New Faculty Reception
On November 8th, the Department of Pediatrics hosted its annual Reception for New Pediatric Faculty held once again at the lovely Stickley Museum in Fayetteville. New Faculty included Drs. Gary Amundon (Pediatric Radiology), Andrea Dvorak (Peds Heme/Onc), Christopher Fortner (Peds Pulm), James Foster (Peds Anesthesiology), Ellen McHugh (General Peds), Andreas Meier (Peds Surgery), Jennifer Nead (Peds Hospitalist), Larry Shoemaker (Peds Neph), and Manika Suryadevara (Peds Hospitalist and ID). Dr. Klaus Werner (Peds Neurology) was not able to attend. We are very proud of, and grateful for each of our new faculty.

Don’t miss the full color online edition at www.upstate.edu/pediatrics/crier.php

New Critical Care Fellow (Matched!)
Congratulations to Astha Khanna who found out on November 28th that she matched at her #1 choice. Astha will be doing Peds Critical Care at Northwestern University at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago. Congratulations, Astha. We are all so proud of you!

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Working the Bugs Out in CA
Members of our Peds ID faculty met up with several of our former residents at an ID Conference in San Diego in October. The Crier received the following report from former resident Rana El Feghaly: “I am attaching some pictures from the ID week that was held in San Diego between 10/15 and 10/21. Dr Weiner was there from Upstate, as well as Manika and Dr Shaw. Unfortunately I do not have pictures of them. We also met

Our New FRC Librarian
We are pleased to welcome Mary Laverty, our new GCH Family Resource Center Librarian. Mary holds degrees in English Education and Earth Sciences Education from Marshall University, a Masters Degree in Library and Information Sciences from The University of Texas at Austin, and as a part of her doctoral studies she received a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Teaching English as a Second Language from Syracuse University’s Department of Linguistics, Languages and Literature. Mary’s interests in libraries began when she was 6 years old when her hometown reopened the public library. Ever since then she has worked in libraries.

Prior to becoming the Family Resource Librarian at the Family Resource Center the Golisano Children's Hospital she worked in many library and education situations including serving as the Director of the Jefferson County Public Library in Florida, as a public school librarian in Texas and New York and most recently with the Bird Library on the SU campus. With professional specialization in information services to children and children’s literature, she has worked with various professional groups to bring award winning children’s authors to meet their readers. As a storyteller, Mary has performed with the Sammy award winning Samba Samba Laranja. Mary and her husband, John Laverty, enjoy traveling around the world and their cats Callie and Sassy. Welcome to our department, Mary!
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Wassim Ballan and Rima Hanna Wakim. again no pictures :-( Hazar had an oral presentation that she also presented as a poster and won the PIDS trainee award:) (SO PROUD!). I had 2 oral presentations and a poster:) Big kisses to everyone! – Rana”

Aamer at the AAP

This is to share my experience of representing my program at annual AAP conference held in New Orleans last weekend. It was a great experience and I got a chance to get involved in certain activities of SOMRFT (Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellows) section of AAP. I participated in proposing a resolution in the NY chapter II meeting and that resolution was adopted by the chapter and was later on presented in the grand meeting of SOMRFT. I also met many other residents from the local programs and shared common experiences. Attached with the email are some of the pictures taken at the occasion.

I would like to thank you and my program for selecting me to represent it in annual AAP conference. This certainly has given me a chance to develop certain leadership skills that hopefully will be helpful to advocate for children in the future.

Multi-Mom Shower

A multi-momma shower was held at Katie Fry’s home on Nov 3rd, put on by Katie, Nellie and Allison for new or almost-moms Lina Hajar, Winter Berry, Carla Overton, and Jaclyn Sisskind.

Photojournalist Ashley Meyer was there, and reported that “Allison, Katie and Nellie did a great job. I was just lucky enough to attend and take some pictures. We had all ages from Beth Nelsen's almost 3 week old daughter Emily, to 1st year residents like Caitlin, and all the way up to some of our wonderful attendings such as Drs. McHugh, McGuid, Chang, Nelsen, Pekarsky, Kennedy, and community pediatrician and former resident Jen Sacks. A good time was had by all, with good food, great gifts and fun games. The mothers being honored were Winter, Carla, Jaclyn, and Lina. Babies/kids in attendance included new baby Emily from Beth, Stephanie Oliva brought her beautiful daughter Charlotte, Karen Teelin brought her daughter, and Asalim brought Malik. He was the man of the party.”

