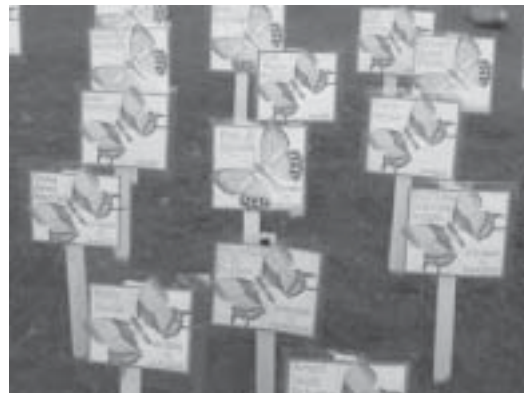




A Hole-In-One for MISS!

Thank you for all those that participated in this year's Golf Tournament and made it such a success. It was a beautiful Arizona Day. The sun was shining & everyone had a great time! The field of butterflies was a dazzling display. All funds raised from the tournament will go directly to our Family Support and Crisis Intervention Programs to help families facing child death. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this event memorable. We hope you will join us next year to make it better than ever.

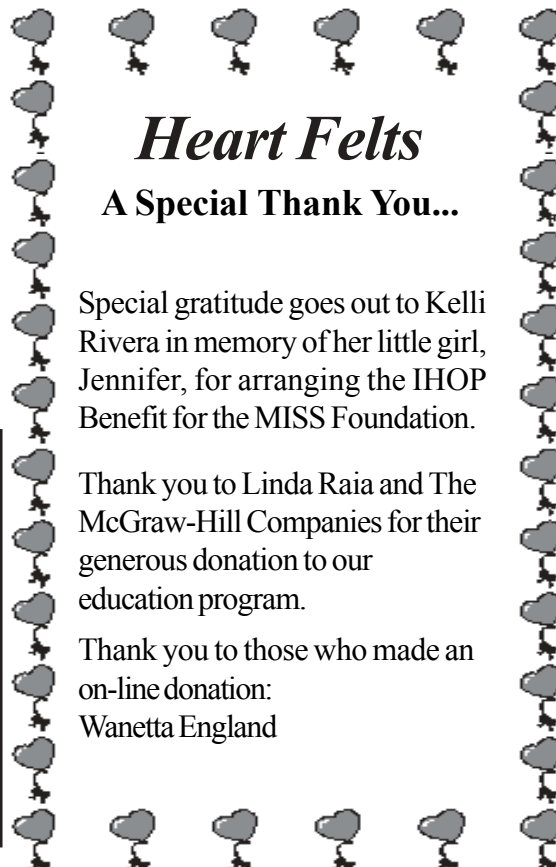


To view more photos, please visit:

<http://216.19.221.242/gallery/2003golf>



A very special thank you to Andrew Sosnowitz, Jeff and Carrie Bell in memory of Parker Bell, and Jenny and Gary McSpadden in memory of Mikayla. And to our MISS Foundation volunteers: Angela Iverson, Nicole Dougherty, Asena Nicolosi, Cindi Nannetti, J.D., Robert Dalager, J.D., Linda Schmidt, and all the others who helped make this a tremendously successful event!



Heart Felts

A Special Thank You...

Special gratitude goes out to Kelli Rivera in memory of her little girl, Jennifer, for arranging the IHOP Benefit for the MISS Foundation.

Thank you to Linda Raia and The McGraw-Hill Companies for their generous donation to our education program.

Thank you to those who made an on-line donation:
Wanetta England

Miss Foundation's
Sacred Hearts Logo Pendant



A beautiful gift representing the eternal love between Mother and Child. This exclusive pendant is custom made of sterling silver and hangs on your choice of a 20" or 24" chain. Now available with or without a birthstone. Orders for the Sacred Hearts Pendant can be placed on-line in our store at www.missfoundation.org. Be sure to indicate your options (*i.e. birthstone month, chain size*).

