The Grand Opening, Continues.
Editor’s Note: It has been an exciting month since we reported the upcoming Upstate GCH celebration weekend on September 10 – 13. The event was a stunning success as multiple ribbons were cut, ceremonies held, and the Central New York community was introduced to their very own Children’s Hospital.

On September 23, 2009, the dream became a reality as patients were moved from the floors and PICU at Upstate into the new Golisano Children’s Hospital. The beautifully decorated and state-of-the-art equipped rooms suddenly came alive with the bustle of nurses, residents, attendings and, of course, kids! We are grateful to Leola Rogers for this insider’s report:

Movin’ On Up
Leola Rogers, MPH
On Wednesday, September 23, Pediatrics gave a whole new meaning to “Movin’ On Up to the East Side” with the moving of 48 patients from all over University Hospital to the new Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital. The move was a culmination of more than 30 years of planning and design of a children’s hospital, an extraordinary capital campaign and a dedication weekend heretofore not ever seen in Syracuse.

The day started a little slow and tepid with the plan to move a potential of 56 patients from 7 am thru 3:30 pm. The order of moves was 4A, 7H, 8P/8K and finally 4C/4N. There were over 50 volunteers not including staff from other departments. The logistics of the move

was fine tuned with the experience of moving almost 100 adult patients on July 8. It included public safety and physical plant staff manning the Gold, Blue and Yellow elevators ensuring that while patients and families were moved to the 11th or 12th floors in the Blue elevators, their belongings and overbed tables were moved at the same time in yellow elevators. So many of our patients were on isolation precautions; which, required another level of logistics in terms of communication of patient status to those assisting in the move to ensure infection control standards are maintained. The move of 4A was complete by 7:45 am, almost 45 minutes ahead of schedule. The Incident Command group gathered and the decision was made to move the schedule up with 7H moving by 8:15. The move plan timeline was accelerated as we continued to improve upon the time it took a unit to complete a move until the final patient was moved at 1:10 pm. In essence the move was completed almost 2 ½ hours ahead of schedule. There were so many stories to be told, one included a child and family who indicated that we could not make them leave the hospital as we attempted to discharge them from one of the older units, they wanted to be moved to the new hospital and then discharged. The compromise…give them a tour of the new hospital!

Communication was essential from the point of when a unit was ready to move and began moving the first patient, entry to the first set of elevators, placement on the floor and then the next patient. What patients arrived on the right unit and what room they were going in as well as fitting in patients from the ED and Center for Children’s Surgery. Another critical component of the move were the staff and physicians. They were everywhere and with their patients to ensure patients were safe and comfortable and to ease any fears or concerns of the patients and families.

The work continued with the settling of patients and families in their rooms. Tim Horton’s again was one of the heroes of the day, providing coffee, donuts and muffins for the families and staff in the Family Lounges. It was amazing to see some of the technological advancements in place and working, especially the ceiling booms in the PICU. In each room you could see where the patient beds were located at different angles and sections of the room to allow greater visibility by the nurses at the charting stations; but, also visibility and access by the parents. The subbdrop artificial lighting in the patient rooms allowed greater natural lighting from the large windows in the patient rooms. Stories abounded from the parents and staff of their new home and all the possibilities. I knew it had all come together the next morning when Mike Vivlemore, Manager for 12E general Pediatrics indicated that a father said he slept all night. This is just a part of what it is all about and what it was meant to be.

The Upstate GCH in Pictures and in the News:

The Upstate Photo Gallery
http://www.upstate.edu/publicaffairs/mediagallery/main.php?g2_itemId=1273

Upstate GCH – a Youtube Hit!
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sW1JQoc_DNO&feature=player_embedded
Sarah’s Summer Bash
by Karen Teelin
A big thank you to Sarah Finocchiaro for opening up her beautiful home to the Pediatrics Department for an end-of-summer family-friendly bash. The drive to Fulton was shorter than expected and worth every minute. Multiple fun activities included a bouncy house, greatly enjoyed by everyone under 12-years-old plus Kate Robinson and Sharon Somekh; a large lawn perfect for two-year-olds (just ask Owen Sacks, Owen Teelin, or Liam Bennett); a badminton net, and a bonfire. Sarah and guests supplied plenty of delicious food, complete with tasty garden burgers contributed by Christy Rivers and family. Several of the guests were relatively new to Pediatrics Dept events, including Ella Bennett, Gefen Portnoy, and Nora Teelin. They were so impressed with Sarah’s hospitality that they made themselves comfortable and went to sleep, although at least one of them was noted to drink too much and spit-up prior to passing out. All three enjoyed plenty of expert cuddling by Dr. Meguid, Dr. Kanter’s wife, and Enisa Hodzic. As for Dr. Andrake, he arrived fashionably late (a mere four hours after the party start time), just in time to keep the residents under control, as always. Later in the evening the fun continued, but rumors of rum, outfit changes, and grass in the kitchen have not been substantiated. Thank you again to Sarah and her family for such a fun and relaxing evening!

Sween’s: Her name is Lily Grace, born on August 14th and weighing in at 7lbs. 5 oz. She is a gem and we are all enjoying her tremendously. I am going to try and attach a picture or two so I hope they come through. Take care and I hope to see you soon, Love, Anne”

Baby DeJesus
Congratulations to Myla DeJesus who gave birth Miguel Angelo De Jesus Estepa on 9/21 at 4 lbs/12 oz. All are doing fine!

Baby Holme
Congratulations to Ann (5C) and Jamie Holmes, along with big sister, Leah, who welcomed baby Alexis into their family on 9/8. She weighed in at 7 lbs.

Hey, Baby!
It was a great month in pediatrics for birth announcements:

Baby Sveen
First, we received the following note from Dr. Sveen: “Hi all, Just wanted to let you know of the new arrival for the