

More fundraisers planned for Burke family

Written by By Ava Barlow, Staff Writer
Wednesday, 26 January 2011 10:13 -

Jan. 27, 2011 - Prior to Madeline and Mary Burke moving to Houston to prepare for 15-year-old Madeline's lung transplant, an account was set up with Children's Organ Transplant Association to handle donations being made to the family. Donations go into this fund and are disbursed to the family as needed, and are not considered taxable income for the family. A local account was set up at American Bank of Texas for the convenience of local persons or organizations wishing to donate to the COTA fund in honor of Madeline Burke.

People in Leonard responded very quickly in the fall of 2010, organizing garage sales, bake sales, raffles, golf tournament, dance, and restaurant proceed donations. One anonymous donor gave \$500 with the stipulation that the amount be matched, which was achieved through the dance fundraiser organized by Clayton Kemp. Several businesses also have coin containers setup to collect donations, and all of these fundraising efforts have brought in \$25,000 of the \$40,000 projected to be needed by the family. But, more fundraisers are needed for the remainder of the money. Following is a list of upcoming events where proceeds will be donated to COTA in honor of Madeline Burke.

Madeline Marchers T-shirts are currently for sale at \$15 each, with prepaid orders being taken prior to delivery. (See t-shirt art at right.) Order forms are available at each campus of the school and at The Leonard Graphic. Orders are already being taken, so place an order anytime.

On March 5 from 5 to 8 p.m. Sonic will be serving up Fritos chili cheese pie and possibly other food items in the high school commons area. Sonic is recommending a \$5 donation at the door for the food. Any organization, church, group, or person is welcome to join with Sonic in this event and offer other fundraising activities. All proceeds will go to COTA in honor of Madeline Burke. Call Ava Barlow at 972-658-7608 to sign up to participate as a sponsor. A silent auction will be held throughout the evening. No food vendors other than Sonic will be allowed. A Madeline Marchers T-shirt booth will be set up for people to order and pay for T-shirts, with delivery being up to a week.

Another anonymous donor has offered \$500 as a matching donation to anyone willing to match the amount. Anyone interested in matching this donation can call Ava Barlow at 972-658-7608.

The next fundraiser will be held on May 7 at the City Park and will include entertainment by

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The Blandelles, a local oldies rock and roll band. Once again, other organizations, churches, groups, or persons are invited to provide added activities to this event. Events could include grilling burgers/hot dogs, a cotton candy machine, cold drinks, games for kids, other musical groups performing, selling T-shirts, bake sale or snack items for sale. Anyone organizing something for this event or the Sonic event would need as much supplies donated as possible so all proceeds will go to the COTA fund in honor of Madeline Burke.