Pricing: Pendant w/20" chain \$60
Add birthstone add \$12
With 24" chain add \$5



Article Assesses Minority Young Women's Knowledge and Prevention Practices Related to Neural Tube Defects

“This study supports the need for folic acid promotion programs at publicly funded clinics for sexually active adolescent and young adult women who seek reproductive health care,” state the authors of an article published in the September 2003 issue of *Pediatrics*. The authors state that folic acid deficiency is linked to the development of neural tube defects (NTDs) and that a challenge facing medical and public health professionals is to improve the knowledge and prevention of NTDs in women of childbearing age. In addition, the authors point out that because a high percentage of women ages 15 through 24 who become pregnant report an unintended pregnancy, it is a challenge to change habits of women who might get pregnant to take a multivitamin daily and increase folate- and folic-acid-fortified food intake. The purpose of the study described in this article was to assess (1) knowledge of NTDs and prevention by folic acid, (2) intake of daily multivitamin and folate and folic-acid-rich food, and (3) factors associated with knowledge and prevention practices among sexually active minority young women.

The study population consisted of 387 low-income black and Hispanic women ages 13-22 seeking free and confidential health services between 1999 and 2000 in one of three reproductive health clinics in a large city in Texas. Participants were enrolled in a folic acid promotion program, assessed for their knowledge of NTDs and their prevention practices, and provided with a 3-month supply of multivitamins. Follow-up interviews were conducted 3 months into the implementation of the program.

The authors found that:

- * The mean age of participants was 18; 72% were black, and 28% were Hispanic.
- * Fifty-two percent of participants had heard of folic acid, 45% had heard of NTDs, and 50% had heard that taking multivitamins can prevent birth defects.
- * Significantly more Hispanic than black young women had heard of NTDs.
- * At enrollment, 9% of participants took daily multivitamins.
- * Consumption rates of folic acid/folate-rich foods were poor; adequate folate diet was not associated with knowledge.
- * The follow-up survey indicated that 88% to 92% of participants had knowledge of NTDs and folic acid, and 67% reported taking a daily multivitamin.

The authors conclude that “our study suggests that practitioners should promote daily multivitamin intake among young women.”

Chacko MR, Anding R, Kozinetz CA. 2003. Neural tube defects: Knowledge and preconceptional prevention practices in minority young women. *Pediatrics* 112(3):536-542.

Report Investigates Increase in Delaware's Infant Mortality Rates

This investigation attributes “the Delaware IMR [infant mortality rate] increase primarily to increased mortality among very low birthweight (VLBW) infants born to older, married, suburban mothers who were insured privately and who received early prenatal care,” state the authors of a report published in the September 12, 2003, issue of *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. Following a decline in the early 1990s, the authors note, the Delaware IMR increased to the seventh highest in the nation. This report summarizes the results of an analysis of birth and death data conducted by the Delaware Division of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention undertaken to understand the cause of this increase.

Researchers used a state-based linked birth-death certificate cohort database that included data on all live births to women residing in Delaware. The 3-year period during which Delaware's IMR was lowest (1994-1996) was used as a baseline and compared with the most recent 3-year period for which data were available (1998-2000). Analyses examined IMR trends within infant birthweight and plurality subpopulations and by maternal characteristics. Use of assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures in Delaware in 2000 was assessed by using data from the population-based U.S. Registry of ART Procedures.

The authors found that, between the periods 1994-1996 and 1998-2000:

- * IMR for normal-birthweight and moderately low-birthweight infants did not change significantly; however, IMR among VLBW infants increased by 25%.
- * IMR increased for all plurality subpopulations: by 8% for singletons, by 93% for twins, and by 304% for triplets-plus; however, this trend was not attributable to the increase in VLBW infants, because the proportion of these infants remained the same.
- * There were statistically significant increases in IMR for infants of mothers who had prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy and who were ages 30 or older, married, privately insured, and New Castle County residents (excluding Wilmington).
- * In 2000, an estimated 1% of the live births recorded in Delaware were conceived with the use of ART; however, ART-conceived infants accounted for approximately 8% of VLBW infants born in 2000.

The authors conclude that “further study, including collection of data on method of conception, is required to determine the etiology of the increased mortality in this subpopulation.”

Hathcock AL, Silverman P, Ferre C, et al. 2003. Increasing infant mortality among very low birthweight infants — Delaware, 1994-2000. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 52(36):862-866.



