

Clancey's Corner



Janis "Mayor Clancey" Roberts



For Immediate Release

CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA
AT EGLESTON

RECEIVES FIRST GEORGIA 'JESTER &
PHARLEY SMILE

CART' FROM OCILLA COUPLE

ATLANTA, GA, July 7, 2007 – Smiles became the order of the day Tuesday (July 17) when Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston became the first Georgia hospital to receive a Jester & Pharley™ Smile Cart, donated by Oscar and Janis Luke Roberts (aka Mayor Clancey, the Clown of Smileville™) of Ocilla, GA.

Hugs and laughs greeted Roberts as she read the engaging story, "The Jester Has Lost His Jingle" by David Saltzman, to the children and then presented each with his or her own copy along with a Jester & Pharley Doll, which reinforces the book's uplifting message that laughter is always inside us.

Joining the Robertses of Ocilla, GA, for the presentation of the mobile activity center was Mary Beth Bova, Vice President of Nursing of the Egleston facility, Kristina C. Long Flynn, Public

Relations Coordinator, and Steven Wagner, Egleston Development Officer. The Smile Cart, the 41st donated through The Jester & Pharley Phund, will be used in the hospital's Emergency Room to provide wholesome entertainment and diversion for young patients. "We are extremely grateful for the Roberts' generosity and thoughtfulness," noted Mr. Wagner.

Jester & Pharley Smile Carts are part of the nonprofit Southern California-based Jester & Pharley Phund's efforts to provide emotional support and smiles to youngsters coping with illness. In addition to copies of David Saltzman's award-winning *The Jester Has Lost His Jingle* and Jester & Pharley Dolls, the colorful activity center contains a TV, VCR and CD-tape-radio unit donated by Sony Medical Systems as part of its "For the Kids™" program.

"We are so pleased to provide this Smile Cart for the many families helped by the Egleston children's hospital," said Roberts, whose mission as a professional clown is also to bolster the spirits of ill youngsters. "Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston is ranked Number 3 in America and provides vital medical services for families in Georgia as well as having served children from 120 different countries. We believe that The Jester's positive messages reminding

children to never give up and always believe in themselves will help these youngsters on a daily basis.”

“We know that The Jester and his pal Pharley will be motivating and comforting as they bring laughter to these youngsters,” said Oscar Roberts, who joined his wife in distributing the books and dolls.

“We are thrilled to have the resources of this multi-purpose Smile Cart to help us further the health and bring joy into the lives of the children we care for,” noted Egleston’s Bova.

“In addition to copies of *The Jester Has Lost His Jingle* and Jester & Pharley Dolls that we will be able to give our children, we will make great use of the other educational materials that come with the Smile Cart,” adds Child Life Coordinator Lindsay Damron. “They will be of immense value to us in motivating our children. The hopeful message of *The Jester* touches everyone’s heart.”

The Smile Cart is inspired by the New York Times best-selling children’s book *The Jester Has Lost His Jingle*, written by David Saltzman, who died of cancer in 1990 shortly after graduating Yale. The Jester & Pharley Phund is currently celebrating the release of the 10th Anniversary Special Edition of *The Jester*.

“We’re so pleased that Oscar and Janis Luke Roberts are helping us bring hope and laughter into the lives of so many children who need to find their smiles in the Atlanta area,” says Barbara Saltzman, David’s mother, who is executive director of The Jester & Pharley Phund.

For more information about The Jester & Pharley Phund and its literacy and outreach programs to benefit ill and special needs children, visit www.thejester.org or call 800-9-JESTER. ✚