Kimberly Coleman (left) and Chelsea Miller. Chelsey Shull was named St. Agnes Idol.



April '06 Mayors from communities surrounding Memphis and across West Tennessee visited Le Bonheur for lunch and a tour. They learned how Le Bonheur supports children and families from their areas, and heard plans for the hospital's expansion. The group included Germantown Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy, Bartlett Mayor Keith McDonald and Millington Mayor Terry Jones. Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam and his wife, Crissy, also attended.



February '06 Le Bonheur patient Mary Kathryn Duncan is surrounded by players and participants of the Cellular South Charity Challenge at the Racquet Club of Memphis in February. Le Bonheur was one of the beneficiaries. Featured players were Anna Kournikova, Tracy Austin and brothers Bob and Mike Bryan.



February '06 The Phi Mu chapter at the University of Memphis has raised thousands of dollars over the years for Le Bonheur through their annual Phi Mu Spaghetti Dinner held this year on Feb. 27. Phi Mu members wore aprons painted by Le Bonheur patients. More than 1,000 plates of spaghetti, donated by Pete and Sam's Restaurant, were served, raising \$5,692.



March '06 Premier Catering of Jackson, Tenn., along with Candyland and Garden Pleasures, both of Milan, Tenn., were among participants in the Taste of Le Bonheur '06 on March 30 at the Gibson County High School in Dyer, Tenn. The event raised \$6,000.



February '06 Associates representing 70 Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB stores in Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas and Missouri toured Le Bonheur on Feb. 28 for the annual Wal-Mart/SAM'S CLUB Appreciation Day. This event recognizes the fund-raising efforts by the stores this past year and encourages their associates to reach new goals. In 2005, Wal-Mart/SAM'S CLUB raised over \$315,000 for Le Bonheur, an increase of almost \$50,000. These stores have raised several million dollars for Le Bonheur during their long-time partnership with the hospital.

February '06 The Gumtree TWIGS of Tupelo, Miss., held their annual Bunko Tournament on Feb. 17. The "Roll and Rock Night to Remember" had members decked out in poodle skirts and bobby socks. Fifties music and food added to the evening, which raised over \$1,600.



February '06 The 52nd annual R-3 Party attracted a large crowd of auction enthusiasts to the campus of R-3 School in Carruthersville, Mo., on Feb. 3rd. The event included silent and live auctions, a country store, cake walk, barbecue and hot tamales dinner. The R-3 Party has raised more than \$100,000 for Le Bonheur through the years.



March '06 A Dance Marathon was held on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus on March 24-25. Several hundred students participated in the first-time fundraiser for Le Bonheur that raised over \$4,000. Pictured are many of the student marathon "dancers".

February '06 Every Friday since last fall, employees of Lenny's corporate office paid \$5 for the privilege of wearing jeans to work. Lenny's then matched their donations and contributed a total of \$3,511 to Le Bonheur on Feb. 2. The fundraiser will continue throughout the year. Presenting the check was Bridget Graf, Director of Public Relations and Field Marketing for Lenny's corporate office, with some of Le Bonheur's young patients.



Datedock

Ways to support Le Bonheur

June 24

- **Father-Daughter Dance Gumtree Ball**

Tupelo Furniture Market, Tupelo, MS

July 22 - 29

- **Tennessee River 600** - Knoxville to Paris Landing

August 3 - 4

- **FM-100 Radiothon** - Le Bonheur Lobby, Memphis

August 31 - September 2

- **WWZD FM-106.7 Radiothon** -

Mall at Barnes Crossing, Tupelo, MS

September 6 - 8

- **WWYN FM-106.9 Radiothon** -

Old Hickory Mall, Jackson, TN

September 16 - 17

- **Darryl Worley's Tennessee River Run**

Pickwick Landing State Park Resort

September 30

- **Fore the Kids Golf Tournament** - Collierville, TN

September

- **Hershey's Golf Tournament** -

Stonebridge, Cordova, TN

- **Dancesmith's Fred Astaire Benefit** - Memphis

- **Run for the Rose 5K** - Union City, TN

October 14

- **Pumpkin Run 5K** -

Marsh USA/Ridgeway Ctr., Memphis

October

- **Blading for Le Bonheur** - Gibson County, TN

November 18 - December 31

- **Enchanted Forest** - Memphis Pink Palace Museum

November 24 - 26

- **Christmas Cottage** - Agricenter International, Memphis

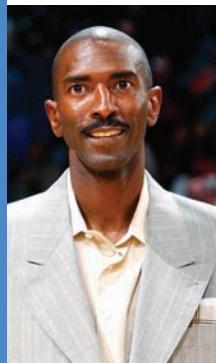
For more information call (901) 572-3308.

