

Good News for Kids

Telemedicine, Community Outreach Re-Branding the Image of the Child Protection Team

It would be easy to sit back and wait for increased state funding. It would be understandable if their social workers and support staff cited exhaustion as their reason for not doing more. And, it would be expected that amongst the emotion and chaos of fulfilling their duties, Child Protection Team (CPT) members would accept the hand that is dealt them and simply do the best they could with what they had.

But such is not the case for the folks at UF.

As vanguards of children's health and safety, the CPT often finds itself wearing different hats, on different occasions, with various goals in mind. From interviewing children and family members to working with law enforcement officials and agencies, the team is dedicated to not only investigating child abuse cases and prosecuting offenders, but advocating for and empowering the community to assist with families most at risk. Through the advent and fine-tuning of telemedicine and ongoing outreach efforts with the St. Francis House, the CPT at the University of Florida has realized measurable gains in both areas. Public perceptions, however, may not have caught up.

According to Associate Director and Team Coordinator Linda Galloway, the group has proactively worked to re-engineer the scope and depth of its day-to-day functioning. "The general public reads a headline concerning a child who has been abused or neglected, without the awareness of the complexity of details necessary to respond to such a dynamic situation," Galloway said. "The science of child abuse has become increasingly sophisticated. Child abuse professionals of today are well-trained and receptive to the realities of a crisis-driven environment. And yet, they remain dedicated to continual learning and improvement directed toward the best outcome for each child. That's what Michele [Scavone-Stone] is doing, and it's exciting."

Continued on page 12 as CPT



***The most important
story we will ever write
in our life is our own –
not with ink but with
our daily choices.***

*–Richard Paul Evans,
in The Gift*

Welcome Readers:

In this third edition of *ON PAR*, we explore the social and scientific aspects of equitable access to healthcare for children. In this time of renewed energy toward access expansion, Dr. Donna Parker of the Eastside clinic Talks about her views of the challenges facing our nation and the role of our new president in guiding the development of good national standards.



Dr. Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll is featured in the Research Progress Spotlight, and throughout the magazine you'll find news and support information relevant to obesity prevention and awareness.

Of special importance to this issue is a pull-out section for parents. Physicians, nurses, and anyone else who is interested may copy and distribute pages 8 and 9 which contain emergency contact information, vaccine facts, Internet resources related to healthy eating and exercise, information on free antibiotics available from Publix and a recommended book available from the CDC.

As with every issue, you are invited to send your suggestions, submissions, letters to the editor, or contributions of any kind for consideration in the next issue (to be published in May). We're very interested in the inclusion of your non-copyrighted photos of children at play or involved with a learning activity, as well as original drawings from children that we could use to illustrate future issues.

Thank you for your continued interest in *ON PAR* and please know that your insights and feedback are welcome.

For the benefit of children,

Heidi Saliba
Editor, *ON PAR* news magazine

Your submissions are welcome

Do you have research news or tips to share with the Division? Would you like to nominate a colleague to be featured in an upcoming newsletter? Send your suggestions to Heidi Saliba at hsaliba@peds.ufl.edu.

ON PAR news magazine is written and edited by Heidi Saliba, Coordinator of Research Programs in the Division of General Pediatrics.

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In This Issue

Good News for Kids	1
Research News and Announcements	3
Feature Article	
A New Dawn and Direction for Children's Healthcare?	4
Local Action & Advocacy	6
Research Progress	
Spotlight on Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll	7
Parents' Pages	8
Ped-I-Care Corner	10
A Book Worth Reading	
<u>Grace</u> by Richard Paul Evans	11
Upcoming Family Events	12

Regular *ON PAR* Topics Include:

- Good News for Kids
- IRB Notes and Reminders
- Statistical Considerations
- Research and Funding Opportunities
- Journal Information and Calls for Papers
- Details on Upcoming Conferences
- Child Advocacy Tips and Connections
- Sources of Support for Physicians
- Sources of Support for Patients and Parents
- Division Research Project Updates
- Calendar Notes for Research Projects
- Spotlights on Individual Researchers

ON PAR Board Members:

- Dr. John Nackashi
- Dr. Kathleen Ryan
- Dr. Lindsay Thompson
- Dr. Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll

Research News and Announcements

General Pediatrics at UF:

