

THE ADVOCATE

A quarterly publication of The Advocates for Upstate Medical University

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Winter 2019

Mystery, Malt & Merlot set for April 17

Mark your calendar for Friday, April 17 for the 22nd annual Mystery, Malt & Merlot at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown, 100 E. Onondaga St., Syracuse. Cocktails and bidding on auction items begin at 5:30 p.m.

Look forward to the event's offerings of wine, craft beer, and hard cider tastings; a silent auction, a mystery and a delicious dining experience.

Proceeds from the event will benefit a Feeding Therapy Room and the Professional Development and Enrichment Fund at the upcoming Golisano Center for Special Needs of Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital. In the Feeding Therapy Room, children who are experiencing a variety of feeding difficulties, due to a

physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition, will learn age-appropriate skills needed for good nutrition to promote their overall health. Proceeds also will support the professional development and enrichment of faculty and staff at the Center, leading to training in new lines of clinical service to meet the growing needs of the community.

There are seven levels of sponsorship. Consider becoming a sponsor or donating an item for the silent auction.

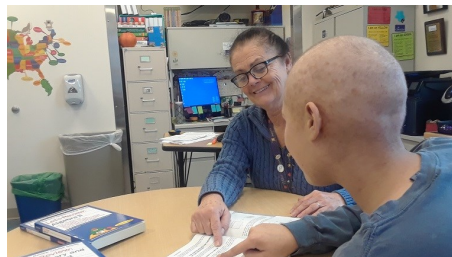
For more information, visit upstate.edu/advocates or call [315-464-5610](tel:315-464-5610).

*See page 4 for more information about the Feeding Therapy Room and the Professional Development and Enrichment Fund.

Advocates support children's hospital school room

For the past 20 years Mary Ellen Michalenko (pictured with patient) has made sure that school-aged patients in Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital can keep up with their schoolwork. Advocates grant funding enables her to buy review books, calculators and all kinds of supplies and materials.

Coordinating with area school districts, Mary Ellen does one-on-one tutoring, adminis-



ters tests, and reassures both children and parents that they will be able to keep up with their peers at school.

"I know I have done my job when children can re-enter their schools up-to-date and on target," she says, adding "I can't thank the Advocates enough for giving me the ability to give these children the tools they need to succeed."

Holiday shopping made easy



Christina Stricker, store manager of Lori's Gifts, displays the many unique gift items in the newly-redesigned shop located in the lobby of Upstate University Hospital.

Make your holiday shopping a win for all by buying from the Advocates contract partners who support our important work: Bee Loved Gifts at Upstate Community Hospital; Lori's Gifts; PerkUp Café in the reopened Upstate University Hospital lobby; Café Kubal in Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital, and Upstate Bistro in the Academic Building.

We also want to acknowledge contract partners Telehealth and American Food & Vending.

A message from our Co-Presidents

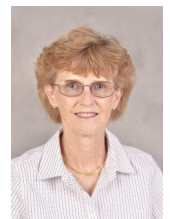


Sharon Putney

As we look forward to the new year, we also look back on the accomplishments and successes of the past year. The Advocates have impacted the lives of many patients and employees through dollars donated to patient care activities and scholarships, as well as through the service projects in which our members have participated. We hope you take great pride in what the Advocates for Upstate has accomplished in 2019. We look forward to 2020 and hope you will continue to be active with the Advocates and that you will en-

courage others to join you in supporting Upstate and its mission.

The holiday season is a time to enjoy time with friends and family. Best wishes for a healthy and happy holiday season to you and your family. And, all the best for 2020!



Tracy Ryder

Tracy Ryder and Sharon Putney
Co-Presidents, Advocates for Upstate

Ornament sale a success!

Advocates Marilyn Crosby (left) and Jean Pirozzi helped sell ceramic ornaments at Upstate Community Hospital November 20-22. The sale netted \$800 to be used by Advocates for Upstate for scholarships and service projects.

Thanks to Vice-President for Fund Development Donna Breen for organizing the sale. Other Advocates helping were Karen Baron, Judy Davis, Rosemary Fenneman, Jane Horyl, Sue Hamilton, Bob Jutton, Gerri MacLachlan, Bob & Jean Pirozzi and Sharon Putney.



