

RITE UP

2025 | ISSUE 3

Noah Dunks on
Osteochondritis
Dissecans of
the Knee

SCOTTISH RITE



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LETTER FROM



THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT L. WALKER
President/CEO

When you think of Scottish Rite for Children, you think of hope, healing and belonging. These three sentiments represent the essence of who we are and have been since 1921 when we were founded to help children recover from polio. Though we have seen extraordinary change throughout the century, our goal is to stay rooted in who we are and maintain our core values while responding to the environment around us.

Today, Scottish Rite is honored to be recognized as a world-renowned pediatric orthopedic provider, educator and research pioneer. We have best-in-class spine surgeons, an exceptional sports medicine program and unparalleled experts in conditions involving hip, hand and upper extremity, foot, limb lengthening and reconstruction, as well as dyslexia.

Many patient families who come to Scottish Rite are looking for answers for which they have been searching a long time. When they arrive, they find hope because our specialists routinely treat not only straightforward conditions but also complicated disorders and rare diseases. They also find hope from kind and caring hearts — doctors who speak directly to the children, answering their questions and assuaging their fears.

Lily, of Temple, Texas, struggled for years with intense, unresolved hip pain. After continuously enduring misdiagnoses, she met Director of the Center for Excellence in Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction David A. Podeszwa, M.D. He correctly diagnosed her with bilateral adolescent hip dysplasia, performed successful surgeries on both hips and gave her hope for the future.

Today, Lily is in college pursuing her passion for nutrition and kinesiology.

Children receive hope and healing through team medicine that includes collaborative multidisciplinary care. Our medical staff specializes in pediatric orthopedics — all day, every day — giving families confidence and the ability to put their trust in us.

Through treatment, healing and recovery, children and their families express feeling a part of the Scottish Rite family. That sense of belonging extends to our staff who are part of something bigger than themselves, who are privileged to help many more children and families than they could alone. With our amazing volunteers, donors, partners and friends, we are able to change children's lives, and we unite together as one, belonging to an important cause to serve our patients.

Our mission is to give children back their childhood. Through hope, healing and belonging, we also give them assurance for a promising future.

Bob



David A. Podeszwa, M.D., examines Lily, of Temple, Texas, as former fellow Tuo "Peter" Li, M.D., Ph.D., observes.

CONNECTED TO THE CARE

Former patients **Livvy and Georgia** gave a special performance of “Cinderella” with North Texas Performing Arts at the Scottish Rite for Children Dallas campus. The girls received treatment for scoliosis — Livvy, from Brandon A. Ramo, M.D., and Georgia, from Daniel J. Sucato, M.D., M.S. They came back to Scottish Rite to inspire and give encouragement to patients who are currently undergoing treatment for scoliosis.



The Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA) honored **Karen Avrit, M.Ed., CALT-QI**, with the Luke Waites ALTA Award of Service in recognition of the contributions she has made to improve services for individuals with dyslexia. For the last two decades, Avrit served as director of dyslexia education in the Luke Waites Center for Dyslexia and Learning Disorders at Scottish Rite for Children. She is a lead author of *Take Flight: A Comprehensive Intervention for Students With Dyslexia*. Recently retired, she worked at Scottish Rite for Children for 31 years.



Megan E. Johnson, M.D.



Photo: David Morgan

Scottish Rite for Children was not only a sponsor but also had a huge presence at **Higgy Con**. The event, founded by Lauren Higginson, brought together hundreds of children and teens with scoliosis to celebrate their differences and create a powerful sense of belonging. Scottish Rite conference presenters included pediatric orthopedic surgeon and Medical Director of Ambulatory Care **Megan E. Johnson, M.D.**, and pediatric psychologist and Director of Psychology **Jill M. West, Ph.D.** Many Scottish Rite clinicians, staff members and patients participated, hosting the Scottish Rite booths and sharing their expertise, experience and camaraderie.



Jill M. West, Ph.D.



Photo: David Morgan



Jessica Landson, MPAS, P.A.-C., and patient Sadie.



Character Breakfast, presented by **Crayon Club**, brought together patients and families for a magical meet-and-greet experience complete with superheroes, princesses and other characters. Proceeds of the event benefit patient care. Through volunteerism, education and philanthropy, Crayon Club unites young professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children.

Scottish Rite for Children was privileged to host the 2025 traveling fellows from the **American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine** and the **European Society of Sports Traumatology, Knee Surgery and Arthroscopy**. The fellows included four orthopedic surgeons from France, Germany and Turkey who joined the Scottish Rite Sports Medicine team for a weekend of collaborative learning and global insight, highlighted by an evening of presentations attended by local community surgeons.