Poster Presentations Accepted at PAS 2009

A Blended Learning Approach to Quality Improvement Education for Residents

First Author: Nicole Paradise Black

The Effect of Medical Student Tobacco Education on the Documentation Practices of Tobacco Use, Exposure, and Cessation in Pediatric Primary Care

First Author: Maria Kelly

Reflective Education and Simulation in Pediatric Medical Student Education

First Author: Maria Kelly

Who Is Responsible for Preventing MRSA Skin Infections? The Hygiene Attitudes and Practices of Gym Patrons

First Author: Kathleen Ryan

The Effect of a Resident-Led Newborn Education Workshop on Improving Parental Knowledge and Comfort Level in Providing Newborn Care

First Author: Sara Slovin

Does the Hospital Setting Support Breastfeeding Practices among Its Employees?

First Author: Ganga Srinivas

The Impact of Insurance on Satisfaction and Family-Centered Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs

First Author: Lindsay Thompson

Preferences for Developmental Screening in Pediatric Resident Education

First Author: Lindsay Thompson

Patterns of Pediatric Resident Learning Styles and Temperaments

First Author: S. Tuli

What is an Index Factor?

In our day-to-day research activities it is likely that most of us have come across 'index factors' when perusing journals with calls for papers or when browsing submission requirements for scholarly publications. What exactly is an index factor, and how does it affect what we do?

In short, the index factor is a number that reflects how often the articles published in a particular journal have been cited or cross-referenced by others. The higher the number, the greater its impact on research and society, according to Thomson-Reuters, publisher of Journal Citation Reports (JCR). "...JCR presents quantitative data that supports a systematic, objective review of the world's leading journals and their impact and influence in the global research community," reports the organization in a January 2009 press release.

So which journals have the highest impact factor? Below is a list of several commonly-read journals and their impact factors as reported by Thomson-Reuters on February 26, 2009.

<i>New England Journal of Medicine</i>	52.589
<i>Lancet</i>	28.638
<i>Journal of the American Medical Association</i>	25.547
<i>Pediatrics</i>	4.473
<i>Academic Pediatrics</i>	1.600

The ISI Web of Knowledge and Journal Citation Reports page may be found at:

<http://admin-apps.isiknowledge.com/JCR/JCR?RQ=HOME>

Attention Residents!

The journal *Clinical Pediatrics* is looking for articles from you that offer learning opportunities for your peers. The journal is interested in atypical cases and how they were handled. Specifics on the submission requirements may be found at:

<http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdManSub.nav?prodId=Journal201788>

***Did you know that April is
National Child Abuse Prevention Month?***

Learn more at:

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>



“By health I mean the power to live a full, adult, living, breathing life in close contact with...the earth and the wonders thereof - the sea - the sun.”

- Katherine Mansfield,
New Zealand short story author (1888 - 1923)

**A New Dawn and Direction for Children’s Health Care?
Dr. Donna Parker of the Eastside Clinic Talks about the
Challenges Facing America’s Medically Underserved and the
Promise of President Obama’s Inaugural Address**

“Exceptional healthcare for each citizen benefits all of us. It provides a stronger educational system and it provides a stronger workforce for the continued richness of our society.”

– Dr. Donna Parker of the Eastside clinic

With the advent of a new political era and the hope that many have placed in the presidency, physicians and researchers are exchanging ideas about ways in which local and national forces may work together in addressing the healthcare crisis. In an interview with Dr. Donna Parker of the UF Shands Eastside Community Practice, emergent themes of personal responsibility, community involvement and the need for universal access to healthcare take center stage.

“As one of the richest countries in the world, America is capable of providing a lot better healthcare to its citizens,” Parker said. “In the recent past, a lot has been put on the back burner compared to benefits that insurance companies, drug companies and lobbyists have received.” As the population of the underserved continues to grow, Parker’s concerns escalate proportionally. “We have a great challenge to provide healthcare to all citizens. As a great nation, we can and should.”

Throughout her career, Parker has chosen to practice in underserved communities. After spending five years with the Alachua County Health Department, she is in her ninth year at the Eastside clinic helping those with significant economic challenges outside of health insurance that affects their health care.

“The challenges are not [always with] insurance, as most of my patients receive Medicaid; it’s in transportation, parents taking time off from a part-time job and then losing pay. There are also problems with getting prescriptions filled due to transportation issues.”

