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Children's Fairy Godmother Celebrates 90th Birthday

A little magic goes a long way for the patients of Children's at Egleston when it's coupled with a beaming smile, a big hug and a cooing voice with a British lilt saying, "Oh, well don't you just look wonderful today!" Even though Children's hosted her 90th birthday party on June 21, Fairy Godmother, also known as long time Children's volunteer Jackie Viener, spread her special fairy dust in the air with the energy of a teenager. When someone mentioned that she seemed more like a 16-year-old than a 90-year-old, she smiled and replied, "Something like that."

At the birthday bash decorated to the brim with balloons, Fairy Godmother helped patients with crafts, told a story, led several songs and enjoyed a chocolate and vanilla cake decorated with roses. ("Chocolate AND vanilla!" she exclaimed upon seeing the cake.) Fairy Godmother also received two surprises – some clown friends came to help celebrate, and she also received a charm bracelet from the Volunteer Services department, complete with a crown, a book and children.

Fairy Godmother has been volunteering at Children's for the past seven years, and was recognized for her outstanding work when she received the [11A/live Community Service award in 2010](#).

Her daughter, Helene Sowerby, who attended the party, says she is in awe of her mother who has always been active in the community. "She has this ability, this strength, to talk to every single child with a smile," she says. "I've learned grace, stamina and strength from her. She really is very special."

Jackie was born in England, but moved to Australia where she met her husband while living there during World War II. The pair moved to Richmond, Virginia, where they lived for 55 years and she was the Fairy Godmother at the Medical College of Virginia. She also participated in a number of community theater productions.

Her daughter says Jackie has always loved children. "Even in our neighborhood when we were young, she was like the Pied Piper," Helene says. "Every afternoon at 4 p.m., all the children knew they could come to our house for afternoon tea." Jackie still loves to cook and bake.

In fact, she once hosted an afternoon tea at her home for all the members of the Children's at Egleston Library department and Volunteer Services department. She baked everything from scratch.

And it's clear that she still has the "Pied Piper" effect on children, particularly the adoring Children's patients. When she told the story of Cinderella from memory, there wasn't a peep in the room. One soft-spoken patient said her favorite part of seeing Fairy Godmother was hearing the stories. Another said the crown was her favorite part, and yet another enjoyed her dress. It seemed that everyone at the party, no matter what their age, loved the Fairy Godmother's hugs.

"It's amazing what a good hug can do," Jackie said wisely. When a volunteer mentioned that she was a good hugger, she nodded with a kind smile and said assuredly, "I am. I've had lots of experience with hugging!"

Although she's celebrated 90 birthdays in her life, Fairy Godmother insists that this one has been the best yet. She gestures to a young patient with big blue

Hyundai Hope on Wheels Supports Aflac Cancer Center with \$50,000

On Friday, June 24, Greater Atlanta Hyundai Dealers joined Hyundai Motor America in support of childhood cancer research by presenting a \$50,000 Hyundai Scholar grant to the Aflac Cancer Center at Children's at Egleston as part of the 2011 Hope on Wheels program.

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Children's Recognizes School at Work Graduates

The Children's School at Work (SAW) Program graduation ceremony for the class of 2011 was held Friday, June 24.

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New Child Passenger Safety Restraint Law Becomes Effective in Georgia July 1

Effective July 1, 2011, all children under 8 years old must be properly secured in an approved car seat or booster seat while riding in a car, van, SUV or pickup truck.

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Matt Ryan Golf Tournament Raises Money for Children's

Atlanta Falcons Pro Bowl quarterback Matt Ryan hosted his inaugural Celebrity-Am Classic golf tournament at TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, Ga. More than 125 golfers participated in this sold-out event to benefit Children's and The Matt Ryan Foundation.

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Taking the First Step: Physicians Using New e-prescribing Tools

After many months of planning, Children's launched e-prescribing in Epic June 22. With e-prescribing, Epic will transmit prescriptions (except for

eyes and a shy smile. "Do you see that little girl right there?" she says as her eyes tear up. "When I went to give her a hug, she gave me the biggest hug and kissed me right on the cheek. She brought me so much joy in that moment, and I know that I brought her joy. What more could anyone want?"



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controlled medications and compound medications) to retail pharmacies that participate in the Surescripts network, the nation's largest vendor for electronic prescriptions.

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Patients Swarm New Kids on the Block, the Backstreet Boys and Jordin Sparks at The Voice

On June 22, patients, parents and staff alike swarmed The Voice at Children's at Egleston in anticipation of the biggest boy band of all time: NKOTBSB.

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Children's Open Strong4Life Teaching Garden for Patients and Families

On Thursday, June 23, Children's held a grand opening for our Strong4Life Teaching Garden at Children's at Scottish Rite.

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Children's Commute Alternatives Give You Power at the Pump

High gas prices are putting a squeeze on household budgets across the nation. In Atlanta, gas prices are now around \$3.50 a gallon and Children's wants to remind you that we are continuing to offer support and financial incentives to help you save money on your commute to work.

