

Community News

Levine Children's Hospital Receives US News Recognition for Treatment of Kidney Disorders

Levine Children's Hospital (LCH) has been ranked 14th in the nation for kidney treatment, based on the U.S. News Media Group's 2009 edition of "America's Best Children's Hospitals."

That edition of *U.S. News & World Report* went on newsstands in late July. It ranks pediatric hospitals in ten specialties, including cancer, diabetes and endocrine disorders, digestive disorders, heart and heart surgery, kidney disorders, neonatal care, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, respiratory disorders, and urology.

Martha Whitecotton, Administrator of LCH, said the award was heartening because the hospital grew out of a vision by the Carolinas HealthCare System Board of Commissioners, CHS's senior leadership and the community to bring the very best pediatric healthcare to Charlotte.

"This recognition is testimony to the success of that vision," she said, "and to the high quality of pediatric medical care available to the children of this region. It is especially significant that we qualified for an honor of this magnitude after less than two years of operations in the new facility."

Dr. Leonard Feld, Chairman of Pediatrics and Chief Medical Officer at LCH, said, "It is wonderful for our Division of Pediatric Nephrology and our other kidney services to be recognized by *U.S. News and World Report*. It validates the fact that world class physicians and caring and compassionate nurses and staff are working here at Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte."

"The real winners, of course, are patients throughout the Carolinas, who can receive outstanding care close to home. We

are very proud of our nephrology, dialysis and transplant teams, and the fact that they are capable of handling a full range of problems, from hypertension, kidney stones, urinary tract infections, or acute and chronic kidney diseases to highly specialized procedures such as renal transplants or dialysis."

The methodology used for this year's *U.S. News* rankings included a three-part weighted blend of reputation, outcome, and care-related measures such as nursing care, advanced technology, credentialing, and other factors. The hospitals were judged based on a combination of opinions from pediatric specialists regarding the hospitals they would recommend for the sickest children.

U.S. News also gathered data using a 65-page survey that covered important medical informa-

tion ranging from surgical death rates to whether pediatric anesthesiologists and other sub specialists are on the staff. A detailed description of the methodology can be found at www.usnews.com/childrenshospitals.

Avery Comarow, Health Rankings Editor for *U.S. News*, explained the significance of the rankings as follows: "A large number of children every year need high-quality hospital care. The objective of our rankings is to help children with uniquely challenging medical needs. It is essential that these special patients seek treatment at pediatric facilities with deep expertise. With this year's rankings, we're providing important information on the best of the best."

Ranking-eligible facilities were largely drawn from the membership roster of the National

Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI), the preeminent national organization representing freestanding children's hospitals and "hospitals within a hospital" (large, multidisciplinary pediatric departments within a medical center).

Several non-NACHRI members were added based on known expertise or the recommendation of experts. Of the 160 children's hospitals invited to complete the 65-page survey, 98 responded. The survey was created and administered by RTI International, the same research organization that oversees *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Hospitals" rankings.

Complete rankings for children's hospitals are available online at www.usnews.com/childrenshospitals. ✪

Another Page in the Book of Life Dan and Ellen Dubin

By Phil Warshauer, executive director, the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community

You may not know Dan and Ellen Dubin. They lead their lives in a very quiet and unassuming way. Judaism is important to them and they take their roles as Jews seriously as they do their best to improve the lives of others.

Dan and Ellen Dubin are among the 46 current members of The Book of Life Society, which was established to recognize those who have established permanent endowments or planned gifts to support the future of our Charlotte Jewish institutions. The Dubins' personal story tells how their role model, Louis Feldman, made philanthropy a priority and led by example. The Dubins have followed that example in their support of the Charlotte Jewish community.

Please take the time to read the Dubins' story and thank them for

their generosity. It is our hope that you will be inspired by this and other stories from Book of Life members, which have been incorporated in a display for all to read on Main Street in Shalom Park's central facility.

Each of us can make a difference in a variety of different ways to help support the future of our Charlotte Jewish community. Please let us help you to write your story and make a difference for future generations.

Phil can be contacted at 704-973-4544 or pwarshauer@charlottejewishfoundation.org for more information or questions about The Book of Life Society. ✪



Dan and Ellen Dubin A Legacy of Tzedakah and Service

Ellen and I both come from modest backgrounds. We were both taught from a young age that it is our responsibility to look out for others, especially those who are less fortunate.

