The New Faculty Reception
Cherlynn Clarry
Our annual reception to welcome the new pediatric faculty to the Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital was held on November 17 at the Stickley Museum. The following faculty were introduced:

- Olamide Ajagbe, MD (Pediatric Hospitalist)
- Matthew Egan, MD (Pediatric Cardiology)
- Courtney DuMond, Ph.D. (Clinical Psychology)
- Derek Gorski, DO (Upstate Pediatrics)
- Erin Hanley, MD (Pediatric ED)
- Jonathan Riddell, MD (Pediatric Urology)
- Melissa Schafer, MD (Pediatric Hospitalist)
- Caitlin Sgarlat, DO (Pediatric Rheumatology)

Thanks to everyone who attended and gave our new faculty members an “official” warm welcome. The Stickley Museum was a great venue and we were honored to have Mrs. Audi speak and give us a short history of Stickley. If you haven’t visited the museum, please take an opportunity to do so, you will not be disappointed.

AAP Conference

The annual AAP conference was in Boston this year from Oct 15-18. Our AAP resident representative, Shelly-Ann Williams was there representing the department along with Raya Safa and Matt Ryzewski. Shelly-Ann gave the following report: “Raya and I went together and it was at the end of the 1st day we ran into Matt. The conference was great. I was able to go to a few lectures given during the meeting of the Section on International Child Health as well as the SOMSRFT (Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees) meeting. Raya went to some of the cardiology lectures and said that she had a great time. We both even ran into persons we knew from our respective countries which was an added treat! I would recommend that if residents have the chance to go to a national meeting that they attend. It really is inspiring to see what other places are doing, to learn from others in the field and to experience the wider world of pediatrics.” - Shelly-Ann

The Memory Tree
In case you haven’t had the chance to see it for yourself yet, the tree sculpture that honors children who have died in the GCH has now been set up in the garden area next to the Treehouse entrance. The installation was designed and executed by an artist in Ithaca. Individual leaves carrying the names of children will next be attached to the tree. Plans for lighting, benches, and additional plantings in the area are in progress. Some time in the spring there will be a ceremony for families whose children are memorialized to dedicate the sculpture. We’ll keep you posted.

The Mini-Sills
On October 31st you may have thought you were seeing double on the Heme/Onc floor when 7-year old Zachary dressed up as his favorite doctor, Richie Sills, MD in the Halloween parade. Pictured below is the mini-imposter.

Future Pediatricians
Baby #2
Congratulations to Imad Absah on the birth of big baby boy, Jude on 10/28/2011 at 9 lb 1 oz. Imad tells the Crier that both
Hanan and Jude are doing well, as is older sister Maya.

Baby #3
As promised, here is a picture of Julia Rose Peksarsky born on 10/26 at 6 lb 13 oz. joining the Pekarsky twins, Matthew and Eli.

The Winner
Congratulations to Astha Khanna who was notified last month that on Resident Appreciation Day her name was drawn from all of the residents and she won the rechargeable compact multi charger. So, if anyone ever needs a recharge you now know where to go.

Radiothon for children with cancer
The Ninth Annual Radiothon for Kids will be broadcast live from the Upstate lobby on Nov. 30 to Dec. 2 on Newsradio 570AM, 106.9 WSYR, and B104.7 from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 2, from 5 to 9 a.m. All proceeds will benefit children who are being treated at Upstate for cancer or a blood disorder. During Radiothon, and after, the public (and you) can make a donation by calling 315-464-HOPE (464-4673).

Dying To Be Perfect
Congratulations to Dr. Bob Cavanaugh on the release of his new book entitled, Dying to be Perfect: How Teens Can Stay Happy, Healthy and Alive. The book is “a call to arms to combat the powerful societal pressures that threaten the health and well-being of young people today. Utilizing the three stages of space flight as a metaphor for the stages of adolescence, Dying to be Perfect takes readers on an imaginary voyage into the mind of an adolescent. As with puberty, the maturing of the adolescent mind can be divided into three stages — early, middle, and late — each of which is quite different from the other. By explaining the hazards and temptations to be expected at each stage, the book better prepares teens and their parents for the journey ahead. The mission of this journey will be to return adolescent voyagers back safely, as happy, healthy adults once they have trekked through outer space. Teens have much in common with astronauts, including the need to keep open channels of communication and stay connected to the home base for the best chance of avoiding accidents and completing the mission successfully.” It is Dr. Cavanaugh’s hope that Dying to be Perfect “will serve as a powerful signal to cut through the smog and pollution of a culture in decay to revive the spirits and lives of adolescents today, giving them a chance to take flight as happy, healthy individuals.”

In an exclusive interview, Dr. Cavanaugh told the Crier, “I was prompted to write the book to raise public awareness that the comprehensive health care needs of adolescents go far beyond the traditional physical and should include the HEADS FIRST topics highlighted in the book. The target audience is both adolescents and their parents with Teen Tips and Parent Tips in each chapter. There are many case histories that should interest professionals who work with teens.” Congratulations, again, Dr. Cavanaugh!

December Events:
- Radiothon – 11/30-12/3
- Tim Horton’s Cookies-for-Kids – 11/30-12/6
- Department Holiday Party in the Treehouse – 12/14
- Channel 9 GCH “Operation Good Things” – 12/15
- Housestaff/Faculty Party – Noon, 12/16
- Holiday Concert in the Treehouse by Innovative Music – 10:30 AM – 12/17

Dinomania
Don’t forget that Dinomania will be on exhibit in the Treehouse art gallery through January 2nd.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS
12/1 Gloria Kennedy
12/1 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
12/29 Mandy Trudell

Have a happy and healthy holiday!