

MGH couple's son wins "babyGap" contest



A MODEL CHILD INDEED:
Bill and Rebecca McLaughlin with
their baby William

ALTHOUGH HIS PARENTS – Bill McLaughlin, the main campus day shift supervisor for MGH Police and Security, and Rebecca, a registrar in the MGH Emergency Department – work in health care, 1-year-old William McLaughlin may some day enter a different field: modeling.

With his bright blue eyes and adorable smile, William was recently named the winner in the 4-year-old and younger boys category of the Gap Casting Call Contest, a search for babyGap and GapKids models. Now in its fourth year, the competition received a million entries overall.

Rebecca, who has worked at the MGH for almost a year, submitted photos of her son in September, though she felt doubtful of their chances. "There were tons of cute kids who were already entered," she says.

But a month later, the couple received a voicemail informing them that William had been selected as one of five finalists in his category. The entire family, who lives in Medford, flew out to San Francisco for a four-day, all-expenses-paid trip, which included a photo shoot with William at the Gap studios.

"It was a great experience," says Rebecca. "William was treated like a little celebrity!"

From Dec. 7 through 21, people all over the country voted for their favorite finalists on the Gap website. On Feb. 4, the winner in each of four categories was announced.

"It still doesn't seem real," says Bill, who has worked at the MGH for nearly 15 years. "We were so excited to hear the news and thankful for everyone who voted for William."

William's photo will be featured in babyGap store windows across the United States from Feb. 4 through 10. He and his parents will also receive several prizes from Gap and Disney. ■



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In the right place at the right time

MGH SURGEON ROB SHERIDAN, MD, was walking outside the Partners in Health/Zanmi Lasante Sociomedical Complex in Cange, Haiti, shortly after completing the operating day when he suddenly felt unsteady on his feet. His initial thought was that he'd become dehydrated in the heat. But Sheridan quickly learned that what he felt was a magnitude 7.0 earthquake that had devastated Port-au-Prince, approximately 30 miles away from Cange. Sheridan, who had arrived in Haiti just the day before, was on his second trip to Haiti and his first to Zanmi Lasante as a visiting surgeon and burn specialist.

"That night, a few locally injured patients were seen," he says. "The internet and cell signals were down, and information about the situation in Port-au-Prince was sketchy. No one expected the influx of patients coming out of the city. However, the next morning, large numbers of patients began to arrive from

(Continued on page 2)



HEALING HANDS: Sheridan, left, with anesthesiologist Romero Leina, MD, a colleague from Cuba, at Zanmi Lasante in Haiti

New pathways reconnect the MGH campus

WHEN THE MGH BUILDING FOR THE THIRD CENTURY (B3C) opens in the summer of 2011, patients, visitors and staff will benefit not only from its new clinical and support facilities, but also from new, more direct pedestrian routes across the campus. To view these new pathways, see the map to the left and corresponding text in the key below.

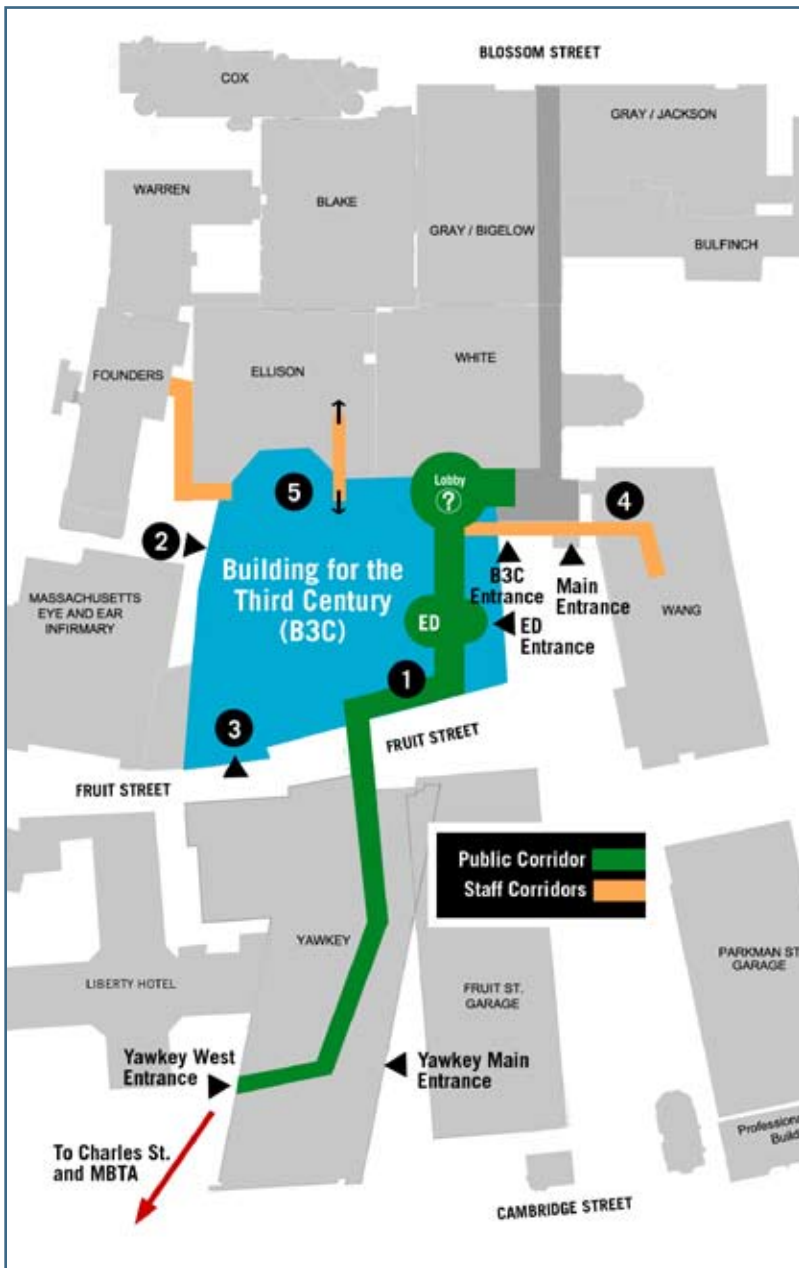
Improving access into and through campus