Remembering our November & December Children... Happy Birthday

November

- Kooper Daniel Lambert
- Alana Kay Moorhouse
- Alec Robert Noeker
- Cody Shaw Gibson
- Mikaela Beth Walker
- Skyler M. Trujillo - Garrett
- Noah Cline
- Karlie Dawn Flores
- Josephina Duran
- Gabriel Sites Goodrich
- Brittany Michelle Crank-Martin Ian
- Trevor Oxley-Brown
- Cameron Michael Scott
- Elena Marie Palleschi
- Christopher Andrew Hall
- Stephanie Denise Brooks
- Hailee Miranda Karen Hildreth
- Michaela Cheyenne Lomano
- Ethan Michael Bousquet
- Chase Montgomery
- Jack Keegan Mahoney
- Phillip Damien Leach
- Jeremy Russell Chepeus
- Harrison Campbell
- Kai Noa Ruiz
- Serena Carlson
- Harrison Lennon
- Kaylee Ranae McCully
- Jason E. Wynn, Jr.
- Damien Michael Webb
- Gregory James Halinar
- Mirage Trujillo
- Brooke Hailey Thompson
- Samuel James Bercich
- Victoria Jenea Renteria
- Brandon Kyle Ball
- Brianna Raye Ball
- Guadalupe Arellano
- Megann Stahl
- Tyler David Abarr
- Carolyn Ann Burley
- Peyton Doren
- Jordenn Polk
- Joshua Girard
- Manuel Andres
- Slate Owen McAdams
- Daniel Engle, III
- Megan Leach

- Eric Christopher Mikkelson
- Nathaniel Fleeman
- Amanda Marie Truxell
- Dylan Ryan Jackson
- Christina Teran Gajdecki
- Colten Loose
- Mariana Barrientos
- Bronson & Garrett Wetzel
- Mercedes Lynn Miller
- Aric Michael Dunn
- Ryan Hudson Jones
- Christopher Michael Masterson
- Isiah Ellis
- Phillip Thomas Johnson
- Ian James McLoone
- Courtney Begay
- Faith Caprice Wright
- Toby Lee Boyd
- Grace Elizabeth Yelanich
- Jocelyn Ann Sanders
- Hope Elizabeth Meek
- Saul Elian Guerrero-Lopez
- Zane Allen White
- Wyatt Edward Boehly
- Kimberley Gratke
- Emily Nicole Rauschkolb
- Colby Lee Bellissimo
- Joshua F. Villabolos-Blanco
- Taylor Louise St. Laurent
- Conner Brian Thomas
- Hannah Fenstermaker
- Patience Mathieson
- Charles Christopher Irby
- Spencer Gallard
- Sean Michael Evans
- Charlotte Fulton Brochhausen
- Collin James Watson



- Sarah Jean Vinette
- Dana Jane Franklin
- Emily Ann Risberg
- Emma Montgomery
- Gabriel Maldonado
- Mya Romero
- Aaron Tobis Abraham
- Sean Connelly
- Justyn Reyna Turner
- Adam Paul Entz
- Seachel Arnwine
- Jacob Daniel Castaneda
- Tristan Salamanca
- Riley Simone Baca
- Tyler Charles Wood-Altman
- Christopher Lawn

In Memoriam

November

- Alana Kay Moorhouse
- Alec Robert Noeker
- Noah Cline
- Brandon Robert Wilson
- Gabriel Sites Goodrich
- Ian Trevor Oxley-Brown
- Christopher Herberson
- Cody Shaw Gibson
- Wyatt David Youngstrom
- Cameron Michael Scott
- Elena Marie Palleschi
- Stephanie Denise Brooks
- Steven Bolton, Jr.
- Dejannia Day-Darby
- Jack Keegan Mahoney
- Phillip Damien Leach
- Ethan Michael Bousquet
- Justin Mark Madison
- Amber Cheyenne Murphy
- Alana Kay Moorhouse
- Gavin Horn
- Kaylee Ranae McCully
- Alexis Brienne Stempien
- Kailyn Ashley Noyes
- Isaiah Anderson
- Gregory James Halinar
- Samuel James Bercich
- Creay Peter Lloyd Jackson
- Tyler David Abarr
- Amber Pearson-Gibson
- Lisa Lee Billington

