



Spring 2012

# Home Front

A publication of  
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southeastern Michigan

## Re-Rally for Ronald!

The Ronald McDonald House of Southeast Michigan was in a Face Book Challenge for the entire month of March 2012. We were one of 11 semi-finalists in the Home Depot Foundation's Aprons to Action contest. The RMH landed in 4th place, just shy of 3rd place. Our theme for the contest was, "RALLY FOR RONALD!"

Even though the contest is now officially over, the need for the funds continue. The House still needs a new roof, new patio, new flooring for

16 rooms, several room renovations and new shower facilities for 11 rooms. This financial need adds up to well over \$250,000.

We are asking our donors to reach into their hearts and please "RE-RALLY for Ronald!" Please consider making a donation to the Ronald McDonald House to help with our continued operational needs and renovation projects.

We may not have won the Home Depot Face Book Challenge, but we can rally again and raise funds for our House projects this year.



Re-Rally for Ronald and help thousands of families that stay at our Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.

"The Ronald McDonald House and their amazing staff have been such a blessing to us. It is a true, home-away-

from-home. We appreciate the home cooked meals and wonderful rooms. Please remember to donate. We would not know what to do without their support."

—Jamie Broecker, *Past President*

**Please Note:** The enclosed donation slip and return envelope is part of our **RE-RALLY for RONALD** Fundraising Appeal. Please remember the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit for your tax-deductible donation.

## Events at a Glance

Call 313-745-5909 or visit  
[www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org) for tickets and details.

- 5/5 – *Mother and Child Day Tea*
- 6/1 – *Vinni Golf Outing*
- 6/21 – *Diamonds and Jeans Jubilee in the Garden*
- 7/14 – *Pig and Whiskey*
- 7/15 – *McBikers*
- 8/24 – *70's Princess Cruise*
- 8/26 – *Guirey Golf Outing*
- 10/6 – *McDonald's Gala*
- 12/1 – *Townsend Tea*

**May 5**

**Mark Your Calenders!**

## Mother and Child Tea at Royal Park

Last year, this first-time event had over 75 guests who enjoyed the new **Mother and Child Tea** fundraiser at the **Royal Park Hotel**.

This year, on May 5th, Co-Chairs **Patty Kostecki** and RMHC of SE Michigan Board Member and President **Deb Virgiles**, will organize another incredible day of celebrations with mothers and fathers present.

Special thanks to Patty and Deb and board member, **Lenny Williams**, for helping us to organize this event. We expect to sell out in 2012!



Mother and Child Tea Co-Chairs, Patty Kostecki and Deborah Virgiles with RMHC Director Jen Litomisky.

# Upcoming RMH Events!

**June 1**

## 10th Annual Vinni's Children's Charity Golf Outing!

Grab your clubs and tees and join us at the **2012 Vinni Golf Outing** on June 1st. You can register online at [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org) or call the front office at 313-745-5909. We accept Visa, MC and Discover.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Our starting time has *CHANGED* – We are now teeing off at **8:00 a.m.**



Team Denso  
and RMH  
Board Member/  
Vinni Golf  
Outing Organizer,  
Cary Adragna.

Thanks to our generous sponsors this year: **McDonalds - SEMMOA, Coca-Cola; USA Today; Dr. Pepper; McCann Foods; Jaguar; Outback Steakhouse; Group Associates; Take 2 Authentics; Papa Joe's; Nino Salvaggio; CK Diggs** and many more!

And **SPECIAL THANKS** to our **LEAD Vinni Golf Outing Title Sponsor** –



*This is a sellout event and we will only accept 144 golfers. Please RSVP as soon as possible! Call Jennifer @ 313-745-5911 for more details or check out our website [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org) to register or become a sponsor via PayPal!*

Register or become a sponsor via PayPal – **313-745-5911** or [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org)



# More Exciting Spring & Summer Events!

**June 21**

## Coca-Cola, Denim and Diamonds Garden Jubilee!

Grab your cowboy boots, best Stetson Hat and some Coca-Cola or some delicious wine and come on out and enjoy the jubilee in the garden at the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.

Chair of this garden event, **Deborah Virgiles**, is personally inviting everyone to come on out and see the gardens of the Detroit Ronald McDonald House and kick up your heels to the modern country music of **Julianne Ankley**.