- 1 Individuals will be able to walk through MGH buildings from the “front” of the campus to the “back” without having to walk outside. Beginning at the Charles-MGH MBTA station on Cambridge Street, pedestrians will be able to enter the Yawkey Center for Outpatient Care, travel along a level 2 corridor, walk over Fruit Street via a new pedestrian bridge and into the B3C, then back down to the ground level Emergency and B3C lobbies, which will connect to the White Lobby and core campus.
- 2 Truck drivers will make deliveries to a new main receiving dock off Charles Street, eliminating most traffic at the Gray Building loading dock. At the basement level, deliveries and materials will flow from the new dock through the Founders Building basement corridor and into the core campus.
- 3 Ambulance drivers will enter a covered emergency driveway off of Fruit Street. The current ambulance yard on the White Ramp will be redesigned to welcome patients and visitors arriving by foot or car at the Emergency, B3C and main hospital entrances.

Internal connecting corridors for clinical staff

- 4 Staff members will transport patients to and from the Wang Ambulatory Care Center’s new surgical intake center on level 3, scheduled to open in 2012, to B3C procedure floors via a new clinical bridge now under construction above the hospital’s main entrance.
- 5 Authorized MGH staff will be able to travel to and from the B3C and the White and Ellison buildings on levels 1, 2 and 3, supporting emergency, imaging and surgical functions.

For more information about the B3C, access www2.massgeneral.org/b3c. ■



— Sheridan

(Continued from page 1)

Port-au-Prince in honking cars and trucks.”

Patients arrived continually over the next 10 to 14 days and filled the 110-bed hospital. As more and more patients arrived, the hospital was expanded into an adjacent church and nearby school. Many patients rested on mats on the floor. The hospital’s two operating rooms ran 12 to 16 hours a day and the nurse-to-patient ratio was approximately 1 to 40. While there were multiple aftershocks, fortunately, the hospital was not damaged and continued to function.

The first patients suffered from acute trauma – such as open fractures, penetrating injuries from

rebar, skull fractures, chest and abdominal injuries, and crush injuries – many of which necessitated amputation. The age of the patients ranged from infancy through elderly. With minimal X-ray and labs available – none in the first days – all decisions had to be made based on clinical exam.

“In the following days, new patients had predominately infected crushed extremities and soft-tissue injuries,” says Sheridan. “After seven to 10 days, open fractures or crush-injury-induced renal failure seemed the most common presenting problem in new patients. Most patients had multiple associated lacerations and soft-tissue injuries as well. Orthopedist Dr. Alfred Hanmer from Newton-Wellesley Hospital and two Partners-trained plastic surgeons, Drs. Helena

Taylor and Stephen Sullivan, from Providence, joined the group. This allowed an OB room to be converted into a third operating room and increased OR throughput. Additional supplies began to arrive at this time, including military external fixation kits that were extremely helpful.”

Sheridan’s stay in Haiti was extended beyond his original plan; however, he says that he considers himself fortunate to have been at Zanmi Lasante to help with the earthquake response effort. “It was truly a privilege to work with the Haitian and Partners in Health staff during this emergency,” he says. “I’m looking forward to returning to Haiti.”