Save the Date

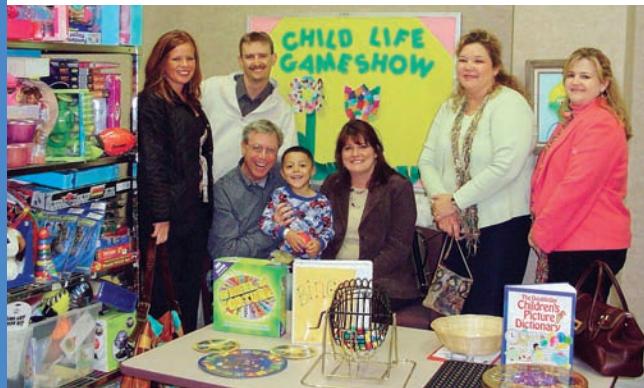
NBA's Perry Hosts Dinner

July 21

NBA basketball legend Charles Barkley will be the featured speaker at the July 21 SOCKS Banquet hosted by Memphis' own NBA star Elliott Perry. The event begins at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn-University of Memphis. The SOCKS (Serving Our Community and Kids) Banquet began in 2005 to support youth and their families. Attended by local athletes, both active and retired, last year's event drew a crowd of more than 600, raised more than \$35,000 for local charities. Proceeds from the 2006 dinner support Le Bonheur.



Tune-in to FM-100



August 3 - 4

Representatives from Memphis' favorite radio station FM-100 visited Le Bonheur to plan for the Aug. 3 - 4 Radiothon to benefit the hospital's patients. In Le Bonheur's Studio 8 are Brooke Smith, Lance Ballance, deejay Tom Prestigiacomo with Le Bonheur patient Jalen Boyce, Cindy DeBardelaben, Randi Atkinson and Treacy Wickenheiser.

Become a TWIGS Member!

TWIGS of Le Bonheur is a volunteer organization that benefits Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. TWIGS (Together We Initiate Growth and Sharing) members support the excellent pediatric health care offered at Le Bonheur.

As volunteers, TWIGS members serve as ambassadors and contribute to Le Bonheur through fundraising, health advocacy and promotional events. This diverse club has members throughout the Mid-South with chapters in Germantown, East Memphis, Cordova, Lakeland and Tupelo, Miss. Groups meet in the mornings, at lunch and in the evenings, all with one common goal: To help the children at Le Bonheur.

For information, call the Le Bonheur Foundation at (901) 572-3308 or visit "Ways to Give – Volunteer Information" on www.lebonheur.org.

J a n u a r y 1 - M a r c h 3 1 , 2 0 0 6

In an effort to feature more stories about Le Bonheur patients, physicians and donors, listed are only Honorariums and Memorials received from January 1-March 31, 2006. Each year's spring issue will become an annual donor report, including a more complete donor listing.

Honorariums

Dr. & Mrs. Courtney Anthony
Aidan & Marjorie Underwood

Shelton Baker
Mr. James Baker

Mr. Charles Barber
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Mr. & Mrs. Murray L. Beard
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Peeples

Chloe Beckham
T. C. Owens

J. R.'s Birthday
Ms. Sara Brown

Pauline Boswell
Mrs. Maxine McCool

Ms. Rosetta Lee Brillant
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Blair Britt
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Brown

Alexis Butler
Ms. Michelle Montgomery

Chandler Rhew Churchill
Ms. Laura A. Murry

Ms. Banner L. Copeland
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Daniel Coughlan
Mr. & Mrs. John Coughlan

Lynn Crocker
McKenzie Banking Company

Mr. Daryl K. Davis
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Mr. Charles Dixon
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Ms. Melissa Evans
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Dr. Cary Finn
Delores & Roland Oser

Mr. John Fletcher
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas E. McNeal