To make healthcare right for the underserved, Parker said, we need to assist with lifestyle changes for that group. Affordable housing and affordable food choices are among her primary concerns for the families she helps. “Until those basic needs are met, parents don’t place as much of an emphasis on healthcare.”

As a believer in a universal healthcare program, Parker says such a system could be tied into the private sector. “Healthcare is a right and



Continued on page 6 as Parker

“We will restore science to its rightful place, and wield technology’s wonders to raise health care’s quality and lower its cost. We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories. And we will transform our schools and colleges and universities to meet the demands of a new age. All this we can do. All this we will do.”

– President Barack Obama in his inaugural address

Parker, continued from page 5

everybody should have access to care," she said. Improving public health, especially with regard to geographic access and the need to reduce long commutes on public buses, are part and parcel of achieving that goal. "I think there's a lot on the horizon with the new administration and Barack Obama with his commitment to improving the health of the nation. I'm very optimistic. It was fantastic to see our country working together on January 20. We're already seeing legislation passed to increase SCHIP, which will benefit all the states."

Dr. John Nackashi, Chief of General Pediatrics, is in agreement. "Donna Parker has spent most of her career as a pediatrician serving low income and disadvantaged populations, working with the belief that health care is a right rather than a privilege," he said. "Maybe that belief is about to be realized."

Local Action and Advocacy: What We Can Do An interview with Dr. Donna Parker

- Work in schools to make sure school nurses stay in place.
- Work to influence legislators to provide better reimbursement for physicians who accept Medicaid and Medicare (especially with regard to well child check visits).
- In medical education, teach the value of preventive care. "Even though sub-specialties pay more money, for the health of our nation in the long run it's important for physicians to provide preventive care for children," Parker said.
- Build a pediatric hospital in Gainesville to provide better access to care.
- As a department, the College of Medicine should come together to volunteer more time in underserved communities in terms of education on living healthier lifestyles. "We're already doing a lot, but more can be done. Some of this could lead to useful research opportunities," Parker explained. "Pregnancy rates and STI rates could be decreased with better education for adolescents."
- Continue supporting the development of a diverse workforce, with attention to the need for competency in addressing culture-specific issues.
- Improve access to psychological healthcare. "In the long run, if we don't increase access, we'll end up paying for them in the judicial system," she said.
- Build more playgrounds and safe areas for children, to help address and prevent obesity and provide an outlet for those children whose parents can't afford to pay for other opportunities (such as gymnastics, soccer or karate).
- Continue finding ways to reduce high-fat, high-sugar foods in our schools.
- Continue stressing the need for proper immunizations of children.



Drs. Bodnar, Parker, and Shih



The Peaceful Paths mission is to help stop domestic violence and encourage people in our communities to make informed and healthy choices.

In the midst of transitioning to a temporary facility, we are still providing several core services. Peaceful Paths is reaching out to the community and asking for support in their rebuilding and restoration projects.

Peaceful Paths Provides:
Counseling and Support Services
Transitional Housing Services
Violence Prevention Program
Victim Advocacy Services
Male Survivor Services
Children's Services
Case Management
Telephone Hotline
Shelter Services

Visit Our Website At:
<http://www.peacefulpaths.org>

Visit Our Thrift Store At:
2131 NW 6th Street
(near Ward's and the Humane Society)

“Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll has great interest in key health areas, in particular preventing childhood obesity. She is very involved nationally with the Academic Pediatric Association serving in many capacities,” said Dr. John Nackashi, Chief of General Pediatrics.

Dr. Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll has been with General Pediatrics at the University of Florida since 1989. She completed her PhD in Medical Genetics at Indiana University, her MD at Albany Medical College in NY, her Pediatric Residency at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and her Primary Care Faculty Development Fellowship at Michigan State University. The majority of her research interests and experiences are in projects related to obesity, genetics in primary care and medical education. Dr. Dumont-Driscoll serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Pediatric Academic Societies and as a Board Member of the Academic Pediatric Association.

With which projects are you currently involved?

Several obesity projects currently are underway: 1) a study with Dr. David Janicke involves behavioral strategies to help improve BMI and fitness in youth; 2) A study with Drs. Jennifer Miller and Dan Driscoll is investigating early morbid obesity; and 3) a study soon to begin with Dr. Janet Silverstein will compare the feasibility of substituting easily obtained commercial drinks in glucose tolerance tests. A recent study involving undergraduate and medical students identified missed opportunities for addressing inappropriate weight gain or BMIs.