December

- Brianna Jo Anderson
- Ivan Gibson
- Ryllie Mae Go-Link
- Adam Grosz
- Christopher Herberson
- Ashlee-Dawn Noelle Peterson
- Hays Ryan Wilson-Ellwood
- Celine Martinez
- Sharolina A. Bello-Aparicio
- Mario E. Ramirez
- Alissa Chaffin
- Rachel Ann Hage



James "Jimmy" Carr
 Xavier Carter
 Brock Eller Morata
 Carolyn Ann Burley
 Peyton Doren
 Crystal Sheyenne Valentine-Gripp
 Nikolas Kodie Carlson
 Manuel Andres
 Slate Owen McAdams
 Amanda Nicole Lujan-Alvarado
 Kai Noa Ruiz
 Isaac Ryan Cruz
 Jennifer Lynda Perez
 Jose Tierrablanca
 Eric Christopher Mikkelson
 Brianna Raye Ball
 Nicolas Gutierrez-Cantin
 Brandon Kyle Ball
 Joseph Robert Finnell-Glover
 Diana Campos
 Bronson & Garrett Wetzel
 James Aaron DeLaCruz
 Mercedes Lynn Miller
 Aric Michael Dunn
 Ryan Hudson Jones
 Guadalupe Arellano
 Phillip Thomas Johnson
 Alexander Swartz
 Faith Caprice Wright
 Toby Lee Boyd
 Jocelyn Ann Sanders
 Cody William Charles
 Avery Nichole DuBois
 Joshua Girard
 Collin Otruba
 Isabel Rubio
 Cheyenne Autumn Smith
 Megan Leach
 Angelina Munoz
 Issac Harmon
 Colby Lee Bellissimo
 Christopher Andrew Hall
 Michaella Cheyenne Lomano
 Mikaila Underwood
 Taylor Louise St. Laurent
 Charles Christopher Irby
 James Carter
 Spencer Gallard
 Iyanna Crainey
 Sean Michael Evans
 Brody Drucker
 Emily Geitz



December

Makalie Jane Herzog
 Karlie Dawn Flores
 Adam Grosz

Ryllie Mae Go-Link
 Corbin Stephen Martsch
 Mariana Joy-Frances Antone
 Alex Robles Entz
 Faith Arlene Burkholder-McDevitt
 Grace Elizabeth Yelanich
 Sarah Jean Vinette
 Emily Ann Risberg
 Yapheth Ingram
 Adam Riley
 Samantha Ashley Morlan
 Tyler Lee Grissom
 Kendra Charity Gidley
 Aaron Tobis Abraham
 Brandon Alvarez
 Jason Everett Booden
 Mya Romero
 Patience Mathieson
 Riley Simone Baca
 Tristian Rae Miller
 Dawson Thomas Jones
 Thomas Charles Allen
 Kamryn Rose York
 Sydeny Rose Mitchell
 Brett Alan Wondra
 Mirage Trujillo
 Zachary Isaac Gatewood
 Brittney Angelique Grace
 Megann Stahl
 Keathon Armstrong
 Corrie Armstrong
 Connor Jack Dicke
 Carlota Hoffman
 Kody Harris
 Stephanie Maichel
 Grace McVicar
 Dianna Buckner
 Corbin Elyott Ackley
 Dalton Moretti
 Bridgette Desire² -Victoria Scherr
 Erika Xioma Fajardo Ledesma
 Courtney Eileen Sanders
 Madison Clouser
 Sarah Lusk
 Mackenzie Thomas
 Saqula Laires Hickam
 Alec Ellison
 Ashleigh Marie Hargis
 Jesse Andrews
 Malena Gallardo
 Connor Clouser
 Tyler Clouser
 Logan Thomas Winton
 Tristan Salamanca
 Vivian Ann Edwards
 Taylor Jordan Soucie
 Joshua David Brokaw