Ms. Eulila Flinn
Ms. Kini Plumlee

Matthew Fogelman
Ms. Nancy Nash

Ms. Annie Givens
Mr. Carlton E. Abbott

Mr. James William Gordon
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

3 Grandchildren
Ms. Sue Tidwell

My 6 Grandchildren
Ms. Deborah LaRose

Miss Dorothy M. Greaney
Mr. Carlton E. Abbott

Ashley Grulke
Ms. Addie Pace

Ms. Mary Scott Guest
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Ms. Anita Hammond
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Hayden, Emily & Gannon
Ms. Angie Seary

Kay Henry
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Griffin

Edjaina & Rachel Hester
Min. & Mrs. Edward Hester

Mr. Andrew Johnson
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Lucy Carrington Jones
Hermitage Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution

Perry Jordan
Mrs. Carolyn Jordan

Brittney Kirk
Ms. Cindy Kirk

Sylvia Kirschner's Recovery
Mr. & Mrs. Roland Oser

Cindy Leach
Ms. Melissa Brandon

Mr. John David Letson
Mr. Johnny G. Letson

Candace Lowe
McKenzie Banking Company

Marleigh Malone
Ms. Susan Malone

Leon and Joy McLemore
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Chase and Miranda
Mrs. Christel McKee

Jamie Moody
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Moody

Susan Nabors
Ms. Regina Fite

Terry and Angela Oliver
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Lucille Owen
Mr. & Mrs. James D. Tashie

Charity Pierce
Mr. & Mrs. Dwayne Pierce

Ms. Pearl Pounds
Mississippi Public Health Association

Tara Mann Salinas
Mrs. Tara D. Burton

Ms. Katherine Scott
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Ms. Carol Smith
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Freddie Sokoloff's Birthday
Kini & Ralph Plumlee

Carlianna, Cole & Clayton Stevens
Ms. Christy Stevens

Nicholas Tackett
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Tackett

Elizabeth Tashie
Ms. Katie Luton

Nancy & Jimmy Tashie
Ms. Katie Luton

Margaret Anne Taylor
Le Bonheur Garden Club

Brooks Tutor
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Lindsey

Jason Umfress
Ms. Lucy E. Davis

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 3806 - Eupora
Joe H. Morehead Ladies Aux. Post 3806

Ms. Brenda J. Wall
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Dr. Keith H. Waters
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Madison White
Christi White

Sara Willick's Recovery
Mr. & Mrs. Roland Oser

Caroline & Claire Wilson
Lauren & Rachel Lazure
Ms. Holly B. Scherer
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Sullivan

Kendra Woodard
Dr. Ethelyn Williams-Neal

Jean Woodruff
Mrs. Maxine McCool

Larry & Mary Wright and Family
Mr. Carlton E. Abbott

Julie Wunderlich
Mr. Gary K. Wunderlich

Mr. Bill Yarborough
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Memorials

Hazel Anderson
Gary & Julie Sims

Andrew
Ms. Angie Seary

Michael Connor Arney
Ms. Linda K. Thorn

Maud Arnold
Mary Lawrence & Fred Flinn

Buck, Jerry, Perry, Pamela & Marsha Ashmore
Mrs. Maxine McCool

Mr. Malcolm Baker, III
Mrs. Ann Clark Harris

Mr. Philip J. Balcom
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Moore

Betty Ballard
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Wigginton

Anthony Barken
Ms. Wendy R. Piercy

Wayne Baskin
Mr. Marty Turner

Daisy Daugherty Biggs
Mr. & Mrs. Benny McClung

Sam & Dorothy Block
Ms. Barbara B. Zwick

Don Brasfield
Cleo & Claude Chamberlin

Penny Brome
Linbeck Group, LP

Eleanor Crenshaw Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Weaver

Honorariums & Memorials

Remember a special person or occasion, or honor the memory of a loved one with a special gift in his or her name to Le Bonheur. Your gift conveys your appreciation, best wishes, congratulations and love to the special people in your life. With sincere appreciation, we immediately notify the appropriate family members of the deceased regarding your thoughtfulness. We also notify the person being honored by your gift. In each case, those persons making the gift receive a note of appreciation from Le Bonheur.



