n a warm autumn evening in October, approximately 65 supporters of Blythedale Children’s Hospital gathered at the Yale Club in New York City to be recognized for their contributions. Guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d’oeuvres, as well as the ambiance of the lovely library of the historic building, all the while sharing stories of the unique circumstances that led them to Blythedale.

Blythedale Board Chair John L. Furth welcomed attendees and thanked them for their vital work on behalf of children with complex medical problems.

“For more than one-hundred years, Blythedale has been continuously improving the delivery of medical care to children with highly complex needs,” said Furth. “It is because of our growing circle of donors that we are able to not only provide all our children with their much-needed medical services, but also look forward to the completion of our new inpatient facility in order to meet the needs of future generations of children.”

Hospital President and CEO Larry Levine echoed the Chair’s sentiments, and provided an update on the Hospital’s $65.3 million building project (see related story on page 7).

Continued on page 2.
Continued from page 1.

“This has been a ground-breaking year at Blythedale… quite literally!” he said as he spoke passionately about the ongoing construction on the Hospital’s campus.

“During challenging economic times, many donors review their finances and perhaps reconsider their philanthropic commitments,” said Levine. “But thanks to a wonderful, growing core of supporters, and the ripple effect created by their ambassadorship on behalf of our children, our future is bright.”

Blythedale has conducted extensive fundraising for the modernization project.

$27.3 million in bonds will be combined with $38 million in philanthropic donations to fund the project. Blythedale has received approximately $30 million in commitments from donors to date.

The second phase of the project calls for an expansion of the existing Day Hospital, a new Center for Speech and Audiology, and a new Center for Assistive Technology.

Levine reminded guests that “at the core of everything we do, is our devotion to improving the lives of all children. We are a beacon of hope to all children because of your generous support.”

Blythedale Trustee Terri Herenstein, the parent of a former patient, shared her family’s touching and inspirational story of the four months they spent at Blythedale following her son’s accident. Her heartfelt account of their experience, and her son’s subsequent recovery, left many in attendance dabbing at tears.

“All of Blythedale’s supporters play a vital role in providing highly customized care to our children,” said Chief Development Officer Betsy Bowman. “Whether they have made a contribution to our building campaign, helped organize a special event, or asked that in lieu of birthday gifts that a donation be made to Blythedale… they have all made a significant impact on the lives of children with needs greater than most can even imagine.”

For further information on Blythedale’s modernization project, please contact Chief Development Officer Betsy Bowman at (914) 592-7138, ext. 411 or email to betsyb@blythedale.org.

Why I Support Blythedale…

“When you walk through the halls of Blythedale, you are immediately struck by the extraordinary children and staff. We recognized the fundamental need for a new facility in order to best meet the children’s needs and we wanted to lend our support. Blythedale is a best-in-class facility and Andor Capital Management Foundation is proud to support Blythedale’s mission – to help build a better future for all children.”

Julia B. Dailey, Chair, Andor Capital Management Foundation

“I love working with Blythedale Children’s Hospital because knowing how much of a difference I am making in these kids’ lives is one of the best feelings I have ever had.”

Zach Auerbach, Scarsdale High School walkathon coordinator

“Blythedale’s journey of excellence in specialty pediatric care includes the most expansive building project in the hospital’s history! Our commitment to the pediatric community means a promising future for health care for children in this region. I cannot think of a more deserving project to support.”

Maureen Desimone, Chief Operating Officer, Blythedale Children’s Hospital
I assume that when most of you take a tour of Blythedale you look at it as a board member with a business perspective, or as a donor with a philanthropic hat on. While in each of those roles I am sure you have empathy for the patients, part of the job of a board member or even a donor/partner is to think about the hospital from a bigger perspective... with a budgeting hat on, a fund-raising hat, or a what’s-the-state-of-the-facilities hat.