THE CHIEF OF STAFF REPORTS

DANIEL J. SUCATO, M.D., M.S.
Chief of Staff



New Orthopedic Sports Medicine Fellowship Expands Commitment to Patient Care

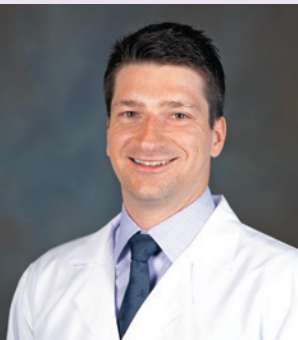
Specializing in pediatric orthopedics requires evolving prevention, diagnosis and treatment to advance patient outcomes. At Scottish Rite for Children, our fellowship programs are an integral part of this process.

Young physicians choose our fellowship programs to learn the “Scottish Rite way” of providing exemplary care within their specialty. Each year, five physicians are selected for the Dorothy & Bryant Edwards Fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedics and Scoliosis, the largest pediatric orthopedic fellowship in the world. We welcome the 2025 – 2026 group, pictured below. Led by Program Director Megan E. Johnson, M.D.,

collaboration with UT Southwestern Medical Center. Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), the program is led by Program Director and Medical Director of Clinical Research Henry B. Ellis, M.D., and Associate Program Director and Assistant Chief of Staff Philip L. Wilson, M.D., at Scottish Rite for Children Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center in Frisco. The fellowship is the first ACGME-accredited program of its kind in North Texas and stands among a few subspecialty training programs in the nation dedicated to the care of young athletes. This year, we welcome our inaugural Orthopedic Sports Medicine Fellow Michael Kutschke, M.D. He will work alongside our sports medicine experts to manage the gamut of sports-related conditions and injuries seen in growing athletes.

Additionally, we welcome Jonathan Grabau, M.D., a recently-graduated Edwards Fellow who will complete a concentration in hand through the A.C. & Eleanor M. Garison Fellowship in Hand & Upper Limb Treatment. Two fellows will join the Pediatric Postdoctoral Psychology Fellowship program, and one fellow will concentrate in rheumatology.

Upon graduation, our fellows join a network of alumni who are leaders in the field, all of whom uphold the key principles of Scottish Rite. The growth of Scottish Rite for Children’s fellowship programs reflects a shared focus that shapes the way we pioneer, train and deliver the highest level of care to children and their families. <<



Michael Kutschke, M.D.,
from Brown University



L to R: Laura Bess, M.D., from Indiana University; Vivek Abraham, M.D., from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth; Matthew Siebert, M.D., from University of Utah Health; Hardy Evans, M.D., from Henry Ford Health; and Taylor Johnson, M.D., from Stanford University

these fellows will receive hands-on experience in the clinic and operating room to prepare them for successful pediatric orthopedic careers. Since the program’s inception, 195 fellows have graduated, and many not only practice but also hold esteemed leadership positions at institutions across the U.S. and around the world.

In 2023, Scottish Rite established the Orthopedic Sports Medicine Fellowship in

FRONT AND CENTER

Fueled by Hope: How Andrew Returned to the Game After Perthes



The hope of winning is what fuels 10-year-old Andrew, a passionate multisport athlete of Redmond, Oregon. He always plays with a heart full of ambition, unaware that this same spirit would be a guiding force throughout his treatment process.

In second grade, Andrew developed pain in his knee and began to limp. A local provider diagnosed him with Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease, or Perthes disease, a rare childhood hip disorder. The condition affected the ball of Andrew’s right hip joint. The blood supply to the ball of his hip joint was disrupted, which caused his bone to die in a process known as osteonecrosis.

“We were devastated,” says Megan, Andrew’s mother. “I watched Andrew’s heart break right in front of me, especially when we learned he couldn’t play sports for a while. I didn’t know how we would get through this.”

Initially, Andrew underwent surgery and wore a cast, but his condition did not improve. Megan searched for other treatment options and discovered Harry

Kim M.D., M.S., a world-renowned expert in Perthes disease and director of the Center for Excellence in Hip at Scottish Rite for Children.

After a flight from Oregon to Dallas, Andrew’s family found solutions to their son’s condition at Scottish Rite. Andrew underwent a perfusion MRI that revealed he had only 30% to 40% of blood flow to the ball of his hip joint. Dr. Kim performed surgery on Andrew’s thigh bone and repositioned the ball of his femur into the hip socket. Then, he installed metal plates and screws to stabilize the hip and promote blood flow.

“In older patients like Andrew, surgery reduces the chance of needing additional surgeries later on,” Dr. Kim says. “Some people assume Perthes disease negatively affects children’s lives. However, families should always stay hopeful. With the right treatment, we can help children return to the activities they love.”

