



Limb Lines

"Providing Care for Children and Teens with Hand, Foot & Limb Differences"

Issue #36; Annual 2009 Issue

Paralympians

Congratulations to Center for Limb Differences graduates Carlee Hoffman and Elizabeth Stone, who brought home medals from the Paralympics in Beijing, China in September 2008!

Carlee was a member of the gold-medal winning women's wheelchair basketball team, defeating Germany 50-38 in the final. Carlee, who plays power forward, hit two free throws in the final two minutes to help maintain the lead for the victory.

This was not Carlee's first gold medal. In 2004, she brought home another gold when the women's basketball team defeated Australia at the Paralympic Games in Athens, Greece. She was also a member of the national championship University of Illinois wheelchair basketball team in 2006 and 2007, and their MVP in 2007.

Carlee completed her degree at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2008 and is currently overseas working with wheelchair athletes and coaches to develop wheelchair athletic programs.

Carlee Hoffman, gold medalist with women's wheelchair basketball team at the Paralympics in Beijing, China, September 2008.



Elizabeth Stone, won the silver medal in the 100M backstroke at the Paralympics in Beijing, China, September 2008.

Elizabeth Stone won the silver medal in the 100M backstroke, in which she also set a new American record. She competed in 4 additional events over 9 days - the 100M butterfly, 100M freestyle, 400M freestyle, and 50M freestyle. In all 5 races, she swam a personal best time, also setting new American records in the 100M freestyle and the 400M freestyle where she was only 1.5 seconds away from the bronze medal.

Elizabeth, who began swimming competitively at age 9, was a member of the 2004 US Paralympic Swim Team and competed in Athens, Greece. In 2006 she was on the US team that competed in the Paralympic World Swimming Championships in Durban, South Africa, where she won a bronze medal in the 100M backstroke, and swam backstroke on the gold medal winning 400M medley relay team for the US.

Elizabeth is currently completing her senior year of high school.

Our thanks to both families for providing photos and information!

White Caps Event

A cool breeze and a brief drizzle of rain didn't stop the baseball game, and it didn't stop Center for Limb Differences patients and families from enjoying another fun evening at Fifth Third Ballpark. Almost 150 patients, parents, siblings, Center staff, and Variety Club members came out in spite of the weather forecast on Monday, June 9, 2008 to enjoy a barbecue dinner and a winning effort by the White Caps.

The evening was again made possible by generous support from the Mary Free Bed Guild and Variety Club of West Michigan. Variety Club members were also on hand to greet families, distribute the souvenir t-shirts they provided, and to assist with crafts.

Thank you to everyone who made the picnic and game one of our most successful events to date! Make sure to mark your calendar now for June 15, 2009, and watch your mail for details soon. We hope you can join the fun!



Welcome

Dayle Maples, MD

Michael Forness, DO

Dr. Maples and Dr. Forness joined the Center in September, 2008, as our co-medical directors. Both doctors come to us from DeVos Pediatric Orthopaedics, and have many years of experience in pediatric orthopedics. In addition, Dr. Maples sees patients through several other clinics in the Mary Free Bed Outpatient system.

Jane Buehrle, RN

Some of you may have met Jane on a previous visit, when she filled in for a nurse's absence or vacation. Jane has now joined us permanently. She has been with Mary Free Bed for a number of years, and continues as the nurse for the specialty feeding program.

Connie Brown-Olds, RN

Connie was appointed manager for the Center for Limb Differences in June, 2008. She has been with Mary Free Bed since 2004, most recently as Inpatient Nursing Supervisor. Connie is also the manager for outpatient clinics and the radiology department.

Farewell

Charles Bukrey, MD

Dr. Bukrey became the Center Medical Director in 1986. During his years at the Center for Limb Differences, in addition to providing his patients with exceptional care, Dr. Bukrey led multiple research projects, taught courses at Northwestern University, and served as Chief of Staff for Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital.

