EVENT ORGANIZERS ARE GEARING UP FOR THE 15TH ANNUAL YALE-NEW HAVEN CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL TOY CLOSET GOLF OUTING TO BE HELD THIS SUMMER ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, AT THE LYMAN ORCHARDS GOLF CLUB IN MIDDLEFIELD. REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8 A.M. AND TEE TIME IS 9:30 A.M.

In 1993, the Yale-New Haven Hospital Auxiliary’s Toy Closet program was developed to provide new, age-appropriate toys to pediatric patients at the Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital. Originally founded by WTNH News Channel 8 anchorwoman Ann Nyberg, the Toy Closet program helps ensure that pediatric patients come away from their hospitalization with a pleasant memory. In addition, the toys serve as gifts for special occasions such as birthdays and holiday celebrations for hospitalized children.

The fee for the golf outing is $125 per golfer (when registering before August) which includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, breakfast, lunch, beverages and prizes. In addition, golfers are asked to consider donating a new toy for the Toy Closets for which they will receive a free mulligan (golf shot).

For more information, contact Debbie Klotzer at (203) 688-8824 or the Auxiliary office at (203) 688-5717.

One thing is evident to anyone who passes by the construction site on the corner of Park Street and South Frontage Road in New Haven—the Smilow Cancer Hospital is quickly taking shape. Over 1,900 truck loads of concrete have been poured into the structure and steelworkers installed more than 3,200 pieces of steel. Additionally, 2,700 glass and metal panels are being installed to enclose the building and terra cotta panels will sheath the building from the second floor up.

Below ground, workers have constructed a tunnel to the area that will become the hospital’s new loading dock and are also installing duct work, electrical wiring and plumbing.

Once completed in late fall 2009, the new 14-story Smilow Cancer Hospital will contain nearly 500,000 square feet, and will include 112 inpatient beds, outpatient treatment rooms, expanded operating rooms, infusion suites, diagnostic imaging services, a specialized women’s cancer center and therapeutic radiology facilities.

The Auxiliary donated $500,000 to the new cancer hospital, which has been specifically allocated for the hospital’s ultrasound suite.

The Auxiliary hosted its annual summer “Notes at Noon” concert series for the 23rd year. The popular concerts help brighten summer lunch hours for YNHH employees and the public. Liz McNicholl (third from left) and company performed on June 13 with their mixture of Americana music, which included folk, bluegrass and Celtic renditions. The concert series, featuring a variety of local musicians, ran Fridays through July 18.
Hello Auxiliaries and Friends,

As I prepare to pass on the Auxiliary's Presidential torch, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the Auxiliary executive board members, Board of Managers, committees, members and friends for your extraordinary support and commitment during my tenure as President for the past four years. Together, we have accomplished much and strengthened our commitment to the Auxiliary's mission of supporting the services of Yale-New Haven Hospital and promoting health education in the community.

Some of the many endeavors that top our list include our significant contribution of $500,000 to the new Smilow Cancer Hospital, a $100,000 donation to the hospital's digital mammography van, collecting and distributing thousands of dollars worth of toys and donations to pediatric patients through our Toy Closet program, and supporting working mothers of newborns by helping refurbish lactation rooms for employees throughout the hospital. We also sponsored six health education lectures each year, with Yale-New Haven experts sharing information with members of local communities on various health-related topics.

These are just a few of the many, many projects in which the Auxiliary has been involved in recent years. None of this would have been possible without the Auxiliary membership. This fall, you will be invited to join, or renew, your membership with the Auxiliary. We welcome new members who would like to participate in any of our committees or projects. The Auxiliary offers many exciting opportunities to become involved in the hospital, from Toy Closets to the Atrium Gift Shop to health education lectures.

Also, plan to join us at our annual meeting on Wednesday, October 15, where Henry Cabin, MD, medical director of the Yale-New Haven Hospital Heart and Vascular Center, will be the guest speaker.

Again, thank you one and all for your gracious support and encouragement. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve as President of this stellar organization and look forward to continuing to serve the Auxiliary in other capacities in the coming years.

Kathrine B. Neville
Current and future nursing moms working at Yale-New Haven Hospital have good reason to be grateful to the Yale-New Haven Auxiliary. Thanks to a $5,000 grant from the Auxiliary’s projects committee, the hospital was able to refurbish six nursing mothers’ lactation rooms throughout the hospital for employees who want to continue to breastfeed their babies after they return to work.

“The Auxiliary has been a long-time supporter of breastfeeding for our maternity patients and this takes their support in another important direction – breastfeeding for YNHH employees,” explained Peggy DeZinno, RN, coordinator, WELL/A Mother's Place @ Yale-New Haven Hospital and Auxiliary member. “We are certain that our employees who are new mothers will find these newly refurbished rooms comfortable and convenient to use. We are very grateful to the Auxiliary for their support.”

Carolyn Gould, chair of the Auxiliary’s projects committee added, “The Auxiliary Projects Committee is always pleased to support initiatives which contribute to the well-being of Yale-New Haven Hospital employees and patients.”

Auxiliary members gather for a photo at the door of the new nursing mothers’ room on the West Pavilion during the recent dedication ceremony for the new rooms. (L-R are: Diane Petra, Sally Howell, Kathrine Neville, Carolyn Gould, Peggy DeZinno and Debbie Klotzer.)

Health Education Committee promotes car safety for children

The Auxiliary’s health education committee teamed up with McDermott Auto Group of New Haven to host a car seat installation clinic this spring. Parents of young children were invited to visit the one-day clinic where certified child passenger safety (CPS) technicians checked the installation of car seats and discussed the proper use and installation of child restraints.

In total, 32 car seats were inspected by volunteer technicians, coordinated by Auxiliary Health Education Committee member Pina Violano, RN, injury prevention coordinator for the Trauma Department at Yale-New Haven Hospital and CPS technician.

“We felt this was a very important initiative for the Auxiliary to support,” explained Violano. “The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that approximately 80 percent of child car seats are misused. By collaborating on this event, we are helping parents ensure that they are traveling with their most precious cargo in the safest manner possible.”

Volunteers for the car seat installation clinic included Auxiliary members, employees of Yale-New Haven Hospital and McDermott Auto Group employees and their family members.
Auxiliaries visit the New York Botanical Gardens

More than two dozen members of the YNHH Auxiliary and friends took a day trip to the New York Botanical Gardens in the Bronx on May 8, 2008 to enjoy the spring flora and fauna. They visited Darwin’s Garden – an exhibition of Charles Darwin’s writing, field notebooks and the plant collections which were a life-long interest and the basis for much of his groundbreaking thinking about natural selection and evolution. The trip was an enjoyable and educational way to visit with one another and introduce potential Auxiliary members to the organization.

Auxiliary members and guests (L-R) included: Katie Murphy, Stephanie Jatlow, Ellie Jones, Christine Dowling, Annemarie Lindskog, Mary Jane Miller, Kathrine Neville, Peggy DeZinno, Sylvia Greene and Ingrid Parri.