Dr. Dumont-Driscoll is a founding member of the Academic Pediatric Association’s practice-based research network, CORNET, which was an outgrowth of the APA Continuity Directors’ Special Interest Group (SIG). CORNET is a nationwide, PBRN of pediatric continuity clinics, with about 67 participating sites directed by a four-member Executive Committee and a Steering Committee of 11 regional chairs. The committees consider project proposals based on scientific value and feasibility of conduct in continuity clinics; it is patterned after AAP’s PROS (Pediatric Research in Office Settings) which provided technical and financial

support in conjunction with AHRQ. CORNET has recently investigated residents’ satisfaction and perception of continuity clinic training. The study found that the mentoring relationship between attending and resident was the most critical component identified for resident satisfaction.

Additional CORNET studies:

Parental role modeling and reinforcement of non-aggressive childhood behavior; Asthma study assessing resident care of patients; Variability of academic IRBs across the country.

Other interests:

Genetics and primary care; the structure and function of continuity clinics; the impact of medical care in continuity clinics on undeserved populations; what preceptors in continuity clinic consider important and confident teaching.

Greatest challenges in conducting research:

“Many continuity preceptors joke that our ADHD tendencies result in our love of almost every topic in general pediatrics,” Dumont-Driscoll said. “It’s incredibly easy to get interested in lots of things and become fragmented in research efforts. Additional challenges cited by Dumont-Driscoll include the lack of significant start-up packages compared to specialists at academic centers, limited funding sources and significant clinical responsibilities. Specific to her situation at the CMS-Schiebler Building, the clinical space and logistics present their own challenges. “When you’re separated structurally from the rest of the college, collaboration becomes more difficult,” she said.

Continued on page 10 as Dumont-Driscoll

**Research Progress
Spotlight on
Marilyn Dumont-
Driscoll, PhD, MD**

“The key to being successful in research is to be highly focused, in keeping up with data and new findings and the administrative requirements. The people who are going to be most successful generally are focused on one central area. They’re going to be able to establish their research credibility, secure grants, and have the protected time and resources to publish and garner future grants. I also suspect they are much better at being able to “say no” to extraneous requests and demands on their time.”

**Did you know that March is national nutrition month?
Read more at www.eatright.org.**

Important Phone Numbers

In an emergency, always call 911

<i>Health Care Services</i>	<i>Local Police Departments</i>
Pediatric Primary Care at Schiebler/CMS Center (352) 334-0206	Alachua County Sheriff's Office/ Gainesville Police Department (Non-emergencies) (352) 334-2400 or (352) 955-1818
Pediatric Services at Haile Plantation (352) 372-5556	High Springs Police Department (386) 454-1415
Pediatric Services at UF Shands Eastside Community Practice (352) 265-7020	Alachua Police Department (386) 462-1396
Pediatric After Hours at Shands Medical Plaza (352) 265-0724	Waldo Police Department (352) 468-1515
Alachua County Department of Health (352) 334-7900	Chiefland Police Department (352) 493-6777 or (352) 486-5111
Shands Hospital (352) 265-0111	Trenton Police Department (352) 463-4010
Shands Hospital Pediatric Specialty Clinic (352) 265-8250	Melrose Police Department (352) 367-4000
Poison Control Center (800) 222-1222	Williston Police Department (352) 528-4991

The Parents' Pages: An At-A-Glance Guide for Busy Moms and Dads

This is a pull-out supplement from *ON PAR* magazine, UF's Division of General Pediatrics' newsmagazine.

To view the entire magazine, please visit www.peds.ufl.edu.

Click on the Research Link on the left-hand side, then click on the ON PAR link on the bottom right-hand side of the Research page.

Free prescriptions at Publix®!

The winter and spring months can be troublesome for little ones' health, and the Publix pharmacy can help when it comes to health care costs. According to the Wellness & Pharmacy page of their website (<http://www.publix.com/wellness/pharmacy/Home.do>), the following generic, oral antibiotics are offered FREE in 14-day supplies regardless of your prescription insurance provider:

- Amoxicillin
- Cephalexin
- Sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim (SMZ-TMP)
- Ciprofloxacin (excluding Ciprofloxacin XR)
- Penicillin VK
- Ampicillin
- Erythromycin Stearate and Ethylsuccinate
- Doxycycline Hyclate (capsules)

Internet Resources for Kids and Parents: Healthy Eating and Exercise

Nutrition Explorations

www.nutritionexplorations.org

Explore information for children, parents, educators and professionals. The kids' tab at the bottom of the home page leads to a colorful, interactive offering of nutritional information, relevant games, contests and kitchen ideas. Lots of fun for kids!