Hope Elizabeth Meek
 Sharolina A. Bello-Aparicio
 Travis Taron Peters
 Chance Alan Blanton
 Chase Christopher Blanton
 Nathan Marimon
 Gabriel Salzbrenner
 Jessica Marie Hajdo
 Brandon Allen Gomez
 Jonah Noyd
 Makalie Jane Herzog
 Mariana Barrientos
 Vanessa Denae Hong
 Grace Nicole Steger
 Nadir Nathaniel Shah
 Brodie Myles Kehoe Nainoa Hom
 Caitlyn Rae Dugan
 Michael Cameron Bartkus
 Ashley Lynn Daniel
 Dylan Ryan Jackson
 Courtney Begay
 Jose Sanchez
 Jose Sanchez
 Bethany Vital
 Samantha Amber Dillard
 Julia Marie McDonnell
 Lydia Jean Boettcher
 David Isaac Jacobs
 Cassandra Nicole Choquette
 Micheala Danielle Samarripa
 Bryce & Brianna Schindele
 Kelsey Mayo
 Angel Webb
 Hannah Fenstermaker
 Isiah Ellis
 Malcolm Issac Freeman
 Tevita Siasau
 Elijah Scottlee Grant
 Joshua and Shawn Peters
 Brittany Michelle Dawn & Nicholas
 Daniel Scott Runyan
 Ryan Spencer Dugan
 Joshua F. Villabulos-Blanco
 Caitlynn Henson
 Johnny Nichols
 Jaylee Angel
 John Lafferty, Jr.
 Mikayla Kenzie McSpadden
 Marcello Muller
 Victoria Jenea Renteria
 Esmeralda Espinoza
 Evan Nielsen
 John Devereaux
 Isabel Villagomez
 Regina Marie Munoz
 Jared Leonard Sullivan

Perspective
Compassion
Remembrance
Love
HOPE
Friendship
Wisdom
Awakening
Faith
Strength
Inspiration
Peace

Memorial Donations *In Loving Memory of...*

Rachel Elizabeth Hilburn

By Regina Hilburn

Sienna Marie Franco-Phong

By Johnny Phong

In loving memory to our Sienna Marie who touched so many lives

Maxwell Scott Herman

By his loving parenhts

Gina & Scott

Calixto Cruz-Marsted

Amanda Marsted

Lexi Noel Christmon

In Honor of Brook Lydia Lorber
Although you do not know it, you are loved very much Brook. We are very sorry for your loss.

Love always,

Lisa, Dad, Nicholas & Johnathan

Skyler Kirby Schmidt

By Mary & Bob Kennelly

Skyler Kirby Schmidt

By Robert Troidl

Skyler Kirby Schmidt

By Ben & Ann McKernan

Skyler Kirby Schmidt

By Great Grandma Iona Schmidt

Skyler Kirby Schmidt

By Sarah & Ron Lomeli

Gabriella Suzanne Alvarez-Rooney

By her loving auntie

Annette Alvarez

Moriah Lynne Sharp

By her parents, Gary and Michele

Cody Elijah Iverson

By Brandon Iverson, big brother,
from his allowance

Chance Alan &**Chase Christopher Blanton**

By Grammie & Grampa

Brittney Angelique Grace

By her loving parents,
Joseph and Tammy

Emily Kathryn Nell

By Mommy, Daddy & Matthew
In memory of our little, red-headed girl. Love and kisses,
Love never ends...

Jennifer Marie Gonzalez

By Janalyn Ratsch

In Honor of Kelli Rae Rivera
In loving memory of my granddaughter, Jennifer on her birthday. Grandma's little Angel.

Jennifer Marie Gonzalez

By Kerri Kuhar

We miss you!

Blake Tompkins

By Ginger Tompkins

Andrew Joseph**& Abigail Elizabeth Waden**

By Mommy, Daddy, Kevin, Christine and their little sister, Rebecca Joy.

To help the MISS Foundation continue the wonderful work you do!

Slate Owen McAdams

By Matthew and Tracy McAdams

We love and MISS our sweet boy!

Brittney Angelique Grace

By Tammy and Joseph Grace

Loved forever by her family

Kayla Marie Kern

By Angela and Paul Kern

We miss her & wish she were here.