When I walk into Blythedale, while I too think about all of those issues, I cannot help but be drawn back into a different role — that of the parent of a patient. It's an unusual perspective for a board member and a donor, and I will try and share some of that perspective with you because when you hear my story, you will remember why it is that you give your time and money to this special institution.

There are many different experiences a parent has at a hospital. One, that is perhaps somewhat unique to Blythedale, is “home away from home”. Unlike an acute care hospital, Blythedale provides longer term services to children.

When my son was here over the summer of 2004, my husband and I literally lived at the hospital. We either slept in a room with him or in the guest house. We showered in the dream lab. We ate our meals in the cafeteria. We took our son to the dream lab. We ate our meals in the cafeteria. We took our son to swim therapy, we really came to view Blythedale as our home away from home. We had family dinners there, Zachary's siblings came to do puzzles and play games with him, Zachary's friends came to visit him, and our friends came to visit us. Everyone said the same thing, Zachary was progressing nicely, the Therapy Village was beautiful, and every child there looked happy. They were struck by the friendliness of the staff and the care and concern they showed each patient. Finally, Zachary was ready to go back to what he called his “Long Island home”.

It gives me great pleasure to share with you that our son Zachary graduated high school with his friends, with honors. He was accepted to Yeshiva University and is currently studying abroad.

While I know this may seem hard to believe, when we talk about Zachary's rehabilitation 5 years ago, it is remembered with great fondness. While we would give anything to turn back time and not have had to deal with such a harrowing experience, we are so thankful that we chose Blythedale as our home away from home because Blythedale took us in during a difficult time in our lives and nursed our son and our family back to health and normalcy. And for that, we will always be grateful.

Terri Herenstein is a member of The Blythedale Children's Hospital Board of Trustees.
Sunningdale Country Club in Scarsdale again served as the perfect setting for the Annual Golf & Tennis Classic to Benefit Blythedale this past September. Bringing in more than $150,000, proceeds will be applied to the Hospital’s building project.

“We are extremely pleased with the success of this year’s benefit,” said Chief Development Officer Betsy Bowman. “This is a wonderful event and we are so appreciative of our dedicated planning committee for giving so much of their time and talents to ensure its success.”

The fundraiser featured more than 100 golfers, 40 tennis players, a luncheon, dinner, live auction, and raffle.

Board Chair John L. Furth and President Larry Levine were on hand to thank participants during the evening’s festivities. Committee member Dan Kortick served as the evening’s emcee, while Sodexo’s Tom Purcell reprised his role as auctioneer.

The Hospital extends its deep gratitude to its sponsors, including The Dreyfus Corporation (dinner sponsor), Sodexo (cocktail reception host), and BlueMountain Capital Management (brunch host), as well as its dedicated planning committee, comprised of Howard Adler, Alan Badey, Robin DeGrasse, Fran Flaimino, Julie Gerstein, Nancy Grundman, Merwin Haskel, Lauren Karr, Michael Koren, Dan Kortick, Carmine Lippolis, Tom Purcell, Heidi Schwartz, Rick Suarez, Edward Sullivan and Leslie Weissman.

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Dreyfus Corporation Senior Portfolio Manager Bernie Kiernan receives a plaque in recognition of Dreyfus’ sponsorship, from Blythedale President and CEO Larry Levine.

The five-course “Chef’s Tasting Menu” is $65 per person, and a wine pairing is available for an extra $30. The seven-course menu is $85 per person, with a wine pairing for an additional $42. Taxes and gratuities are not included.

For more information about the “Chef’s Tasting Menus” or to make reservations, please call (914) 761-4242.
Blythedale Receives $203,624 from Kohl’s for Injury Prevention

Blythedale Children’s Hospital is pleased to announce that it has received a grant of $203,624 from Kohl’s Department Stores for the Hospital’s Injury Prevention Program. A check for the grant was presented at Blythedale’s Injury Prevention Fair held recently at the Kohl’s Store on Central Park Avenue in Yonkers.

