

@ Texas Children's

Texas Children's Goes Wireless

Patients and families can access free, wireless broadband Internet service at Texas Children's Hospital through Care Wi-Fi—now available in the Clinical Care Center third-floor food court and on The Auxiliary Bridge between the Clinical Care Center and West Tower.

The service uses the 802.11b/g wireless network standard and is accessible from any laptop computer or handheld device, standard Internet-ready browser on any operating system. Users must obtain an access code available during regular business hours at the Beanstalk Café, the gift shop near the food court or at the West Tower information desk.

Care Wi-Fi availability was generously underwritten in memory of Grant Starr by his family and friends and TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company. During the Starr family's lengthy stay at the hospital, they saw the need for patient families to have wireless Internet access.



All Star Miracle Home Opens for Tours



On Wednesday, August 2, the grand opening ceremony for the All Star Miracle Home in Sienna Plantation was broadcast live on *Great Day Houston* on KHOU Channel 11 and included representatives from Meritage Homes, Guaranty Bank, RE/MAX of Texas, Hilton Furniture, Houston Rockets and Texas Children's Hospital.

Olympic champion and honorary chairman Mary Lou Retton and Houston Rockets' five-time NBA All Star Tracy McGrady joined children from Texas Children's, the greater Houston area's Children's Miracle Network hospital, in placing their handprints in the All Star Miracle Home Walk of Fame.

The home aims to raise \$2 million for Children's Miracle Network and Texas Children's and for the Houston Rockets' Clutch City Foundation. For \$100 each, supporters can purchase a chance to win the fully furnished and landscaped, two-story Meritage home, valued at \$500,000. Only 20,000 entries will be sold. Entries purchased by September 22 are eligible to win a \$5,000 shopping spree in the first Early Bird drawing.

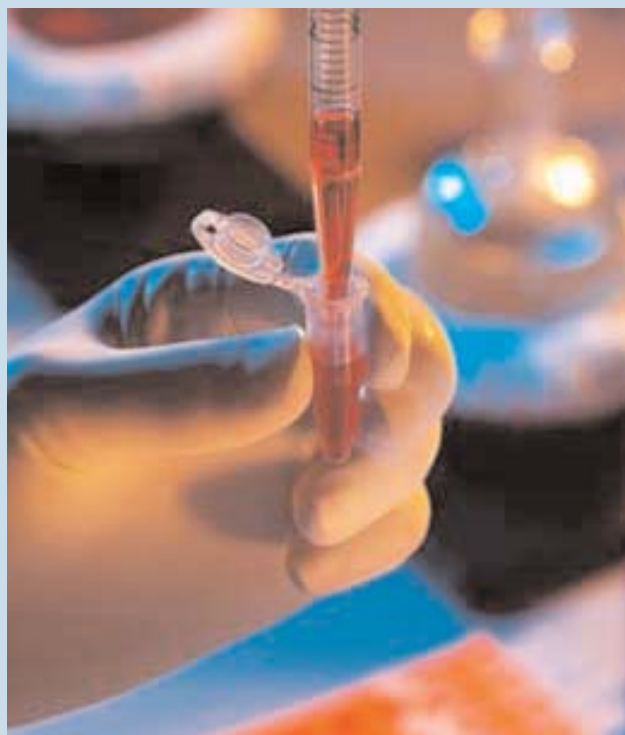
Located at 10506 Shipman's Landing in Missouri City, the 4,100-sq-ft home includes four bedrooms, three and 1/2 baths, game room, media room, detached garage and deluxe swimming pool by Anthony & Sylvan Pools. RE/MAX of Texas is showing the home daily from noon - 7 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. For more information or to purchase entries, visit www.allstarmiraclehome.com/houston or call 866-616-2244.

New Gene Therapy for Cystic Fibrosis

Research on a promising new gene therapy treatment for cystic fibrosis is underway at Texas Children's Hospital. In collaboration with Baylor College of Medicine and other institutions, Philip Ng, Ph.D., molecular and human geneticist at Texas Children's Hospital, and his team have successfully used a new method of gene therapy that may well revolutionize the way cystic fibrosis is treated and could lead to a cure.

Cystic fibrosis is caused by mutations in a single gene that result in severe lung disease. Ng's therapy involves placing the normal gene into a common cold virus in order to deliver it into the lungs of animal models with cystic fibrosis. The therapy's success marks an important milestone because it has not been achieved previously without undesirable side effects. Ng hopes to begin the gene therapy in humans in the near future.

The most common fatal genetic disease among Caucasian populations, cystic fibrosis currently has no cure. Those afflicted with it ultimately will die from respiratory failure by their early 30s.



TCPA-Cullen Project Medical Home Expands



Texas Children's Pediatric Associates-Cullen moved its Project Medical Home® practice to a new 5,000 sq-ft facility at 5751 Blythewood, across the street from the original space opened in 2000.

With expanded space for 12 exam rooms, compared to its previous three, TCPA-Cullen can better accommodate its patient load of about 6,000 annually and allow for growth. Medical staff provide flexible hours in the evenings and on Saturdays. A pediatrician is on call 24 hours a day.

Project Medical Home currently serves three locations—Cullen, Ripley House and Gulfton—and is expanding to other underserved areas. The facilities provide crucial medical services such as immunizations, preventive health care, infant and adolescent care, physicals, health education, hearing and vision screening, crisis counseling, community resource referral and more.

"It's important to start teaching good health habits at a young age," said Dr. Desiree Evans, pediatrician at TCPA-Cullen. "If you can educate children on how to take care of their bodies you can almost eliminate problems that follow children into adulthood such as obesity and high blood pressure."

