



"Your home away from home."

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, June 23

**Family House Celebration
Ribbon Cutting**
4:35 p.m.

Wednesday, June 29

11th Annual Golf Outing
WeaverRidge Golf Club
11:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 30

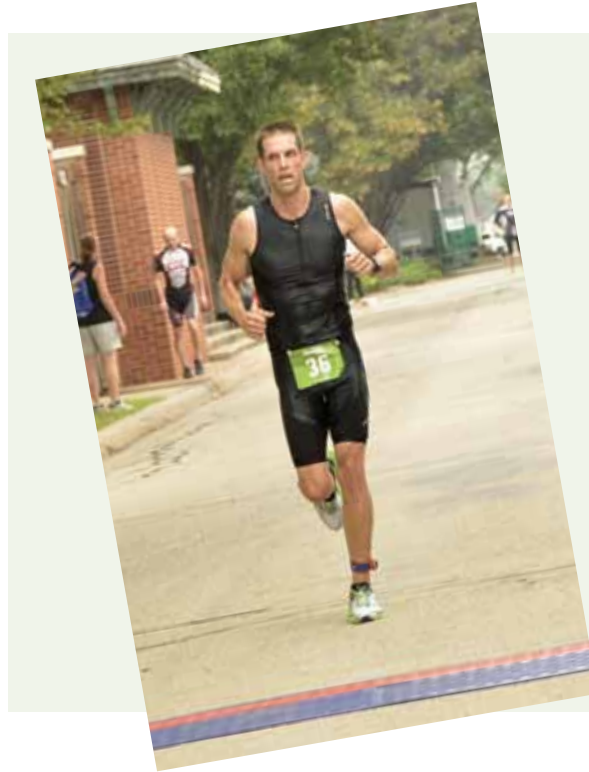
Dine 2 Donate
Granite City, East Peoria
11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 28

**Matthew Ryan Tri-
Celebration**
Family House
4:30 p.m.

Friday, September 16

A Night with Taylor Mason
Par-A-Dice Hotel
East Peoria
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.



On July 17, 2016 roughly 3,500 individuals and 650 relay teams will start the 2016 Challenge Roth Triathlon in Hilpoltstein, Germany. It is one of the largest iron-distance triathlons in the world. For those unfamiliar with triathlons, an iron-distance race consists of a 2.4 mile swim, followed by a 112 mile bike ride, and finished by running a marathon (26.2 miles). At Roth, it must be completed in under 15 hours. The day will start with pro athletes getting in the water about 6:30am and will end with a fireworks display late in the evening. Not too long after Matt started participating in triathlons, he became aware of this race and it quickly became his "dream race."

Make Every Mile Count (All 140.6 of Them)

By Matthew Ryan

I am originally from Washington, IL and after a few moves, my family has settled back in the Peoria area. While we were away, both my wife and I started to get involved in triathlons and have really enjoyed the sport. So far, it has been a great individual challenge to push ourselves to get better, work harder, etc. Triathlon is sometimes characterized as a selfish sport and certainly can be a lonely one during the longer 2-3 hour runs and 5-6 hour bike rides that are a part of long distance triathlon training. So as my wife, Kristi, and I agreed that I could participate at Roth this year (it does have to be a joint decision), we thought "what if every mile mattered to more than just us?" We decided that we would use the race as an opportunity to bring awareness and raise funds for a non-profit organization.

It was important that the effort would benefit a local Peoria-area group and Family House quickly came to the forefront of our consideration. Kristi has worked (and continues to work) in the medical field and sees the benefits that Family House provides to the community. Anytime someone is going through a struggle, the benefit of having family close by for support is unquestionably important. Family House contributes to the healing of not only the patient at the hospitals, but of the families who support them. Family is tremendously important to Kristi and me and we felt that if we could help Family House support more families, it would be fantastic. So, as I embark on this next triathlon journey, I would like every mile to contribute to the efforts of Family House. The cost for Family House to support a guest is roughly \$50 per night. My goal is to be able to fund one family for one night with each mile of the upcoming race – all 140.6 of them. It's going to be a good day for me. Who wants to help me make it a bit brighter for others as well? Please visit www.familyhousepeoria.org to donate. Thank you so much!!