“We are very grateful to Kohl’s for their continued support of Blythedale and the important outreach that we are able to provide to our local communities,” said Betsy Bowman, Chief Development Officer for Blythedale Children’s Hospital. “Their generosity ensures the safety and well-being of countless children.”

The Injury Prevention Fair included a wide array of activities for families and a special visit from the Yonkers Fire Department with its own “Smoke House.”

The Blythedale Children’s Hospital and Kohl’s Injury Prevention Program consists of a series of educational and recreational activities in Westchester and lower Putnam Counties aimed at children, school personnel, families and caregivers. Activities include interactive workshops and lectures, a bicycle rally and safety clinics that provide participants with the skills, knowledge and motivation they need to stay safe at home, at school and at play. To date, more than 5,600 school children have participated in the program. Thanks to the new grant, in addition to offering a Helmet Program, Blythedale will now offer two new programs on Fire and Water Safety.

For more information about Blythedale’s Injury Prevention Program, please contact Director of Community Relations Lena Cavanna at (914) 592-7183, ext 374.

Blythedale Joins Forces Again with Team Continuum in Successful Marathon Campaign

16 runners, representing Blythedale Children’s Hospital in the 2009 ING NYC Marathon, have raised more than $50,000 through the Hospital’s partnership with Team Continuum. This is the second year Blythedale has partnered with Team Continuum to offer interested runners a coveted spot in the prestigious race. This year’s team, triumphant in completing the 26.2 mile trek, included the parent of a Blythedale patient, a teacher in the Hospital’s on-site school, and a local firefighter. Team Continuum is a non-profit organization that provides assistance to cancer patients and their families, as well as organizations that provide services to people with cancer.

Cobblestone Abstract 4th Annual Golf Outing Raises $55,000 for BCH

Continuing their good work on behalf of Blythedale’s patients, the dedicated corps of volunteers representing Cobblestone Abstract raised $55,000 through their annual golf outing, held at Somers Pointe Country Club.

According to Blythedale Director of Community Relations Lena Cavanna, “This is an enormously dedicated group of people, and I feel honored every year to be the beneficiary, on behalf of Blythedale, of their extreme generosity.”

Their donation will be applied to the Hospital’s building project.
More than 100 Girl Scouts from troops in Westchester, Putnam, Rockland and Dutchess counties took part in a unique workshop last month at Blythedale Children's Hospital where they learned first-hand about the physical and mental challenges facing people with disabilities.

The Girl Scouts participating in the all-day workshop met with physical, occupational and speech therapists from Blythedale to learn about the physical and cognitive challenges facing individuals with disabilities. Ranging in age from eight to 14, the girls learned through the hands-on workshops how to navigate the world in a variety of different ways. They were taught how to maneuver a wheelchair around a sidewalk cut, how to dress themselves with only one arm, and how to communicate through assistive technology. They were shown how research is being used to improve health care for children, and that games make therapy sessions fun for patients.

“It’s exhilarating to introduce so many young women to the world of pediatric physical therapy,” said Linda Fieback, the Hospital’s Assistant Director of Physical Therapy, and one of the event coordinators.

The workshop, which is the third to be held at Blythedale, is part of a program the Girl Scouts must complete in order to earn a “Challenges to Opportunities” badge. The badge, available to Junior-level Girl Scouts throughout the nation, was created and designed by the Girls Scouts of Troop 2746 from Chappaqua. “It’s a wonderful experience and we thank Blythedale for their commitment to this important program.”

The Girl Scouts’ involvement with Blythedale dates back to 2001 when Troop 2746 first visited the hospital as Daisy Girl Scouts to plant flowers. As they moved up to the Brownie and Junior levels of Girl Scouting, the Girl Scouts continued their volunteer work at Blythedale reading books to the preschoolers, decorating for the holidays and making blankets for the infants.