Meet The Advocate- Larissa Brenner

Larissa Brenner is proof that to get something done, you should ask a busy person!

Larissa and her husband, Dr. Jay Brenner of Upstate's Emergency Medicine Department and medical director of the Community Campus Emergency Department, have two children, Hudson, a sixth grader, and Skylar, a fourth grader.

Larissa has been a Girl Scout co-leader for four years, a Merit Badge Councilor for her son's BSA troop, and a member of the Committee on Ministry at her church. She volunteers at her children's schools, with Interfaith Works of CNY, and is a member of the Town of Manlius Democratic Committee.



Born in Stanhope, NJ, Larissa initially came to the Syracuse area for her master's degree in Public Administration and her Masters of International Relations at Syracuse University.

Larissa and her family enjoy traveling, riding bikes, yoga and hiking. Musically talented, she sings with the Syracuse University Oratorio Society and has also been a member of the Syracuse Opera Chorus and Syracuse Pops Chorus.

As an Advocate, Larissa has joined the Membership and Scholarship committees, and pitched right in as a new Advocate with the Silent Auction for M3 this April.

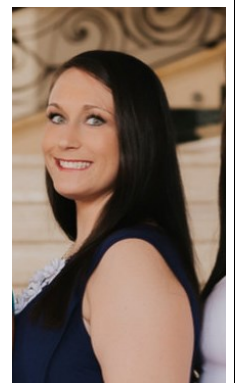
Advocates support blood drive



Advocates Donna Breen, vice-president for Fund Development, left, and Jane Horyl, register donors at the October drives held at Upstate University Hospital and Upstate Community Hospital. Goals for both hospitals were met. See page 4 for dates of future blood drives.

Meet a Nellie Hurley Scholar

Katie Andrews is one of our 2019 Nellie Hurley Scholars. She is completing her Bachelor of Science degree in Community and Human Services at SUNY Empire State College, graduating this month. She has worked at Upstate for over 14 years and has also worked locally in the counseling field. She hopes to use a combination of both personal and professional experience and education to improve the lives of those in her community.



Nellie Hurley Scholarship applications, available to Upstate employees and volunteers, will be available again in June, 2020.

ADVOCATES FOR UPSTATE

*Supporting healthcare and scholarship
through fundraising and service*

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Promoting good nutrition for special needs children

The upcoming Golisano Center for Special Needs will significantly increase Upstate's capacity to help children with special needs.

Two vital programs of the Center are this year's beneficiaries of Mystery, Malt & Merlot- a Feeding Therapy Room and the Professional Development and Enrichment Fund.

In the Feeding Therapy Room, board certified behavior analysts and licensed psychologists will assess and treat a variety of feeding difficulties in children with special needs that are related to a severe level of food refusal behaviors. These behaviors may include food selectivity (e.g. consuming only a few non-nutritive foods), food refusal (e.g. presence of a gastronomy tube) or developmentally restricted food consumption (e.g. school-aged children who only consume baby food and/or drink out of a bottle). The specialists will work to ensure that the child is receiving the right nutrition, eating in an age-appropriate way and given the skills needed to overcome their feeding difficulties. Clinical services will be supplemented with in-home visits to ensure the child continues to consume all foods successfully with his/her caregiver in the natural environment.

The Professional Development and Enrichment Fund will support and promote networking education and research opportunities to enhance the level of expertise and further professional development of faculty and staff at the center. These development opportunities will lead to training in new lines of clinical service to further meet the needs of the special needs population in the community by permitting Center staff to receive additional training to address current unmet needs such as social skills development, in-home behavior therapy for children with autism, and helping adolescents with special needs transition to adulthood.

Save the Date

Blood Drive- Upstate Community Hospital (Main Cafeteria)

Tuesday, Jan. 7: Noon- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Blood Drive- Upstate University Hospital (2nd Floor Cafeteria)

Thursday, Jan. 16: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 17: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Volunteers for registration or canteen welcomed. Call 315-464-5610