HOPE LODGE **news**

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We **save lives** and create more birthdays by helping you stay well, helping you get well, by finding cures, and by fighting back.

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Wish List

The Joseph S. & Jeannette M. Silber Hope Lodge accepts donations of the following items:

- Grocery store gift cards for potluck (Giant Eagle, Walmart, Target,)*
- Paper towels
- Pots/pans
- Cake and brownie mixes
- Canisters of coffee, decaf and regular
- Disposable cups
- Dishwasher detergent
- Dryer sheets
- Color-safe bleach (i.e. Clorox 2)
- Laundry baskets
- Plastic clothing hangers
- Toilet tissue
- DVD movies–new releases
- Copy machine paper for the printers
- 409 cleaner

Items denoted with an asterisk are most needed.*

Questions: Contact Manager Cris Williams at cristina.williams@cancer.org or 216-844-4673 or Assistant Manager Tracy Michael at tracy.michael@cancer.org or 216-844-4673.

Items may be shipped or delivered to:
American Cancer Society Cleveland Hope Lodge,
11432 Mayfield Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44106

The official registration and financial information of the American Cancer Society, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Ohio residents may call 717-783-1720.

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HOPE LODGE® **news**

JOSEPH S. & JEANNETTE M. SILBER HOPE LODGE

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Cleveland Browns **Visit Hope Lodge**

The Cleveland Browns hosted a pink-themed tailgate party for guests at Hope Lodge.

The Cleveland Browns Women's Organization (BWO) comprised of the wives and significant others of the Browns players, coaches, and football operations employees, marked National Breast Cancer Awareness Month by hosting a pink-themed tailgate party for the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge guests.

"It's terrific to have this partnership with the Browns. To come out and help raise awareness for breast cancer and help make a difference here in our Lodge today with our residents is wonderful," said Frank McGrady, American Cancer Society executive vice president and division operating officer. "The community can see the Cleveland Browns here really making a difference in the fight against breast cancer."

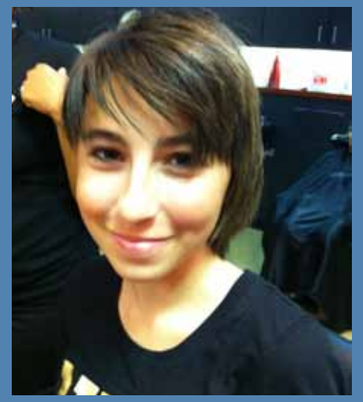
The BWO, led by Jennifer Shurmur, wife of Head Coach Pat Shurmur, had planned several fun, interactive activities for their visit.

"We're delighted to be here with the residents at Hope Lodge. It gives us an opportunity to connect with the community and we're delighted to see the smiles on the faces of the guests," said Shurmur.

Throughout the month of October, the NFL's national collaboration with the American Cancer Society was showcased through the league's A Crucial Catch campaign, which focuses on the importance of annual screenings, especially for women who are 40 or older. The Browns home game on October 14 was dedicated to breast cancer awareness and the local partnership with the American Cancer Society.

For more information about A Crucial Catch visit www.nfl.com/pink. ■

A Gift to Honor **a Young Survivor with a Big Heart**



Riley Pearson inspires so many others fighting cancer.

A week before Christmas 2010, at the age of 13, Riley Pearson was diagnosed with a type of bone cancer called osteosarcoma. Treatment for the cancer meant staying in the hospital for weeks at a time without having the chance to go home.

"Her mom and I bought Riley comfy sheets in order to make the place like home," her aunt Lisa said. While there, Riley wrote a survival guide called *Home Sweet Hospital* for other kids who had to stay at the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for long periods of time.

"She began handing out bags to patients in the long-term pediatric ward that would include her survival guide, hand-sanitizers, and of course comfy sheets," Lisa said.

When the family heard about Hope Lodge, they thought it was the perfect place to give a donation.

"A donation of $25,000 from Ronald A. Margolis and Dworken & Bernstine Co. LPA was given to the Hope Lodge in Riley's honor to make sure that the guests there have nice bedding and sheets," said Lisa.

The lodge is grateful for the gift in Riley's honor. If you would like more information about the Hope Lodge, visit cancer.org/HopeLodge or call 1-800-227-2345 any time day or night.