Calorie King

www.calorieking.com

This site contains loads of information on the nutritional content of various foods, including fat and calorie counts of popular foods at nationwide restaurants. The Resources & Tools tab helps you understand Body Mass Index (BMI), Waist-to-Hip ratios, children's adult height calculations and target heart rates among other topics.

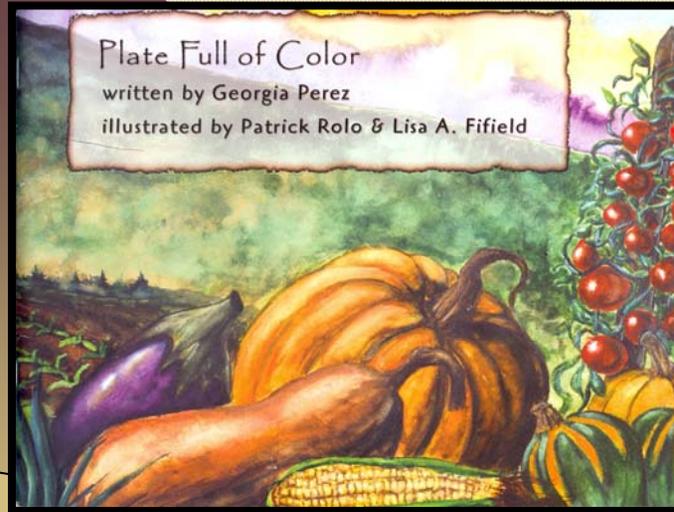
American Dietetic Association

www.eatright.org

Here you'll find food and nutrition information including nutrition fact sheets, smart shopping guidelines, ideas for healthy snacks for kids and information on dietary guidelines.

Publix Grocery Stores

<http://www.publix.com/wellness/food/Home.do>
You'll find information on food safety at home and weight management as well as recipes and printable shopping lists among the resources offered at the Food & Nutrition portion of their website (under the Pharmacy tab).



Check it Out!

The new Plate Full of Color book by Georgia Perez offers a great way to teach children about proper nutrition and exercise habits while also engaging their imagination. Told through the voice of a wise eagle, the characters in the book (all children) learn that fruits and vegetables are an important part of a healthy diet, and that choosing colorful foods can be fun and rewarding. The book is available in bulk through a link on the CDC's website (www.cdc.gov/diabetes) or in single copies at Amazon.com. Parents and teachers may download free coloring pages and instructional materials related to the book from the CDC's website (search by book title).



Plate Full of Color is an 'Eagle Books' publication written by Georgia Perez and illustrated by Patrick Rolo & Lisa A. Fifield. It is made available to the public through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Indian Health Service, and the Department of Health and Human Services. Images used with permission.

Vaccine Facts For Parents and Caregivers

By Drs. Christina Cannizzaro and Erica Bailen

Your baby should start receiving vaccines at 2 months old. Talk with your doctor about the vaccine schedule so your child does not miss any immunizations.

Vaccines help protect your child. They can prevent serious diseases and even death.

We do not advise skipping or delaying vaccines because this leaves your child vulnerable to the disease for a longer period of time.

Even though you don't see some of these diseases we vaccinate against anymore, they are still present in the U.S. and very prevalent in other countries. They are only a plane ride away!

Your child can still be vaccinated if he/she has a mild illness, a low-grade fever, or is taking antibiotics.

The most common side effects from vaccines are a low-grade fever and pain/redness at the injection site.

Valid scientific studies show no link between vaccines and autism.

The additives in vaccines are safe and are in smaller amounts than that found normally in the environment.

Talk with your pediatrician about any vaccine concerns.

Online vaccine resources include:
www.cdc.gov/vaccines (the CDC) and
www.cispimmunize.org (the AAP).

The Family Lifestyle Intervention Project



Promoting Weight Management through Healthy Lifestyle Changes for Children and Parents

The free program is open to families who:

- Live within driving distance of Gainesville or Lake City.
- Have an overweight child between 6 and 12 years of age who is enrolled in Florida Medicaid.