Last year, over 90 guests enjoyed the 7th annual event in the gardens of the Ronald McDonald House.

This is a sell out event, so please RSVP early at: 313-745-5909. Tickets are \$50 per person and that includes a delicious country meal and desserts provided by **Levi Restaurants; Cindy Randolph, Bob Angelinas** and **Sander's Ice Cream!**

Wine and other drinks included.



**July 15**

## McBikers

On Sunday, July 15th, McDonald Owner/Operator, **Peter Donaghue** will once again host his ride in Waterford, Michigan. Even if you don't ride, join us at **Boomers!** Please contact the House for more details on the event.

Big thanks to  
**Peter and  
Nancy  
Donaghue.**



**October 6**

## Ronald McDonald House GALA at the Motor City Casino Sound Board!

The yearly **Ronald McDonald House Gala** is hosted by the **Southeast Michigan McDonald's Operators Association** and **DTE Energy** and has raised thousands of dollars for both the Detroit and Ann Arbor Houses.



This year's event will be at the **Motor City Casino Sound Board** on Saturday, October 6th. Please call the House at 313-745-5909 for ticket and sponsorship information.

*We salute and thank our McDonald Owner/Operators, the vendors, sponsors and guests for organizing, donating and attending this spectacular yearly event!*

Register or become a sponsor via PayPal – **313-745-5911** or [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org)

# Join us and help support RMHD!

**August 24**

## Join Us at our **RETRO 70's Cruise on the River.**

Last year's Detroit Princess Cruise was so successful and so much fun, that we decided to do it ONE more time.

This year we will, SHAKE, SHAKE, SHAKE... like KC and the Sunshine Band – up and down the Detroit River.

We take off at 6:00 p.m. and will party until 10:00 p.m.

Please contact our Event Consultant, **Linda Porter** at 313-745-5909 for more details.



**December 1**

## Holiday Tea @ the Townsend

The Ronald McDonald House of Detroit will host the **7th Tea at the Townsend** scheduled for Saturday, December 1st at the Townsend Hotel, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$55 each.

This event sells out every year, so those interested in reserving a spot at this holiday extravaganza should contact the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit at 313-745-5911.

If you or your company would like to be a sponsor, there are all kinds of opportunities! Call Jennifer @ 313-745-5911 for more details – OR check out our website [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org) and register or become a sponsor via PayPal.

**LAST EVENT  
OF THE YEAR  
Don't Miss It!**



## Kudos Corner

### **1-800-HANSON – Hansons Windows Replaces \$25,000 of Windows at the House!**



Brian Elias and Ronald McDonald

*This spring Brian Elias and his entire workcrew and media staff, stopped at the House and donated \$25,000 of windows and installation, as well as replacement of several windowsills. **We salute and thank 1-800-Hansons, Brian Elias and his entire staff!***

Register or become a sponsor via PayPal – **313-745-5911** or [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org)



## Big Thanks to UAW-Ford!

Thanks again to the UAW-Ford members in Detroit for their donation of over \$95,000 to the Detroit Ronald McDonald House! This donation will help with some of our renovation and operational need for the year!

## A BIG Thanks to Our Major Donors!

- Art Van Furniture
- Bissell
- CBS
- Coca-Cola
- Detroit Yacht Club
- Dr. Pepper
- Ford Motor Company
- Georgia-Pacific
- General Motors
- Hansons Window - 1-800-HANSONS
- Home Depot – Lake Orion Store
- IADT – Detroit Campus
- International Association of Home Stagers – Carolyn Stieger
- JC Plumbing
- Johnson Controls Inc.
- Kyla Marcial – Mrs. Michigan 2010-11
- La-Z-Boy
- Lachinva and Loverich
- M and M
- McCann Foods
- McDonald's; McDonald's Staff and SEMMOA (Southeast Michigan McDonald's Owner/Operators Association)
- ME Consultants
- Pepsi Bottling Co.
- Quicken Loans
- Radisson
- Ronald McDonald House Board Members
- Sander's
- Southwest Airlines
- UAW-Ford
- USA Today
- Walmart
- Wisner Electric

...and to **all of the donors, sponsors and volunteers** who have invested their time, energy and love to our charity!