Tyler Scott Burnside
Ms. Mary Lee Marcom

Sydney Butler
Mary Lawrence & Fred Flinn

Beulah "Doll" Carter
Ms. Dorothy J. Nelson

A. David (Buddy) Cartwright
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Buck
Drs. John & Lynn Gayden

Evelyn Casey
Mr. Erskine A. Casey

Genna Childers
Mr. David H. Mayhall

Mr. E. L. Christian
Ms. Dianne S. Riley

Baby Girl Conway
Memphis OB/GYN Association, PC

Eleanor Teasley Cook
John & Allison Havercamp
Ms. Nicole P. Hensley
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Howard
Ms. Barbara B. Lakey
Ms. Joan R. Morgan
Robert & Pam Nix
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Simonton

Ernest L. Cox
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Eads
Mr. Rick Mize

Stephen Alex Daniel
Ms. Troyce Taylor

Mr. Christopher E. Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Junior E. Chauvin

Don Allen Delugach
Ms. Sandra M. Allen
Mr. Gary R. Cook
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Dermon, II

Mrs. Joan D. DiGaetano
Mr. & Mrs. Junior E. Chauvin

Jessie Trenton Dockery
InSouth Bank

Marie Dodd
Mark & Connie Haygood

Alfred Earl Dowdy
Mr. & Mrs. Edward G. Hardwick, Sr.

William Dozier
Mr. & Mrs. John G. Thompson

Rondy Lee Drewwry
Mr. & Mrs. Emmett G. Smith

Benita Dunlap
Mr. & Mrs. Beryl Willard

Madge Eaves
Lawndale Elementary Staff

Thaddeus Eldred
Mrs. Janice C. Gaines

Emily Grace Emberton
Ms. Carolyn F. Wynns

Michael S. Eschmann
Mr. Montgomery D. James

Sherry Lynn Evans
Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Wainscott

Helen Fineberg
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Dermon, II

Ross Fiser
Dr. & Mrs. Robert M. Ellard

Mrs. Buzz Forrester
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin W. Barnett

Helen French Hanks
Dottie Sanders Interior Design
Le Bonheur Travel Study Club

Pressley Fuller
Dr. & Mrs. Robert M. Ellard

Robert Campbell Garth
Ms. Linda H. Lipsky

Mrs. Virginia T. Gibson
Dr. & Mrs. Phillip L. Sherman, Jr.

Mrs. Trammie Mae Gillentine
Ms. Judie A. Stewart

Billy Glover
Ms. Amy Caldwell-Moss

George Goodwin
Mr. Jerome Morrison, Sr.