For more information about the MGH relief efforts in Haiti, access <http://www.massgeneral.org/haiti/>.



HELPING HAITI: From left, Quynn; Horgan; eighth-grade students Stephen Miller, Alexa DiPrizio and Lauren D'Errico; and Thompson

Students support MGH Haitian Relief Fund

ALL OVER THE WORLD people have joined together to support Haiti. One local example of this generosity is a donation from the students and faculty of St. John School, a local Catholic school in the North End. The group recently raised \$1,400 for the MGH Haitian Relief Fund.

Robin Horgan, a part-time pharmacy technician at the MGH and an eighth-grade teacher at the school, helped organize the fundraiser. "I told our principal, Sister Eileen Harvey, about the fund that we set up at the hospital," says Horgan. "She agreed that it would be nice to contribute to the fund of an organization that is so vital to our own community."

On Jan. 26, she and several students presented a check for the MGH Haitian Relief Fund to Jim Thompson, vice president for MGH Development, and Katelyn Quynn, MGH deputy chief development officer. Established by hospital leadership and coordinated by the MGH Development Office, the fund supports MGH-affiliated relief efforts, MGH employees with family in Haiti and other organizations providing aid. To date, more than \$123,000 has been raised. ■

Reading "Between the Lions"

THE TWO LIONS who made an appearance at Christopher's Haven in the West End Jan. 14 were more of the friendly than fierce variety. The lions, Cleo and Leona, are the stars of PBS's Emmy-Award-winning children's series "Between the Lions." The duo spent the afternoon entertaining MassGeneral Hospital for Children (MGHfC) pediatric cancer patients and their siblings staying at Christopher's Haven, a nonprofit organization that provides housing for MGHfC cancer patients and their families.

"This is like having the rock stars for the 4-year-old set come to us," said Martha Welsh, executive director of Christopher's Haven. "It's exciting to have this kind of event for our kids, right here in our loft at Christopher's Haven."

Produced by WGBH Boston as a part of PBS KIDS Raising Readers, "Between the Lions" incorporates the most recent scientific research into literacy instruction. Each episode features various forms of animation, puppetry, live action and music. The actors from "Between the Lions" performed a puppet show for the patients and their families and interacted with the children, asking questions, singing the alphabet and reading from a gigantic storybook.



FRIENDLY VISIT: Christopher's Haven resident Andrew, a sibling of an MGHfC patient, scratches Cleo's chin.

"We're grateful to PBS and the 'Between the Lions' cast for brightening the day of our small patients and their siblings," said Welsh. "An activity like this provides a positive, fun experience for the children, despite the physical challenges they are up against." ■

MGH leadership meeting

THE O'KEEFE AUDITORIUM was standing-room only during the Jan. 27 MGH leadership meeting featuring James J. Mongan, MD, recently retired Partners HealthCare president and CEO, and Gary Gottlieb, MD, MBA, Partners' new president and CEO as of Jan. 1. Due to a previously scheduled commitment on the West Coast, MGH President Peter L. Slavin, MD, who normally hosts the meeting, was unable to attend, so Britain Nicholson, MD, chief medical officer, opened the meeting.

Before introducing Mongan, Nicholson referred to the MGH founding fathers' quote, "When in distress, every man becomes our neighbor." He explained that today, that foundational purpose includes assisting the MGH's global neighbors in Haiti as they struggle to deal with tragedy and destruction following the Jan. 12 earthquake. On behalf of Slavin and David Torchiana, MD, MGPO chairman and CEO, Nicholson thanked the MGHers volunteering in Haiti as well as those who have kept the hospital fully operating in their colleagues' absence.

Mongan then took to the podium and shared his unique perspective as the outgoing president and CEO of Partners. Providing an overview of the changes that took place while he led Partners, he explained a number of key milestones. He reflected upon Partners' growth and stability, the system's development and integration of High Performance Medicine, and Partners' leadership in Massachusetts' health care reform.

Next, Gottlieb highlighted the impact of Mongan's seven-year tenure on Partners and health care in general. He discussed his admiration of the MGH's enduring mission – providing the best in clinical health care, caring for the community, advancing scientific research and educating the best and brightest young clinicians – and encouraged attendees to continue to protect these goals, especially in light of today's challenging economic times. Gottlieb remarked upon the importance of continuing to measure and evaluate quality and safety outcomes to ultimately create a new standard of excellence in health care, and he noted the significance of rebuilding and investing in the community, the hospital and the future of health care. In closing, Gottlieb thanked Mongan for his extraordinary legacy and expressed gratitude to all of the members of Partners for their commitment and ongoing contributions to the organization.