Stay tuned right here for those upcoming birth announcements and pictures!

Where There’s a Will…

A very familiar and well loved face recently made his debut apparence at a hockey game where one of the teams, dressed in pink, was coached by our own Jay Peacock. The Oswego State Men’s ACHA D1 hockey team proudly raised $1200 for the Upstate Cancer Center in Syracuse when they hosted their first annual Pink the Rink weekend. Oswego defeated both Cortland and Binghamton in 2 NECHL games. Former heme/Onc patient Will Schrader is a 3-year survivor of relapsed AML and was a special guest who was asked to drop the ceremonial pink puck before one of the games. Dr. Kennedy told the Crier, “He spent a large amount of his treatment as an inpatient, we all know him well. I recommended him because he LOVES hockey and I knew he would enjoy meeting the team.” The team presented Will with an autographed Laker Hockey hat before the game. As their web site put it, “Real men do wear pink!”

Thanks guys for your generosity and your support of the Upstate Cancer Center.

December Radiothon Benefits GCH

The 10th annual Clear Channel Radiothon for Kids at the GCH will broadcast live from the studios of WSYR Radio, B104, and Y94 Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 5 and 6 from 5 AM to 6 PM, and Friday, Dec. 7 from 5 to 9 AM. Throughout the broadcast, phone bank volunteers will be stationed on the second floor lobby of Upstate (More - http://upstateonline.info/static/Nov15-Nov222012/blog/story-4/index.html)

If you get a chance to call or stop by, or if you get a call from one of the volunteers, please feel free to make a donation. All proceeds from Radiothon remain in Central New York to benefit patients who receive care at the children’s hospital.
A Very Long Honeymoon
Congratulations to our new intern Ibraheem (Bob) Al Shareef who was recently married and even more recently received his visa so he can finally start his residency training. We are delighted that he made it. He and his wife will be arriving just about the time this Crier goes to print. Bob told the Crier, “We got married on June 16, 2012. Her name is Malak Darwish (Malak means "angel" in Arabic). While we are sure it was difficult waiting for his paperwork to come through, it did allow for one of the longest honeymoons in recorded history. In fact, Bob tells the Crier they are currently expecting their first child. So, triple congratulations are in order!

The Buck Stops Here
The Crier recently received the following note from former resident JOJO Riego:

I am still working here in the Appalachian mountains of Eastern Kentucky and just finished my 3 year J-1 waiver contract to work in an underserved community last August. I am now waiting for my green card (permanent resident visa) which I hope will be released in the next couple of months. Last year, I joined with my friends to go deer rifle hunting in the fall and I got my first buck. The feeling was great! I had the deer head mounted and displayed it in my living room. Life here in the mountains is very laid back and I miss my life in Syracuse. I am the only one who's orange in a blue country. My buddies will pick on me when it comes to basketball for I am the only 'CUSE fan and wearing orange on my head.

My family is doing great here in Paintsville, KY. My eldest son JED in now in 8th Grade and is doing very well in academics. Last summer, he was a delegate to the Leadership training seminar in Harvard University and was awarded by Duke University for getting an ACT score of 26 in the 7th Grade. He was also a Governor's Cup Kentucky State Champion in Academics. I can't complain about the quality of education that my children are getting here. My daughter Vernice (5th Grade) and youngest son James (1st Grade) are doing equally good as well in academics. As of now, I am just waiting for my permanent visa to come and my son to finish 8th Grade. Then I am planning to apply for a job somewhere else. I have not started looking for a job since I have not received my green card yet. That's all about my life here in Kentucky. So far I am enjoying my job and my life with my friends and family here. Regards to everyone in 'CUSE area and to your family and to your baby. Kudos to the new mommy. I have attached my pic here with my first buck because I am a facebook-less hunter. Cheers, JOJO

Pumpkin Contest Winners
Congratulations to all of the winners of the 2nd Annual Pumpkin decorating contest.
Individual Entries: The Grand Prize winner was Andy Butchko with his “Wonderful World of Harry Potter”. Second prize went to Lt. Tracy Collins - “Trick or Treat Snowman”.
Group entries: The Grand Prize went to Unit 4C/4A - “Emerald M&M”. Second prize went to Nursing Case Management - “M&M’s”.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS
12/1 Gloria Kennedy
12/5 Jeremy Steele
12/12 Joe Gianfagna
12/14 Vicki Meguid
12/16 Kathie Contello, Christie Hall
12/23 Robert Lebel
12/24 Linda McAleer
12/26 Tom Welch, Allison Martin