Social Worker Believes **Hope Lodge Is a City Gem**

Nancy Tamburro is a social worker for the Seidman Cancer Center, part of University Hospital's Case Medical Center in Cleveland, where she works with genitourinary, head, and neck cancers patients.

Nancy Tamburro

"It is believed that in order to provide the best care for the patient, all of the treatment should be done at our main campus. So, whenever we have someone who lives more than 40 miles away, we refer them to the Hope Lodge," said Nancy.

Doctors are also very supportive of Hope Lodge because it keeps their patients close. The Seidman Cancer Center is across the street, a convenient location just in case there is ever an emergency.

"For me, with it so close to University Hospital, I am able to visit Hope Lodge frequently," she said. "I think that patients should visit Hope Lodge prior to their residency so that they recognize faces and they know their living arrangements."

Hope Lodge staff really care about their patients and they are very accommodating to both the patient and the caregiver.

"I was on FMLA (Family Medical Leave) with a family member and Cris (the Hope Lodge manager) called around to get my number so she could contact me. They were renovating the lodge and she wanted to know the size of the ice chips patients could have because she wanted to make sure that when they got the new ice machine it would have the right size for the patients," said Nancy. "Little things like that really matter. That's how you know the staff really cares about the patients."

"I talk to my patients following their treatment and one patient told me that when she walked in she felt that she was amongst very warm and supportive people before she even met anyone," said Nancy. "It's the folks that stay there, the Wednesday night potlucks, and life-long friendships that happen there."

Nancy visits Hope Lodge with new patients about three times a week and the guests, most head and neck patients, stay at the lodge for at least two months.

"There is a real sense of safety. Guests can let their guard down, they can laugh, they can cry, and they can talk. At the Hope Lodge you are amongst friends," Nancy explained. "Patients have found memories regardless of what the outcome of their treatment. It is a jewel, a jewel for the city too. It allows people to get needed care that they really couldn't get otherwise."

To find out more information about the Hope Lodge, contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 anytime, day or night, or visit cancer.org.

Guests Staying at the Hope Lodge

The American Cancer Society's mission to fight cancer and celebrate more birthdays is being realized through the Hope Lodge program. The map below shows where our guests over the past year come from to stay at the Joseph S. & Jeanette M. Silber Hope Lodge.

Manager's Corner

As the leaves fall and the air outside grows more brisk, hinting of snow, the holiday season is nearly upon us. It is a time where families and friends gather to celebrate the good things that have happened to them and enjoy the simple pleasures of spending time with each other. It is also a time where many people face the continued challenge of getting treatment for their cancer in the hope of getting well, often in unfamiliar places far away from home and the warm embrace of loved ones. Hope can be difficult to find without some sort of safe harbor from the storm that is the struggle of fighting cancer.

Hope Lodge is such a safe harbor for people coming to Cleveland for their cancer treatment by providing them and their caregivers a safe, hospitable and free place to stay while they are in treatment. It is much more than a comfortable residence, however. It can be a home away from home for guests, a place where they can befriend their "neighbors" down the hall and share the panorama of emotions and experiences connected with treatment. Hope Lodge staff tirelessly work to create a space that feels as home-like as possible, particularly during the holiday season.

Please support our efforts in continuing to provide a home away from home for people facing what can be the most difficult challenge of their lives through your generous year-end gift to the Cleveland Hope Lodge. It will be used to sustain the year-round operation of the Lodge. Your gift can be made to commemorate loved ones who have fought cancer. Your continued support during these difficult economic times is greatly appreciated.

The holidays at Hope Lodge begin with decorating before Thanksgiving. There are decorations throughout the Lodge when Thanksgiving dinner was served to 40-60 guests. Activities abound from community members throughout the winter to distract the guests from the rigors of cancer treatment. Traditional holiday meals are served on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day or according to the wishes of those staying at the Hope Lodge during the holiday season. Goody bags are put together with lotions, scarves, gloves, and other donated items to deliver to the guests. We look forward to your generous support of these and other wish list items.

Wishing you all a peaceful and healthy holiday season and beyond,

Cristina Williams
Manager, Joseph S. & Jeannette M. Silber Hope Lodge

You can contact Cristina at cristina.williams@cancer.org or by calling 1-888-227-6446 ext. 1900.