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Sarah Wagner

CONTACT US

- 309-685-5300
- famhouse@familyhousepeoria.org
- www.familyhousepeoria.org
- Facebook: Family-House



It is my pleasure to announce Laura Blackaby as the new Executive Director of Family House. Laura's wealth of experience in the nonprofit industry, her professionalism and deep compassion for others makes her well suited for the position.

Laura joins us from Easter Seals Central Illinois, where as the marketing manager, she planned and implemented marketing and communication strategies for the organization, ensured brand integrity, served as a member of the leadership team and developed relationships with key individuals to ensure the nonprofit's success. Previous to that, Laura spent five years as the Executive Director at Proctor Health Care Foundation (now UnityPoint Methodist|Proctor Foundation). She developed strategic initiatives and set annual goals in cooperation with a board of trustees, prepared the annual budget, cultivated and maintained donor and volunteer relationships, managed all aspects of the annual fund program, including the solicitation of major and planned gifts, and executed special events. Under her leadership, there was a 30% growth in philanthropic giving to the Foundation.

Prior to Proctor Health Care Foundation, Laura worked as the fund development director at Girl Scouts of Central Illinois, program manager then president at Junior Achievement of Central Illinois, and as the director of marketing and public relations for Midstate College.

Since her April 4 start date, Laura has been meeting one-on-one with staff and board members to learn more about the organization and how to further advance the mission of Family House in our community and surrounding areas. As Family House moves into its next chapter, we have many exciting times ahead. I would ask for your continued support and enthusiasm as Laura transitions into her new role.

Please join me in welcoming Laura to our Family House Family.

Best,
Leslie Williams Seiler
Family House Board President

Our friends from the OSF Healthcare System Controller Group prepared a taco bar for our guests. Ole!

Serving Up Love ... for breakfast, lunch or dinner

The Family House Meal Program provides home-cooked meals for our guests.

By Sarah Wagner, Intern

The Family House Meal Program is our way of providing a nutritious and delicious meal for our guests. Families often look forward to a meal after they return from a long day at the hospital, or a relaxing weekend breakfast.

We have two incredible kitchens that volunteers can use to prepare and serve meals. Guests have access to the kitchen at all times, so those who arrive home late from the hospital can enjoy the meal at their convenience.

Family House maintains a pantry containing non-perishable items such as canned fruits and vegetables, crackers, dry pasta, cereals and packaged cookies that families can use as they so desire. Our Snacks on the Go counter offers an abundance of pastry and bread items which is frequented often as family members head out the door to the hospital or as a late-night snack.

We are always seeking volunteers to prepare and serve meals. Coming together as a family, work colleagues, or an organization to offer a home-cooked meal is a perfect way to give back to the community. Perhaps there is a grill-master in your midst. You're invited to grill on our patio – hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken...it's your choice!

Whether it's cooking a spaghetti dinner or providing granola bars, donations are very much appreciated. Schedule your date and time to prepare a meal for our families by calling Family House at 309-685-5300 or email famhouse@familyhousepeoria.org.



Students from the Family and Consumer Sciences Department at Bradley University selected Family House for their spring semester project. They provided a breakfast for our families, a food safety training for our staff, and held a bake sale raising \$176 which they presented to Family House in a Walmart gift card. "Our group hopes that our hard work will have an impact on the guests, staff, and volunteers long past the spring semester," said Erin Leland, a member of the group.

The Walmart gift card was used to purchase 10 Queen-size blankets for the House. Their generosity will help our guests stay warm and comfortable. Thank you to Consumer Sciences Department at BU for their support of Family House.