VASKEN DEMIRJIAN to Donate 15% of Salon Services to Blythedale

Westchester’s award-winning luxury salon is making a difference in the lives of Blythedale’s children. Just mention “Blythedale” upon booking your appointment at Vasken Demirjian Salon at the Trump Building in White Plains, and Vasken will donate 15% of your salon services to Blythedale, in support of the new inpatient building.

The offer runs now through March 31, 2010. To make an appointment, please call 914-285-0800 and for additional information, visit www.vaskensalon.com
**Blythedale is Under Construction!**

Much to the delight of Blythedale’s young patients, Blythedale is officially under construction. With a mammoth foundation in place and steel being prepped to start the upward expansion, the excitement around the Hospital is palpable.

The Hospital’s new 55,760 square foot inpatient building is slated to open in the fall of 2011. Excavation is completed, along with all the crucial site work to enable Blythedale to offer uninterrupted service to patients and their families during an estimated two years of construction. The state-of-the-art, two-story replacement inpatient building will have 86 beds in spacious, private and semi-private patient rooms. In the new building, parents or family members will be able to stay overnight more comfortably with their children.

According to Hospital President and CEO Larry Levine, “Every detail in the new building has been planned with great care and sensitivity toward the highly complex needs of our patients as well as their families and caregivers.”

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**BE COOL… Play it Safe this Winter**

Winter is a wonderful time for outdoor sports, exercise, and fun, but for over a quarter of a million Americans, it also leads to serious sports-related accidents. Ensure your family has a safe winter by following these safety guidelines developed by the injury prevention specialists at Blythedale Children’s Hospital (sponsored by Kohl’s Department Stores).

### SLEDDING

Experience the thrill of sledding down the hill, but ensure children:
- Wear a helmet!
- Sled with an adult if they are under 5, and are actively watched if under 13 years of age;
- Never lie head first or stand on the sled;
- Do not double up;
- Know how to safely roll off a sled that won’t stop; and
- Find a hill that is long, and does not end in a road, parking lot, or lake.

### ICE SKATING & ICE HOCKEY

Benefit from the fun and exercise of ice skating and hockey, but ensure children:
- Wear a helmet!
- Skate only on approved surfaces;
- Stay in the same direction as the crowd;
- Never skate alone; and
- Do not chew gum or eat candy while skating.

Teach your kids how to protect themselves if they fall through the ice: stretch their arms out wide and kick as if swimming, shout out for help and try to crawl backward onto solid ice.

*For additional safety tips, visit www.blythedale.org, or to schedule a safety presentation, contact Director of Community Relations Lena Cavanna at (914) 592-7138, ext. 374 or email to lenac@blythedale.org*

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Follow our progress on [twitter](https://twitter.com/blythedale)
Today

Today is designed to inform our friends in the community about the services of Blythedale. If you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list, or if you have ideas for future issues, please let us know.

Call Connie Cornell at (914) 592-7138, ext. 461 or email conniec@blythedale.org

Visit us at our website www.blythedale.org

A small way to make a big difference...

Blythedale Children’s Hospital provides the best opportunity for children with complex medical issues to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. With our magnificent, new state-of-the-art inpatient facility under construction, and slated to open in fall of 2011, our future is bright – but we need your support in order to ensure that children like Mark (pictured right) have every opportunity to make their dreams a reality.

To make a donation today, please visit our website at www.blythedale.org and click on “Make a Gift”. To make a donation over the phone, please call Chief Development Officer Betsy Bowman at (914) 592-7138 ext. 411.

save the date

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2009
18th Annual 95.5 WPLJ Holiday Benefit Broadcast

Tune in to 95.5 between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. as our friends from WPLJ’s “Scott and Todd in the Morning” broadcast live from Blythedale Children’s Hospital! Great items up for grabs in the live rock-'n-roll auction!

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010
Building Blythedale: 3rd Annual Cocktail Party Fundraiser

Fabulous food and breathtaking views at Restaurant 42 at the Ritz-Carlton Westchester

For more information on these events contact Betsy Bowman (914) 592-7138, ext. 411 or email betsyb@blythedale.org