Skyler Kirby Schmidt

By Darla Stevens

Tyler David Abarr

By Anonymous

*To the families of these children, our sympathies
for your recent loss...*



Carmen Andrea Cruz

Savannah Raye Godbey

Christopher Angel Pena

Alexis Romero

Ian Lee Lewis

Thomas C. Stewart-Willingham

Starlet Jade Steele

Liam Nathaniel Skeen

Kooper Daniel Lambert

Murphy Andrew Nichols

Axel Joseph Leary

Caleb Jordan Aitchison

Alvi Jonathan Calcagno

and his daddy Victor Calcagno

Gabriela Jordan

Callum Patterson

Cole Scott Embs

Laura Autumn Bolton

Genevieve Elizabeth Pond-Pope

Matthew Joseph Pond-Pope

Hunter Michael Grobeck-Simmons

Our Angel Dominick By Andra Wilson de Sanchez

Roberto and I found out we were pregnant with our first child last October. We had waited to start a family while we both pursued careers, and had just begun discussing the idea of having a baby in the next few years, but hadn't yet started "trying". So, our pregnancy was a happy surprise. Because I was in my mid-thirties and had been using contraceptive pills for so long, I had assumed that getting pregnant may take some time. The fact that it happened while using birth control made us feel this baby was "meant to be" and was truly a gift. That belief was enhanced by my uneventful pregnancy and little serendipitous events that happened along the way. For example, we had decided early on to name our little boy Dominick. When we later purchased the bedding for his crib, it was a quilted design with squares containing various sports items. When we removed the quilt from the packaging, we noticed that in the entire design, there was only one letter. That letter happened to be a "D" - Dominick's first initial. For us, it was just one more instance in which everything related to this baby was falling so effortlessly into place and seemed to be further evidence that his birth was "meant to be".

Everything was perfect during my pregnancy. I never had morning sickness, I gained the right amount of weight, and never experienced any complications whatsoever. I felt so blessed. Like most mothers-to-be, I was obsessed with doing all the "right" things to ensure my baby had every possible advantage. I even played "Baby Mozart" music to Dominick and took yoga classes. In fact, it was during yoga that I first felt him kick.

Dominick was due on Friday, June 21st. That night, his dad and I went to a Diamondbacks ballgame. Roberto is a huge fan, and was daydreaming aloud about me going into labor and having the baby during the game. We laughed as he constructed an elaborate story involving Luis Gonzalez as Dominick's godfather and free lifetime Diamondbacks tickets. Unfortunately, Dominick wasn't born that night. I wish so badly that he had been. We spent the rest of the weekend taking long walks around various shopping malls, hoping to induce labor. The fact that we were unsuccessful is one of my biggest regrets. If Dominick had been born that weekend, he would likely be alive today.

On Wednesday, I had lunch with coworkers and casually

mentioned that I didn't feel Dominick moving after I ate, like he usually did. That comment made me realize that I couldn't remember him moving that morning, either. I then started to get a little nervous. I kept trying to get him to move on the drive home, and really became alarmed when nothing worked. I decided to stop by my doctor's office just for reassurance and to hear his heartbeat. That's when my world imploded. There was no heartbeat.

The doctor sent me to the hospital for an ultrasound, where two doctors confirmed that Dominick had died. I can't begin to describe the devastation Roberto and I experienced. At that point, I felt like we entered some sick, alternate universe where everything that should have been ecstatically happy was twisted into abject misery:

Instead of feeling eager anticipation during the next two days of labor, I was traumatized by the knowledge that my precious baby was dead inside me. In this twisted universe, "giving life" was a misnomer. Instead of hearing the new cries of a baby when Dominick was born, there was eerie silence, then the cries of

his anguished parents and grandmother. Instead of picking out his "going home" outfit, we were selecting an outfit for him to be buried in. Instead of taking pictures to document the beginning of our beautiful child's life, we were taking the first, last and only photos we would ever have of our precious son. Instead of proudly sending out birth announcements, we were designing memorial cards for his funeral. Instead of singing him lullabies, we were selecting music for his service. Instead of joyfully bringing him home and laying him down for a nap in his new crib, we were sending him to a mortuary and choosing his coffin. Instead of lovingly feeding him and giving him baths, the only physical way we can care for our son is by cleaning off his headstone and bringing him new flowers and teddy bears to decorate his grave. Instead of being congratulated on being new parents, we are met with uncomfortable silences and averted eyes. Instead of dreaming and planning for the future with our son, we endlessly review the past nine months and guiltily wonder if there was anything we could have done differently so that our baby could be with us today. If only there was a way in the cruel alternate universe we now inhabit to change the past. But, since we can not alter our past, we will join hands with others who have bravely lived through similar nightmares, and do our best to help change the future of other families, in Dominick's memory.