How does it work?

- The program will be offered at locations in Gainesville and Lake City.
- All families receive \$5 per clinic visit to help offset the cost of gas.
- Families will participate in either a group-based family program or an individual family-based healthy lifestyle program.



Want to learn more?

Call us at (352) 273-5285 or Toll Free at (866) 673-9623

The FLIP project is funded by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration to the Florida Center for Medicaid and the Uninsured, with seed funding from the University of Florida Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Network.

Ped-I-Care Corner

Growing Responsibly with Kids' Needs at the Forefront

Since its inception in 2003, the Ped-I-Care program (<http://pedicare.peds.ufl.edu>) at the University of Florida has met and exceeded its goals for standards of care, quality improvement, and member services. This year is no exception, with recorded gains in its structure, support, and service systems.

Recent wins for the Ped-I-Care program:

State and National Levels

- Change in status from recipient to vendor in the Title XXI relationship between Ped-I-Care and the Department of Health (this will give Ped-I-Care more flexibility in re-investing funds into programs for children)
- Increased funding for the SCHIP program approved in Congress

Local and Internal Levels

- Increased membership to 6,227 in February 2009 from 4,939 in February 2008
- Regular progress on the development and implementation of Program Improvement Projects (PIPs)
- Development, acceptance, and presentation of scholarly research on the impact of insurance on patient satisfaction, in which Ped-I-Care is shown to have outperformed all other programs of comparison (91.7% of Ped-I-Care parents were satisfied with their services, compared to 59.8% on the national level)
- Completion of interpersonal and team-building training for all Ped-I-Care employees and creation of larger, more efficient workspace to accommodate the needs of an expanding program
- Hiring of behavioral health specialists in all CMS Area Offices to coordinate nursing and physician services for children with mental health needs

Dumont-Driscoll, continued from page 7

Goals for the next several years:

"I would like to look at successful strategies for preventing, identifying, and treating early morbid obesity," Dumont-Driscoll said. I'd like to also find ways to incentivize kids with elevated BMIs to try fun activities which would lead to weight loss and weight stabilization. Additionally I'd like to look at research strategies that demonstrate the benefits of incorporating genetics into primary care encounters."

As many generalists find, myriad opportunities for clinically relevant research present on a daily basis in the primary care setting. Dumont-Driscoll would also like to look at professionalism in medical education and its impact on student, patient and physician interactions, with a focus on conscientiousness in care. She would also like to examine what elements of the patient-doctor relationship help affect successful behavioral changes in patients and their families.

A Book Worth Reading: Grace by Richard Paul Evans



*Richard Paul Evans.
Photo used with permission.*

It's always fun to find a book that's both entertaining and easy to read; it's exciting when a book involves characters and situations we can identify with and really care about. What is uncommon, however, is finding one in which both of these elements combine with a writing style that on the surface, seems straightforward yet in the end proves surprising.

In Grace by Richard Paul Evans, each of these come together to tell a story of an adolescent girl and the problems she's facing in a world that's generally closed off to the involvement of others in affairs of the home. Uncannily similar to stories we've heard from patients, colleagues, friends, and perhaps even family members, Grace reveals the intrapersonal struggling and interpersonal possibilities that accompany the trials of child welfare and endangerment. Because of its skillful composure and delightful readability, the lessons and insights of Grace are delivered with salience and compassion for those who invest their time in digesting it. In the end, readers are rewarded with a cleansing of the subconscious and renewing of the spirit in caring for others. It is a story of love, hurt, love, struggle, love, and timely restoration.

Perhaps best of all, the author, Richard Paul Evans, has included a letter in the back of his book written to his readers that tells of a charity based on his book.

"Dear Reader," it begins; "While the story you've just read is fiction, at this moment there are thousands of stories like Grace's happening in real life."

Evans has put together The Christmas Box International, which is an organization providing shelters and emergency assistance to victims of neglect and abuse. Sales of his best-selling books (The Christmas Box, The Christmas Box Miracle, The Locket, and Timepiece, among others) assist with this organization and its offshoot, The Christmas Box Initiative. The goal of the Initiative is to "help every youth in America who is aging out of foster care." According to Evans, "Right now these youths face serious challenges including crime, drug addiction, teen pregnancy, poverty, and suicide. With no one to help them, many of them return to abusive home situations or end up homeless and on the streets. We can make a difference. The Christmas Box Initiative is a four-phase plan..."