Mr. Milton G. Griffin
Mr. Hugh Preston Parks

Marion Pittman Gurkin, Jr.
Mid-South Insurance Office

Mrs. Lawson Haley
Geraldine Hollowell & June Gafford

Charles L. Hamric III
Ms. Etheleen J. Blanton

Mike Hart
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Perry

Margi Hemingway
Kini & Ralph Plumlee

Mr. Leonard Henson
Mr. & Mrs. Junior E. Chauvin

Shelby Hopper
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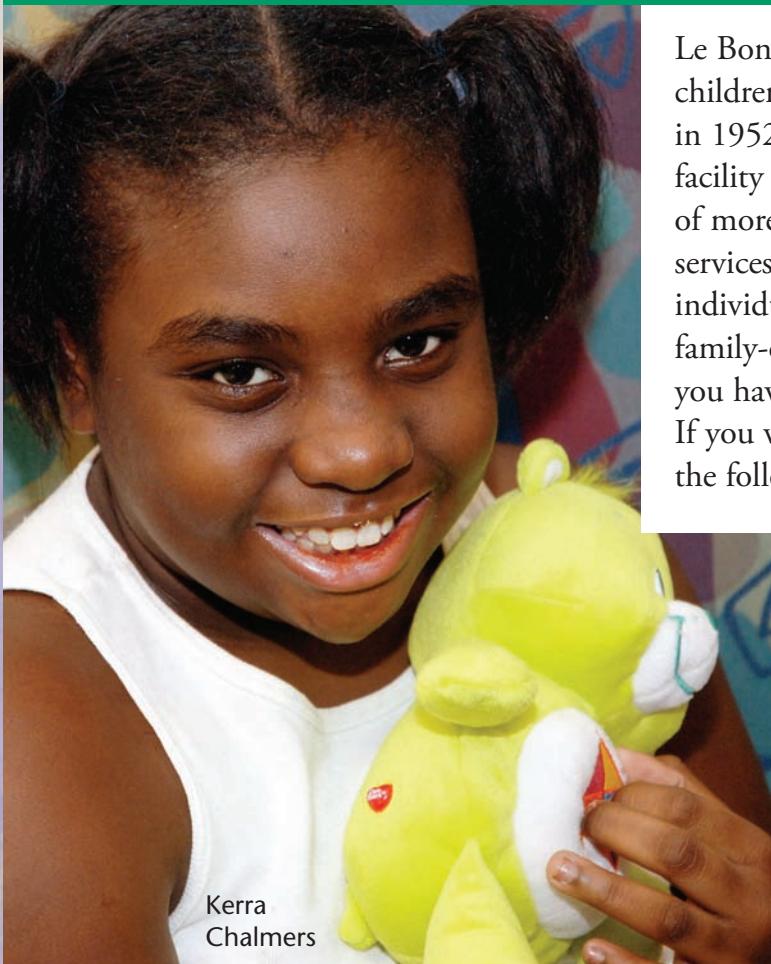
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Making a Gift to Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center



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Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center has been caring for the children of the Memphis area and beyond since its founding in 1952. As the only truly comprehensive pediatric medical facility in the region, Le Bonheur serves the health care needs of more than 132,000 patients annually. Many programs and services that we offer the children rely on the generosity of individuals like you so Le Bonheur can continue to provide a family-centered care experience for all who enter our doors. If you have made a previous gift to Le Bonheur, we thank you. If you wish to consider making a gift, you may do so in any of the following ways.

Planned Giving

A gift made through your estate will help preserve the future of Le Bonheur and safeguard our role in providing quality children's health care for generations to come. Planned gifts permit Le Bonheur to maintain continuing support for the well-being of patients today and all the days to follow. Such gifts include bequests of various kinds, life insurance policies, and life income plans, such as charitable trusts and gift annuities. Not only can planned gifts provide wonderful tax savings, but they also can provide increased income for you, your spouse or other members of your family. When you designate all or part of your estate to Le Bonheur, you'll join others as a member of the Dream Builders Society.

Endowment Gifts

Provide a legacy of perpetual support to Le Bonheur by making an endowment gift. Your gift is combined with gifts from other donors and invested on a permanent basis and only the income earned by your gift is used to support a program of your choosing. Or, you can direct it to help fund the hospital's most urgent needs. Gifts made to Le Bonheur's endowment may honor or remember a special person or celebrate an event or personal milestone.

Volunteering & Benefit Events

Volunteers, supporters and friends of Le Bonheur host more than 120 events each year. Among the special events you are invited to support are gala parties, silent auctions, golf tournaments, walks and runs, and the annual Enchanted Forest and Christmas Cottage. You support our patients by participating in such events. Also, please consider volunteering your time with patients and families. For information call (901) 572-3308.

Matching Contributions

Many businesses will match all or a portion of their employees' contributions to Le Bonheur. Check with your human resources department to learn if your contribution to Le Bonheur can be matched.

Red Wagon Society

Thousands of supporters donate to Le Bonheur annually, which enables us to give the highest quality health care and medical services available to the children. Gifts also enable our physicians and researchers to aggressively search for answers for those diseases and disorders that leave children with long-term problems or that cut short life for too many. By making an annual donation of \$1,000 or more, you'll join a generous group of individual and corporate donors we call The Red Wagon Society. The name reflects the many red wagons that transport little patients throughout the hospital. Our distinguished Red Wagon patrons are dedicated to the continuation of quality pediatric health care in our community, and we recognize and acknowledge them for their commitment to Le Bonheur and the children.

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Music Man Brings Joy to Patients

What began as a way to comfort his son when he was being treated at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center has today become a calling for Memphian Hank Sable.

"Mr. Hank," as patients and staff affectionately call him, is the hospital's Music Man. For the past 11 years, he has played and strummed his guitar for the patients at least two days every month.