Dan's uncle, Louis Feldman, passed away ten years ago. We decided to establish the Louis Feldman Endowment for Jewish Family Services in his memory. The lessons he taught about tzedakah were not theoretical. Uncle Lou was an unpretentious man with a heart of gold. He worked with his hands and although he was not a big earner, he used those hands to write checks to a variety of Jewish and non-Jewish charities. He was a role model looking after members of his extended family as well as strangers who needed help. Uncle Lou was especially concerned that people not go hungry because as a child he knew what hunger felt like. He would be proud to know that proceeds from the endowment

assist Jewish Family Services to feed the hungry.

Ellen and I raised our family in Charlotte and decided to set up the endowment in Charlotte rather than New York, where Lou had lived. We are members of Temple Israel and also support other Jewish organizations in town. When Ellen's grandfather came to the United States from Eastern Europe, he was helped by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS). Ellen grew up volunteering for several different charities and when the opportunity arose, she became the Volunteer Coordinator for HIAS NC located in Charlotte. She has been working for HIAS since January 1996 and is currently the director for HIAS NC. The agency assists refugees coming to this country. Every time she helps to resettle a refugee and hears his or her story, she is quickly reminded of her grandfather's story and gives thanks for the sac-



Ellen and Dan Dubin

rifices he made to get here. We both believe it is important to provide financial and volunteer support to our local Jewish agencies and have attempted to do this to the best of our abilities.

Contributing to charity is not something done by Jews simply because it is good to do. It is one of our communal responsibilities. We are commanded to do so. Ellen and I have made tzedakah a part of our lives and have done our best to pass this tradition to our children. ✪

JCC Tributes

AUGUST FAMILY TEEN PROGRAMS ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Helga and Hugo Rosenberger from Judy and Stan August

MINDY ELLEN LEVINE DAY CAMP ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of Leon Levine's birthday from Lynn and Paul Edelstein, Ellen and Stuart Fligel, Patty and Bill Gorelick, Helene and Alvin Levine, Jill and Ed Newman, Dale and Larry Polsky, Judi and Leonard Strause, Judie and Michael Van Glish, Mary and Simon Wojnowich

In honor of Sandra and Leon Levine's anniversary from Lynn and Paul Edelstein, Patty and Bill Gorelick, Helene and Alvin Levine, Jill and Ed Newman,

Anita and Marvin Shapiro, Judi and Leonard Strause, Judie and Michael Van Glish

In honor of Leon Levine's award from Ernst and Young from Mary and Simon Wojnowich

In honor of Amy Levine's rmgement from Lynn and Paul Edelstein, Jill and Ed Newman, Mary and Simon Wojnowich

Wishing Lori Wojnowich a happy birthday from Lynn and Paul Edelstein

Wishing Lori and Eric Sklut a happy anniversary from Jill and Ed Newman

MUSLER MEMORIAL FUND FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Wishing Keith Levine a speedy recovery from Paula Musler and Sol Levine

DAVID SILVERMAN MEMORIAL BASKETBALL ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of Judy Rhoads
Wishing Andrea a aappy birthday from Mattye and Marc Silverman

STUART OSTROW MEMORIAL ATHLETIC FUND

In memory of Joel and Paul's Ostrow's mother from Lynn and Paul Edelstein ✪



Hebrew Cemetery Hires New Director

By Kevin Levine, president, Hebrew Cemetery Association

Sandra Goldman joined the Hebrew Cemetery Association on July 1 as the Director.

Sandra spent many years in journalism and public relations in Europe, but has lived in the United States for 15 years. She, her husband and her four children have been in Charlotte for four years. They live near Shalom Park and belong to Ohr Hatorah Congregation. The children, two boys and two girls, are ages 13, 10, 7 and 5.

She is excited to begin her work with the community and we are positive she will be a wonderful steward of the association. She will reach out to our constituents soon.

Until then if you need to contact her please call the directors phone at 704-576-1859 or Shalom Park office at 704-944-6854. Email is director@hebrewcemetery.org. Sandra will be in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30 AM till 12:30 PM. ✪



Sandra Goldman