

Cycling Challenge Raises Money for Brain Tumor Research

The Second Annual *Hope Starts Here Cycling Challenge* was a tremendous success!

According to Dr. Richard Rovin, a neurosurgeon on staff at Marquette General Health System who oversees the Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center, approximately \$26,000 was raised at the May 12 event in Marquette.

"It was a tremendous success," Dr. Rovin said. "It was a beautiful day for riding and the turnout was fantastic. We will use the money for brain tumor advocacy, research, education and treatment."

Dr. Rovin reports that 194 riders participated in the fund-raiser for the Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center (UMBTC), more than double the number of participants from a year ago. They chose either a 35-mile trek or a 5-mile meander along the pristine Lake Superior shoreline bike path.

In addition, 17 riders from the Houghton area staged a satellite ride in the Keweenaw and sent more than \$400 in donations to the UMBTC. More than 30 generous sponsors provided food, beverages, advertising, cash and volunteer support to make the event safe and memorable.

This year's top fundraisers were Team Kus, led by John and Molly Kus of Marquette. Family and friends rallied behind the Kus family as they fight Molly's newly diagnosed brain tumor. For the second year in a row, Elizabeth Schut garnered individual top fund-raiser recognition. Elizabeth raised more than



Dr. Richard Rovin

\$1,500 by asking people for \$1 each!

Following a delicious lunch, participants enjoyed an inspirational concert by David Bailey, whose music brought

the crowd to tears one minute and peels of laughter the next. Bailey, a 10-year survivor of a malignant glioma brain tumor, sang of hope, love, friendship and faith during the 90-minute concert. Bailey will return to Marquette on April 24, 2008, so be sure to mark your calendars.

A sister event, the *Walk in the Park*, was successfully held in Escanaba. Hosted by the McInnis Family, the event's proceeds—in excess of \$5,300—were entirely directed to the UMBTC. The highlight of the event was a \$3,000 donation from the Susan Anderson Family, with the money earmarked for brain tumor research at Northern Michigan University and the UMBTC. Don McInnis died of a malignant glioma several years ago and since then his family and the Delta County community have raised funds to find enhanced treatment and a cure for brain tumors.

The *Hope Starts Here 2008 Cycling Challenge* will be held on Saturday, May 10. Check out www.hopestartshere.org for more details.

The Marquette General Foundation thanks all participants for their generous support!

Stocks and Giving: A Winning Combination

Many charitable-minded people are aware that it can be beneficial to both the donor and the charity when gifts are made using appreciated assets. One class of assets that is common to many of us, and which is very easy to gift, is stocks.

When considering charitable gifts, a donor may wish to consider planned giving alternatives as opposed to simply writing a check or making a large cash gift. Major gifts can take many forms, each offering different tax and giving advantages. Often, by making gifts of appreciated assets like stock, a donor can make the same dollar commitment but forward more net dollars to the foundation AND receive a larger tax deduction.

If you sell a block of stock for \$50,000, which you paid \$10,000 for years ago, you would pay a capital gains tax on \$40,000. For most of us, that tax bill would be \$6,000. That leaves \$44,000 to gift to the Marquette General Foundation. The donor would obtain a \$44,000 income tax deduction. While that is a substantial gift, it can be improved upon with little extra work.

In another example, let's say that you gift the stock to the Marquette General Foundation, and the Foundation then sells it. The Foundation is a qualified charity, and accordingly, does not have to pay capital gains tax. Once the Foundation received your gift of stock, we would sell it for the same \$50,000. Since the Foundation does not have to pay capital gains taxes, we would keep the entire \$50,000.

Both you and the Marquette General Foundation benefit by an extra \$6,000.

For more information on stocks as charitable gifts, contact Jim at 906-225-3431, 906-361-3431 (cell) or by email at jlajoie@mgh.org.



Mission/Vision

We develop resources and build enduring partnerships resulting in life-saving advancements and improved health for the people of the Upper Peninsula.

Children and Philanthropy:

Second-Grade Class Gifts to Foundation

Douglas O'Hagan likes to help sick people.

Grace Feliz says giving to others "just makes you feel good."

As a result, Marquette General Health System is richer in more ways than one.

This past school year, O'Hagan and Feliz were students in teacher Judy Smith's second-grade elementary class at Cherry Creek School in Marquette. With their classmates, they actively participated in three school fundraisers: a can drive, a "Y-ties" shoelace sale and a used book sale. Their collective purpose was to raise money to help others.