WHAT'S HAPPENING**Perks tickets available at the Employee Access Center**

MGH Perks tickets are now available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm at the Employee Access Center, Bulfinch 107, around the corner from Coffee Central. Employees can purchase discount passes for movies, ski resorts and area museums through payroll deduction or personal check.

Applied biostatistics for clinical trials course series

The MGH Clinical Research Program and Biostatistics Center are sponsoring "Applied Biostatistics for Clinical Trials" Feb. 22 and March 1, 8 and 15 from 3 to 4:30 pm in the Simches Research Center, Room 3.110. In this

series, Elkan Halpern, PhD, director of statistics for the MGH Institute for Technology Assessment, will review the statistical approach to problems commonly encountered in research. Each of the four sessions will focus on a different theme using concrete and realistic examples. The series is intended for investigators interested in clinical research. To register, access <http://hub.partners.org/catalog>. For more information, contact Suzanne Guerette at 617-724-2900.

MGH Senior HealthWISE

MGH Senior HealthWISE is offering a free seminar for seniors ages 60 years and older, "Maintain your Brain: How to Live a Brain-Healthy Lifestyle," Feb. 11 from 11 am to noon in the Haber Conference Room. Will Reiter, director of education programs for the Alzheimer's Association, will present. For more information, call 617-724-6756.

U.S. citizenship class

MGH Human Resources is sponsoring two additional citizenship class cycles beginning in March and June. These free, eight-week programs

assist employees and their families in obtaining U.S. citizenship. Although there is no cost for the class, participants must be able to pay the \$675 fee required to submit their final citizenship application. Participants must also have a green card or equivalent, be a permanent resident for at least five years and attend an information session to assess moderate English proficiency. For more information, contact Helen Witherspoon at 617-726-1700 or Adam Cutler at 617-399-3260.

Haiti Grant Program for employees

The MGH has created the Haiti Grant Program to offer financial assistance to employees most affected by the earthquake in Haiti. The maximum grant is \$300 after taxes. To complete the application for the grant, access <http://intranet.massgeneral.org/intranet/HaitiGrantProgramApplication.pdf>.

Eldercare discussion group

The Partners Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will host an eldercare discussion Feb. 9 from

noon to 1 pm in the Yawkey Center, Room 10-650. Janet T. Loughlin, LICSW, CEAP, of Partners EAP, and Barbara Moscovitz, LICSW, MGH geriatric social worker, will facilitate. Attendees are invited to bring their lunch. Topics will include beginning the journey of caring for the elder adult, normal aging versus illness, advanced directives and how to have a discussion about these issues with the elder adult. Additional sessions will be held March 9, April 6 and May 4. For more information, call 617-726-6976 or visit www.eap.partners.org.

IN GENERAL

Jen Sheen, PhD, of the MGH Department of Molecular Biology and Center for Computational and Integrative Biology, has been named a fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Sheen was selected for her research on signaling pathways in plants. She is among 531 fellows appointed this year who will be presented with a certificate at the AAAS annual meeting in San Diego later this month.



Submit news tips
and story ideas
to MGH Hotline

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Nominations for MGH Patient Safety Star now being accepted

MGHERS ARE INVITED to nominate employees from any department across the MGH as an inaugural "MGH Patient Safety Star." Staff members who have demonstrated particular excellence in and attention to patient safety and who are nominated by their colleagues will be eligible to be randomly selected as an MGH Patient Safety Star.

As part of the honor, winners will be invited to the First Annual Patient Safety Appreciation Breakfast on March 9. The event coincides with National Patient Safety Awareness Week, March 8 through 12. At the breakfast, Peter L. Slavin, MD, MGH president, and Gregg Meyer, MD, senior vice president for the MGH/MGPO Center for Quality and Safety, will personally thank each Patient Safety Star for their contributions.

To nominate an employee – whether he or she has a clinical, administrative or support service role – complete the nomination form found on the MGH intranet homepage at <http://intranet.massgeneral.org>. Those without computer access should fax the following nomination information to 617-726-4304, to the attention of Susan LaCroix, executive assistant for the MGH/MGPO Center for Quality and Safety:

- The nominee's name, department and mailstop information
- The nominee's immediate supervisor's name
- At least one example of the nominee's contribution to patient safety at the MGH

Nominations should be submitted by 5 pm on Feb. 19. Fifty MGH employees will be selected randomly as Patient Safety Stars from among all of the nominations submitted. All those nominated will receive a certificate of recognition. The 50 MGH Patient Safety Stars will be notified of their selection on Feb. 22.

For more information, contact Millie LeBlanc, patient safety staff specialist, at mleblanc1@partners.org or 617-726-8031.