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Speedsitting Event Rescheduled for July 23—Register by July 15

Still interested in finding a babysitter or nanny, but couldn't attend our last event? Don't miss your chance to sign up in July to meet childcare professionals in a setting modeled after the popular "speed dating".

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Your Favorite Healthy Recipe Could be the Next Big Thing at Children's

Submit your healthy recipes for our 2012 employee calendar recipe contest by July 8. Selected employees will have their picture in the calendar, receive a \$100 gift card to purchase new kitchen gadgets and attend a free cooking class! In addition, in the month that your dish is featured on the calendar, it will be served in our cafeterias at Children's at Egleston, Children's at Scottish Rite and The Park.

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Erika Unexpectedly Falls in

Love

This week on Erika is Losing It, Erika, a Marketing Writer and Editor, describes her summer kryptonite – the bathing suit. But after losing 100 pounds, she's looking at swimsuits with a fresh perspective.

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The Voice Sizzles This Summer with Celebrity Performances

The Voice is heating up this summer with a number of celebrity appearances! This week, New Kids on the Block and Backstreet Boys (also known as boy band supergroup NKOTBSB) and former American Idol Jordin Sparks will perform at The Voice before their concert at Philips Arena.

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Chronicle Quiz: And the Winners are...

Thanks to all the *Careforce Chronicle* readers who submitted answers to the Chronicle Quiz in the latest issue of the magazine!

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Construction Begins on Emory Campus for New Health Sciences Research Building

On June 15, construction of a new 200,000 square foot Health Sciences Research Building on the Emory University campus kicked off with an official groundbreaking ceremony.

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Children's Physicians and Staff Create Safe Surgery Checklist Video for National Time Out Day

June 15 is National Time Out Day, a national effort sponsored by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN). The event is designed to raise awareness of the importance of safe, infection-free surgery and encourage commitment from surgical teams to prevent wrong site, wrong patient and wrong procedure surgeries.

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Children's at Hughes Spalding Makes the Top 10

We are pleased to report that Children's at Hughes Spalding has received national recognition for their compliance in improving the asthma home management plan of care.

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A Georgia Boy Comes Home: Country Artist Corey Smith Performs at The Voice

Corey Smith may be a huge country star, but when he stopped by The Voice at Children's at Egleston on June 14, patients and families learned that this Georgia boy is more like them than they thought.

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Marcus Autism Center Breaks Ground on New Parking Lot and Playground

On June 13, Marcus Autism Center officially broke ground on an extended parking lot, a much needed addition to its facilities. A playground occupies the area where the new parking lot will go, so a new and improved playground will be rebuilt in a location just behind the lot.

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"She's Our Dynamo"—Volunteer at Children's at Egleston Spotlights for Her Service

Children's employees see big miracles in the small bodies of the patients we care for every day. But there's one pint-sized dynamo of a volunteer at Children's at Egleston who is making her mark one step at a time - and she's taken over 1 million of those steps.

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Children's Recognizes June Catch Me at My Best Winners

Congratulations to employees Breanna Waever, Hollis Smith and Candace Clarke for winning this month's Catch Me at My Best drawing for a Children's duffle bag.

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Donna Hyland Selected as One of the 100 Most Influential Atlantans

Atlanta Business Chronicle recently selected Donna Hyland, Children's CEO, as one of the 100 Most Influential Atlantans for 2011. This is the first year she has been profiled on the prestigious list.

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Emergency Department and Immediate Care Clinicians: Sign Up for Epic Training

If you work in these areas, sign up for training today.

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Check Out Hope and Will's Excellence Adventure

Staff has been busy preparing for our anticipated Magnet site visit later this year—and Hope and Will have been along for the journey.

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From "I Can't" to "I Can"—A Strong4Life Success Story

A little more than a year ago, Debi Cassidy, Clinical Operations Manager, could not walk from the Children's at Scottish Rite parking deck to her office without stopping to rest. But in March, she walked her first half marathon. Read her inspirational story and check out the pictures of her transformation.

[View Full Story >](#)**One Step Closer to Magnet Recognition**

After months of preparation, Children's added the final touches to our Magnet application and submitted it to the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) June 1. The document, more than 430 pages in length with 2,823 pages of reference materials, captures stories of who we are as caregivers at Children's.

[View Full Story >](#)**Sign Up Early for 24 Hours of Booty to Get a Discount**

On Oct. 1, 24 Hours of Booty will host its second annual Atlanta event. 24 Hours of Booty is a 24-hour cycling event, committed to raising funds for cancer programs and research at the Aflac Cancer Center at Children's and LIVESTRONG.

[View Full Story >](#)**Weight Watchers at Work is Starting Up Soon—Sign Up Today**

Join us for open houses for the second session of Weight Watchers at Work for 2011.

[View Full Story >](#)**Volunteers Needed for AM 750 and Now 95.5 FM News/Talk WSB Care-a-Thon, Aug. 11-12**

The WSB crew is back to help raise funds for the Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Service of Children's in the 11th annual Care-a-Thon, Aug. 11-12.

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