Pictured left to right: Lee Kriegshauser, Aaron Levy, Cody Semlow, Dayna Van Woert, and Erin Leland. Not pictured: Abby Colvin.

From Our Family to Yours ... Thank You!

Thank you for your generous support! Without your generosity we could not continue to fulfill our mission of providing affordable home-like accommodations for families of patients or individuals receiving health care services in the Peoria area. Gifts received between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 are listed. We have made every effort to ensure that this list is accurate and complete, and we apologize for any unintended omissions.

FAMILY HOUSE DONORS ...

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Redeemer Lutheran Church
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Sas Family
Senior Care Network
Slater Family
St Thomas School Kids Kraft Korner
Dolores Sullivan
Washington Presbyterian Church
Fred Weigel
Helen Wiley
Patrice Winkler
Herb Yue

Bouquets from our Guests

"What a wonderful home away from home! Staff was fantastic, friendly, helpful. I am in AWE of this Family House – what a blessing. Room clean, kitchen awesome, staff excellent. Thank you and God bless." **SHARYNE**

"The Family House has been a home away from home. We appreciated the hospitality. Your staff is the best!"

SHARRON

"I am very thankful and blessed to have found you during my time of need at the hospital. God surely has placed you here. Thank you from my heart." **MATT**

"We feel very fortunate to have had the availability of the Family House for our stay. Family House is so convenient and very well taken care of. The staff is excellent and the site is beautiful. It's wonderful that the community came together to create this facility for those in need. Thank you." **BRUCE & BRENDA**

"Thank you so very much for having services like this to families of patients. We are from Iowa and being able to stay close to my mom in her time of need, we are forever grateful. Our time at Family House allowed us to get rest and de-stress from dealing with the complications from her illness and treatment. This facility was professional, friendly, and much appreciated." **LAURA**

Family House provides affordable home-like accommodations for families of patients or individuals receiving health care services in the Peoria area. We are "A Place to Call Home."



Family House was the beneficiary of the Peoria Jaycees 2015 Das Bier Run held in October. Thank you to the Peoria Jaycees and all who participated for your support!



Family House 11th Annual Golf Outing

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29TH
WEAVERRIDGE GOLF CLUB, PEORIA
REGISTRATION 11 A.M. • SHOT GUN START 12:30 P.M.
AFTER GOLF HORS D'OEUVRES • WEAVERRIDGE CLUBHOUSE

Proceeds from the event will help provide hope, care and comfort to families in the midst of a medical crisis. Visit www.familyhousepeoria.org or call 309-685-5300 to register.



LUNCH SPONSOR

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Save the Date for a Night with Taylor Mason

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH
PAR-A-DICE HOTEL
EAST PEORIA

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Call Laura at 309-685-5300.



Family House Wish List

GIFT CARDS:

- Lowe's
- Home Depot
- Walmart
- Target

PANTRY ITEMS:

- Granola bars
- Fruit snacks
- Individual serving-size packages of pretzels, crackers, nuts, cookies, animal crackers, chips, trail mix, peanut butter or cheese crackers, raisins
- Popcorn

CARE & COMFORT ITEMS:

- Small stuffed animals
- Toiletry items: shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste
- Lawn games (ring toss, bags, etc.)

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

- Non-dairy creamer
- Coffee (no decaffeinated, please)
- Dishwasher soap (powder/packets)
- Indoor small garbage bags (4-gallon)
- Storage bags & wax paper
- Air freshener (solid/spray)
- Batteries (AA, AAA, C, & 9V)
- Laundry detergent
- White sheet sets (twin & queen)
- White wash cloths & towels
- Disposable coffee cups with lids
- Napkins, paper towels, paper plates



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Peoria, IL 61603

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Thursday, June 30th

SUPPORT Family House!

In partnership with Matthew Ryan's – Make Every Mile Count (All 140. 6 of them!)

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East Peoria, IL 61611**

Present this flyer to your server and **10%** of your TOTAL tab will be donated to



www.gcfb.com

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