## RMHD Wish List...

There are many ways you can help us provide a home away from home for families in need. You could prepare a meal for the families at the House or supply the House with non-perishable food items. Canned food drives are a wonderful gift to the House! And we always need toys for children that stay at our House.

Remember, its **cash and gifts-in-kind** that will help the families that stay at the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit. Look over the list below and see if you can help with any of these much needed items. Please make your donation today! Contact **Jennifer Litomisky**, Executive Director at 313-745-5911 for more information.

### Urgent Needs:

- Gift cards

### Food & Kitchen Supplies

- Sugar, flour
- Cooking oil
- Canned soup (any brand or type)
- Paper plates
- Cups and glasses
- Plastic utensils
- Zip Loc® bags (all sizes)
- Plastic wrap
- Silverware
- Take-out containers

### Bedroom/Bathroom

- Pillow protectors
- Queen and twin size mattress pads
- Clock radios
- Toilet paper; Kleenex®

### Cleaning & Laundry

- Dow® bathroom cleaner, Windex®
- Laundry and dishwasher detergent (powder)
- Fabric softener sheets
- Bleach (Color Safe Clorox®)
- Comet® cleanser, Pine Sol®
- Air fresheners spray
- Air fresheners – solids
- Glade Plug-Ins® and sprays
- Carpet Fresh®
- Paper towels

### Children's Stuff

- Hand-held games for the children @ the House: PSP + Games, Nintendo DS® + Games.
- Wii® or PS3® with games
- Newly released family videos
- Disposable diapers
- Portable cribs
- Strollers
- Legos®
- Educational toys

### Office Supplies

- Batteries
- Light bulbs
- Forever Stamps
- Avery® Labels 5160 or equivalent
- Copy paper
- Pilot Rolling Ball® pens – all colors
- Scissors, Scotch® tape, staples and Wite-Out®
- Permanent markers – Sharpies® all colors
- Colored file folders

### BIG ITEMS

- White appliances
- Microwave ovens
- Room Renovations



## Board of Directors and Staff –2012

### Officers

Deborah C. Virgiles, *President*  
Cynthia Bechill, *Vice President*  
William Moran, *Treasurer*  
Lenny Williams, *Secretary*  
John Jackson,  
*Immediate Past President*

### Board Members

Cary Adragna  
Gary Brandt  
Kelly Donaldson  
Gail Gotthelf  
Gary Granader  
Yvonne Haddix  
Tom Haggerty  
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Scott Langenburg, M.D.  
Kyla Marcial  
Frank Martin  
Joel McCormick  
Teresa Mullins  
Gwen Seay  
Errol Service  
Thad Szott  
Tim Turcyn  
Rebecca Walsh  
Len Williams

### Honorary Life Members

Harry Granader, *in memoriam*  
Ginny Hayes  
Jack Hertzler  
Dr. Jimmie Leleszi  
Dan Levitsky  
Mary Pat McDougall  
Mary Renkiewicz  
Barbara Wachler  
Jerry Young

### Emeritus

Alan Frank  
John G. Levy  
Paul Pellerito

### RMH Staff

Jennifer Litomisky  
*Executive Director*  
Jackie Kennedy, *House Manager*  
Irma Hudson  
*Resident House Manager*  
Mike McCoy  
*Special Events and  
House Maintenance Director*  
Linda Porter  
*Event Consultant*  
Jeannine Monkowski  
*Data Entry Manager*  
Tim Cowley, *Accountant*

Checkout our NEW Website

**[www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org)**

Do you 'LIKE' us?



Follow us on our Facebook Fan Page at  
Ronald McDonald House Charities of SE  
Michigan. Be sure to press the LIKE button  
to keep up on events, stories and  
House updates!



And don't forget to follow us  
on Twitter @RMHC\_Detroit

## Welcome NEW Board Members!

We want to give a warm welcome to our  
newest board members who were elected  
in February 2012. We look forward to  
their service to our chapter.

- Tom Haggerty
- Kyla Marcial
- Teresa Mullins
- Gwen Seay
- Thad Szott

## Re-Rally for Ronald!

Please consider making a donation to the  
Ronald McDonald House to help us continue  
to provide "a home away from home" for  
families of sick children. Call 313-745-5911  
or visit [www.rmhc-detroit.org](http://www.rmhc-detroit.org) to find out  
how you can help.

**THANK YOU!**