They raised more than \$700 for a class trip to Munising to go on the Pictured Rocks Boat Cruise. During the school year, the class decorated small boats that were carefully carved by one of the parents. During the Pictured Rocks



Cherry Creek second-grade students, front row, (l-r) Tori Wiese, Grace Feliz, Kerrigan Braun, Zoey Peterson, Wyatt Goodwin and Alex DuVall. Second row, Garrett Finkbeiner, Dillon Bennetts, Douglas O'Hagan, Cassidy Kamrada, Taylor Ehnis and Samantha Sheltrou. Third row, Mrs. Judy Smith.

excursion, the students let their boats sail, with the hope that many would find their way into the hands of others.

With the remaining money raised, the students decided to gift \$170 to Marquette General Hospital and another charitable organization.

"Some of these kids have parents who work at Marquette General," Mrs. Smith

said. "It was their way of giving back."

Feliz said she wanted to give to Marquette General for one simple reason: "I want to help people so they will be healthy. I feel really good about that."

O'Hagan said he hopes the money will help cover charges for x-rays and medicine for those patients who have an inability to pay. "I kind of thought that this would be nice," he said. "There are a lot of sick people at Marquette General, and I wanted to give to a hospital."

Mrs. Smith recently presented the \$170 check to the Marquette General Foundation, which recognized the students' kindness at an end-of-year pool party at Mrs. Smith's house.

"This serves as a shining example of philanthropy at work at an early age," said Jim LaJoie, planned giving/major gifts manager of the Marquette General Foundation. "Giving comes from the heart and these children clearly exhibit that. We're very thankful for their gift."

"Friends of Dialysis" Awareness Initiative Launched

Perhaps you know someone who has kidney disease and requires dialysis treatment or will need dialysis care in the near future. For many, dialysis is a life-saving treatment needed three times each week to remove harmful waste products from the blood.

The 14-station Hemodialysis Unit at Marquette General serves Marquette, Alger and Baraga Counties. As a regional medical center, the Marquette Hemodialysis Unit also provides acute critical treatments for all U.P. dialysis patients.

The Hemodialysis Unit has an immediate need to replace five of its 21 machines. It simply needs new equipment. New equipment will experience less downtime and interruptions to Marquette General's valued dialysis patients.

The Hemodialysis Unit at Marquette General is partnering with the Marquette General Foundation (www.mgh.org/foundation) on a "Friends of Dialysis" awareness initiative.

Friends and supporters of Marquette General, you now have a wonderful opportunity to help a dialysis program that has touched the lives of many family and friends.

Giving forms are available in the Hemodialysis Unit, in the Marquette General Foundation, and as an online form or downloadable version on the Marquette General Foundation Web site ([www.mgh.org/foundation/friends of dialysis](http://www.mgh.org/foundation/friends%20of%20dialysis)).

For more information, contact Hemodialysis Nurse Manager Andrea Wills, RN, BSN, at 906-225-3263 or Jim LaJoie, Planned Giving/Major Gifts Manager in the Marquette General Foundation, at 906-225-3431 or jlajoie@mgh.org.

Spotlight On Our Board **Mark Canale**

I was born and raised in Marquette, graduated from Marquette Senior High School in 1975 and then attended Northern Michigan University. I graduated from the University of Minnesota Department of Mortuary Science in 1979.

I became interested in funeral service at the age of 12 when a childhood friend of mine, the same age, succumbed to a brain tumor. It was my first experience attending the funeral of someone my own age. I was positively affected by the care and gentle nature of the funeral director who assisted my friend's parents and siblings. A year later, while in the eighth grade, I decided on funeral service as a vocation. At 15, I began working for a funeral home in Marquette.

I have owned and operated the Canale-



Tonella Funeral Home in Marquette since 1986 and the Gwinn Funeral Home in Gwinn since 2000. I'm engaged in the day-to-day operations of

these facilities. We're on call, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

A typical day might include all of the following: transferring someone's loved one into our care; embalming; making funeral arrangements with a family; conducting a funeral; visiting with families long after we have served them to see they're adjusting to their loss; meeting with vendors; and meeting with individuals to plan for their own eventual funerals.

Marquette General Hospital and its

tremendous family of employees have always held a special place in my heart. In my work as a funeral director, I'm often interacting with employees of Marquette General, and I consistently find them to be some of the most professional people I have ever known. They all seem to have the best interests of Marquette General and the community in mind.

For these reasons, when I was asked if I would serve on the Marquette General Foundation Board of Directors, I said, 'Yes,' with little hesitation. I believe the future of Marquette General is a bright one, but it takes "many caring hands" to pull it all together. If everyone's goal is the same, then anything we set our mind to will come to fruition.

UPLift

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