After a year of healing, Dr. Kim cleared Andrew to walk, run and play

again. Andrew made a grand return to his Little League team and continues his path of becoming a sports legend, thanks to the hope his care team and family kept throughout his care.

“Dr. Kim is not just knowledgeable about Perthes disease, but he also understands the mental toll it takes on kids and their families,” Megan says. “You can feel Dr. Kim’s passion. It’s not just his job — it’s his calling. Thanks to Scottish Rite, I finally can relax because I know Andrew is in the best hands.” <<



Andrew with
Harry Kim,
M.D., M.S.

Noah Dunks on Osteochondritis Dissecans of the Knee

by Kristi Shewmaker

It happened after school. At an innocent game of touch football, Noah was tackled from behind. He never saw it coming. At just 11 years old, Noah's knee pain began.

A bone bruise in his right knee was the first diagnosis he received. Noah's physical therapist questioned the diagnosis because he was not progressing, and he lost muscle. His pain eventually waned, but as he grew over the years, the pain increased. One day at baseball practice while going after a ball, he winced in pain.

"We got into the car, and he just bawled and bawled," says Philip, Noah's father. "Just the look on his face — I could see his despair, his helplessness to the pain."

At the time, Noah and his family lived in the Houston area. His parents took him to one doctor after another. Finally, a doctor diagnosed him with osteochondritis dissecans (OCD), a joint condition in which bone underneath the cartilage softens due to an interruption in the blood supply.

A rare condition that affects less than one percent of the population, OCD occurs most often in children and adolescents, particularly when a child is growing. It affects boys more commonly than girls, and it can occur in joints such as the ankle and elbow but is most often found in the knee. The cause of OCD is unknown, but it can be associated with injuries, as well as long-term repetitive impact to the joint. Many physicians never see a child with OCD, and some treat only a few cases per year.

After receiving this diagnosis at age 14, Noah was scared. He had played multiple sports since he was 4. "The older I got, the worse the pain got, and I couldn't tolerate it anymore," he says. "I thought, 'I'm going to be 18 and not be able to play sports.'"

Noah's family was told his treatment would most likely require many surgeries and would cost a minimum of \$100,000. "We thought we were going to have to refinance our house," says Brooke, Noah's mother. Researching OCD online, she stayed up late into the middle of many nights reading medical articles and creating a short list of physicians who specialize in treating the condition. Noah's family seriously considered moving to Germany for the summer so he could get treatment for a third of the price from a specialist there.

Fortunately, they did not have to move overseas because they found an expert in Texas. Brooke discovered Henry B. Ellis, M.D., pediatric orthopedic surgeon and medical director of clinical research at Scottish Rite for Children Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center in Frisco.



Noah, age 16, converses with Henry B. Ellis, M.D., after successfully completing treatment for osteochondritis dissecans of his right knee.



She found Dr. Ellis by reading articles that he published through his collaborative research with the international Research in OsteoChondritis of the Knee (ROCK) study group. "I also found some social media parent groups who said, 'If your doctor's not a ROCK doctor, find a ROCK doctor,'" Brooke says. "They provide the gold standard of treatment."

Currently, Dr. Ellis is chair of the ROCK research committee and will be president of the group next year. ROCK has enrolled approximately 2,500 OCD cases in its database, and Scottish Rite for Children is one of the highest contributing institutions. "At Scottish Rite, we take care of well over 100 kids a year with OCD," Dr. Ellis says, "and that's not just surgical treatment." OCD can also be treated nonoperatively if it is caught early enough during the progression of the condition.

Two weeks later, Noah and his family drove from Houston to Scottish Rite's Frisco campus for the first time to meet Dr. Ellis. He recommended that Noah undergo surgery and scheduled it for later that month. "I felt at ease because I straight ahead asked him, 'How many of these surgeries have you done?'" Philip says. "And he was like, 'I just operated on a similar young athlete with a similar OCD this morning.'"

Though OCD surgery is a routine procedure for Dr. Ellis, Brooke emphasizes he also customized a treatment plan to meet Noah's specific needs. "Dr. Ellis' goals for Noah aligned with Noah's goals," she says. "He was going to do everything he could to get Noah back to where he wanted to be, and we had faith in him."

In the car on the way home, Philip asked Noah what he thought, and Noah said that Dr. Ellis actually seemed to care about his knee. The icing on the cake was when the family learned they were accepted for Crayon Care, Scottish Rite's

Continued on the next page

charity care and financial assistance program. “All these things we thought were going to be such a burden for our family — Scottish Rite took care of it all,” Brooke says.