Marcia Allen, RN

Marcia joined the Center staff in 2007. She leaves the Center, but not Mary Free Bed, as she will continue providing nursing care in other clinics in the Mary Free Bed system.

Mark Lubberts, RN

Mark left his position as Center manager in April 2008 to pursue new opportunities with the Spectrum Health System.

To all our new arrivals, we are glad you are with us. To our departed team members, thank you, and best wishes!

Alumni Update

As a child, Julie Whitehead visited the Center for Limb Differences at Mary Free Bed because she was born without part of her left arm. Julie has played the piano since she was a child and, as she says, "I have never let my "disability" slow me down, although I do not in any way view myself as disabled. I am interested in teaching musical instruments... because of my own experiences and challenges. I have a passion for assisting disabled people in overcoming their challenges and reaching their full potential." Julie has a bachelor's degree in music from Cornerstone University, currently has a number of students in piano and trumpet and is looking to instruct more students. She instructs in beginning techniques of other instruments as well. If you or someone you know is interested, you can contact Julie at 616.204.6847.

(The Center for Limb Differences does not endorse goods or services. This is provided purely for information.)

Events Calendar

Did you know that Mary Free Bed is involved in many recreational activities through our Recreation Program and Pediatric Community Rec Programs? Below is a list of fun and exciting events that your child may want to participate in this summer.

• **Jr. Wheelchair Tennis**

Date: Monday evenings, June 1 – August 17, 2009
Age: 7-18 years old

• **Adaptive Waterski Clinic**

Dates: June and July, 2009. Dates TBD
Age: 5 years and up

• **Adaptive Golf Clinic**

Date: Saturday, June 6, 2009
Age: 13 years and up

• **Jr. Champion Golf Outing**

Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2009
Age: 11-19 years old (or still receiving school services)

• **Adaptive Kayak Clinic**

Dates: Wednesday, August 19, 2009
Age: 7 years and up

For more information or to register for any of the above listed events, please call 616.242.0352.

Referral Procedure

Patients will be welcomed at the Center for Limb Differences by referrals from physicians and community agencies. We also welcome self referrals. Once the Center for Limb Differences is contacted we will facilitate a patient visit as quickly as possible.

Contact Information

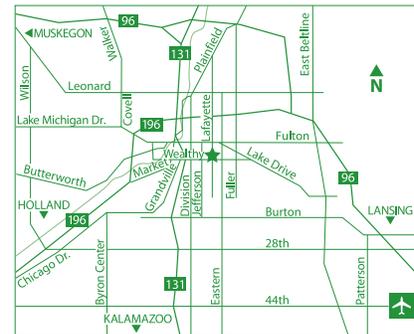
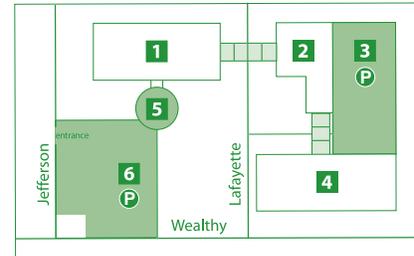
For more information about the Center for Limb Differences please call, e-mail, write or visit our website:

Center for Limb Differences
 Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital
 235 Wealthy SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-5299
 Phone: 616.454.7988
 Toll Free: 800.528.8989 ext. 4346
 Fax: 616.356.1903
 E-mail: limbcenter@maryfreebed.com
 Website: www.maryfreebed.com

**The CLD sees patients on Thursday mornings
 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.**

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital

- 1** Mary Free Bed Inpatient Building
- 2** Mary Free Bed Professional Building
Mary Free Bed Outpatient Center
- 3** Parking Ramp
- 4** Mary Ives Hunting Center
- 5** Parking (limited)
- 6** Parking
- ☐ Skywalk



Non-Profit Org
 US Postage
PAID
 Grand Rapids, MI
 Permit No. 1034

Center for Limb Differences
 Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital
 235 Wealthy SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-5299