When Hank first entered the doors of Le Bonheur in 1994, his son, Forrest, was only 3 days old. Born with heart problems, baby Forrest was facing open-heart surgery, and his dad wanted him to know he was close by. While Forrest was hooked up to life-saving equipment in the ICU, Hank played guitar at his son's bedside.

Now 11 and in the fifth grade, Forrest is doing great, but his father still plays guitar for Le Bonheur patients.

"It gives the kids a chance to get out of their rooms and take their minds off of being sick and forget about being patients for awhile," said Mr. Hank, between rousing versions of "Old McDonald Had A Farm" and "The Wheels on the Bus Go 'Round and 'Round." "They just love to make some noise and have some fun with the other kids."

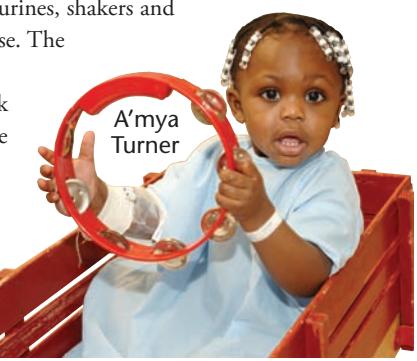
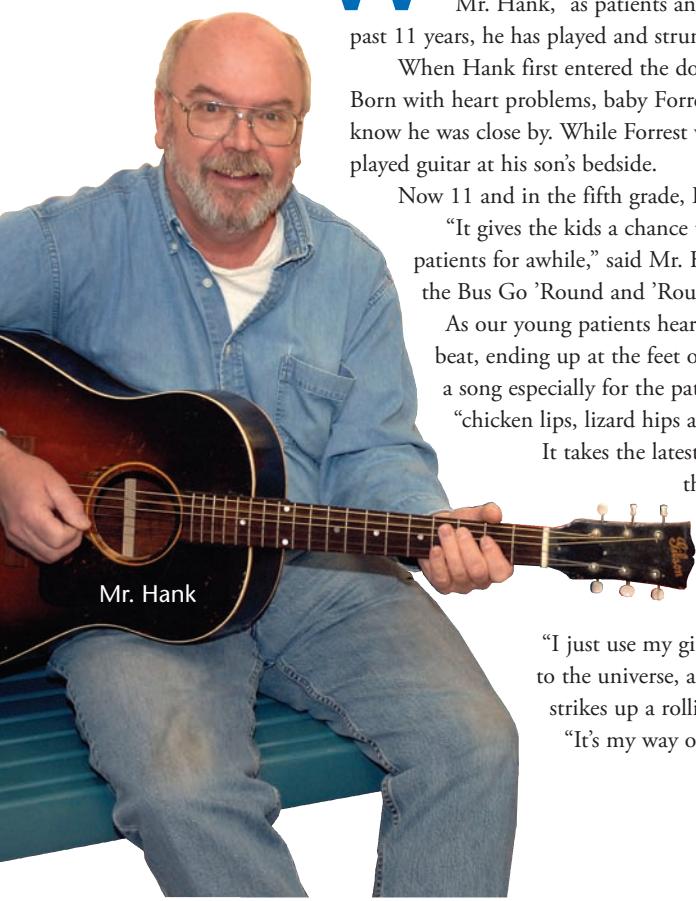
As our young patients hear his kid-friendly melodies drift down the hospital halls, they can't help but follow the beat, ending up at the feet of Le Bonheur's Pied Piper as he croons "Blue Suede Shoes." Mr. Hank has even adapted a song especially for the patients called "Le Bonheur Lunch Surprise." They wiggle and giggle as he sings about "chicken lips, lizard hips and alligator eyes."

It takes the latest technology and medicines to heal a child. However, the staff at Le Bonheur knows that it also requires embracing the needs of the whole family. That's why, when Mr. Hank performs, the Le Bonheur Child Life staff makes sure every child has a percussion instrument to play along. Bells, drums, tambourines, shakers and assorted noisemakers are quickly put to harmonious use. The kids love to raise a racket and be part of the show.

"I just use my gift of music to bring some joy and to give something back to the universe, and that spills back into my life," Mr. Hank explains as he strikes up a rollicking verse of "Swinging on A Star."

"It's my way of saying 'thank you' for giving me my son back."

— *Kini Kedigh Plumlee*



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