A third effort, Operation Kids, supports this program and matches all donations made online. To join the cause, readers are asked to visit www.operationkids.org/lifestart and click on LIFE-START KITS. Alternatively, a hotline has been set up at 1-888-257-KIDS.

About the Author

Richard Paul Evans' book, The Christmas Box, became simultaneously the number-one hardcover and paperback book in the nation. A story of parental love and the true meaning of Christmas, it was made into a CBS movie starring Maureen O'Hara and Richard Harris. Other books of his have been made into movies as well, with some of Hollywood's top celebrities filling the lead roles. Evans has won three awards for his children's books including the 1998 American Mothers book award and two first-place Storytelling World awards. He also won the 2005 Romantic Times award for best women's novel. Evans lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, with his wife, Keri, and their five children.

*This section, About the Author, is adapted from biographical information sent by the author's support staff.
For more information on the author, his books, or his charities, visit www.richardpaulevans.com.*

CPT, Continued from page 1

Scavone-Stone, Coordinator of Operations and Quality Assurance for CPT, cites the expansion of the use of telemedicine as one reason the agency is better able to serve children. "We can send an RN or LPN to a remote site with telemedicine equipment. A CPT, board-certified pediatrician or ARNP is on the receiving end. About half of all exams are now conducted using telemedicine," she said. The CPT at UF covers 16 counties, and with such a large geographical area, telemedicine allows children and families to be interviewed closer to their home, rather than having to travel across several counties.

"The UF CPT is an extraordinary resource for the families and communities in north central Florida," said Dr. John Nackashi, Chief of General Pediatrics. "It's made up of many dedicated and talented individuals. The team is a national leader in using telemedicine to medically evaluate children."

In addition to family services and interventions, team members have collaborated with the UF College of Nursing to support the efforts of Gainesville's St. Francis House. Every Tuesday from 4 to 6 pm is family night, and the center's director incorporates lessons from this event into the management of each case. Volunteers from the CPT and the College of Nursing provide snacks for the children and education for the parents along with clothing and diapers. "CMS has been helpful with coordinating formula distribution," Galloway said.

Their involvement began after a death at St. Francis House, which brought attention to the need for more services for families and children. "They lacked cribs and a safe sleeping environment [for the children]," Galloway said. Five family rooms have since been painted and created to be equipped for infants, with cribs added to the rooms. The UF groups are now working on playground equipment with fundraising efforts on the horizon.

"Through two years of this coordinated effort, our agencies have been providing consistent care and preventive interventions linked to after-school care and related programs. One child's death has allowed us to continue with preventive actions and get agencies involved with helping that center," Galloway said.

Sunsets, like childhood, are viewed with wonder not just because they are beautiful but because they are fleeting.

– Richard Paul Evans, in *The Gift*

Upcoming Family Events Free & Open to the Public

Mar. 17 (Tuesday)

Samuel Proctor Oral History Program presents "Florida Black History: Where We Stand in the Age of Barack Obama," 6 pm @ UF's Library East. Call (352) 846-2032 for more information.

Mar. 17 (Tuesday)

"Randolph Books to Appeal to Black Boys: African and African American Books by and about Men and Boys" with guest speaker Linda Lamme, UF Professor of Education, 7 pm. @ Goerings Bookstore, 1717 NW First Avenue. Call (352) 392-6650, x290 for more information.

Mar. 19 (Thursday)

"Can You Dig It?" 5 to 9 pm. @ the Florida Museum of Natural History. Call (352) 273-1820 for more information.

Mar. 29 (Sunday)

Fashioning Kimono: Art Deco and Modernism in Japan" with guest speaker Melissa Rinne, Curator of Japanese Art, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco. 3 pm. @ the Harn Museum of Art. Call (352) 392-9826 for more information.

April 5 (Sunday)

"Exhibition Spotlight Tour – Highlights from the Modern Art Collection." 2 pm. @ the Harn Museum of Art. Call (352) 392-9826 for more information.

April 18 (Saturday)

"Earth Day," 10 am. to 3 pm. @ the Florida Museum of Natural History. Call (352) 273-1820 for more information.

April 19 (Sunday)

"Exhibition Spotlight Tour – Landscape Perspectives: Highlights from the Photography Collection," 2 pm. @ the Harn Museum of Art. Call (352) 392-9826 for more information.