A few weeks later, Noah underwent surgery. “When we first looked at Noah’s knee, we were concerned that it would not heal without surgery because the lesion looked unstable,” Dr. Ellis says. An OCD lesion is the portion of bone underneath the cartilage that is damaged due to a lack of blood supply. If an OCD lesion is caught early, the body can typically heal the bone itself with three to 12 months of decreased activity and rest. However, an OCD lesion becomes unstable when the body starts rejecting the damaged bone. “Noah’s body was turning the bone into fibrous tissue, which is very much like dead bone,” Dr. Ellis says. “We recognized that his body would likely continue to deteriorate and not heal.”

In surgery, Dr. Ellis removed the cartilage in Noah’s knee to clean out the unhealthy bone underneath it. Then, he replaced the dead bone with healthy bone that he took from Noah’s pelvis. Using a suture bridge technique, Dr. Ellis put the cartilage back on the bone. For four months, Noah recovered and healed before Dr. Ellis went back in to remove the sutures.

Noah came out of his second surgery in a long leg brace locked in extension. He began physical therapy near his home in the Houston area and would gradually return to activities over many months. After one year, Dr. Ellis released Noah, allowing him to return to full activities without restrictions. At his two-year post-op appointment, Noah’s X-rays demonstrated there was no OCD in his knee.

“Noah progressed as we expected,” Dr. Ellis says. “Some kids receive a diagnosis, and they’re crushed. Noah is a resilient fighter type, both mentally and physically, where he was like, ‘Let’s get this fixed so I can move on.’”



Today, Noah plays football, baseball and basketball, but he is leaning toward a future in basketball, hoping to get a college scholarship and maybe even go pro. As a junior on his high school varsity basketball team, he moves between power forward and center. He also has a pretty mean shooting game. Noah told his clinical team that when his treatment was over, he was going to “dunk on it.” In May after his two-year post-op appointment, that is exactly what he did. “When I got up there and punched it through, I was like, ‘I did it!’” Noah says.

Thinking back on Noah’s time at Scottish Rite, Brooke says, “It’s just a blessing to be where we are.” Philip agrees. “I’m not going to lie,” he says. “I was worried sick about a surgeon chopping on Noah’s knee, but Scottish Rite has definitely been a godsend. They have covered us in every aspect, enabled us to take care of our child and not leave us in a spot where we have to sell everything.”

Noah says that his experience at Scottish Rite gave him hope. “Some people have not been as fortunate as me to find a surgeon who can do what needs to be done well,” he says. “Scottish Rite helped me to value the time that I have, that I’m getting a chance to play sports again, and that I need to do it the best that I can.” ◀



Noah, center, with his mother, Brooke, and his father, Philip

BEHIND THE SCENES



Chaplaincy Care: Nurturing the Human Spirit

Chaplaincy Care is a meaningful part of life at Scottish Rite for Children, and it is available to everyone. This service provides spiritual, religious, emotional and cultural support to patients, families and staff members. This year, Scottish Rite celebrates its first full-time chaplain, Jerilynn Putnam, MA/TH, MA/PM.

“Through chaplaincy care, I build relationships with individuals,” Putnam says. “By meeting an individual where they are, I learn how they seek and express meaning and purpose and the way their experience connects to the moment, to self, to others, to nature and to the significant or sacred.”

Putnam loves to share her creativity and spiritual interventions with the patients and caregivers staying in the Inpatient Unit. She builds rapport and trust, fosters a nurturing environment, connects with the child and invites them to examine how they feel about themselves and about being in the hospital. Often, her encounters reveal a patient’s values, worldview and a desire for prayer. “It’s the child’s choice, and I respect what they need on that particular day,” Putnam says. “My role helps ensure that we care for the whole child, not only physically but also spiritually and religiously, when requested.”

In Sunday Chapel Circles, patients and their caregivers may participate in Godly Play. This intervention helps support everyone’s spiritual journey by inviting them to make meaning through story, wonder and play. Putnam also recognizes interfaith religious events and holidays in the chapel by offering a rite, ritual or reflection. Blessing of the Hands is a very special ceremony that Putnam may perform anywhere at Scottish Rite. With outstretched hands, she blesses surgeons, nurses and therapists whose receptive palms face open to the sky. ◀



Patient Norah engages in a creative intervention with Jerilynn Putnam as her mother, Julie, observes.

Putnam’s day begins by checking on the Inpatient Unit overnight staff members. Next, she supports the pre-op nurses and those who prepare patients for surgery. She also meets with patients in pre-op, offers hospitality and discerns their needs. “When prayer is important to them, then I pray with them before they go into surgery,” Putnam says.





When Clinical Care Feels Like Family, De’Vaun Rediscovered His Stride

Family means everything to 6-year-old De’Vaun, of Forney, Texas. Most of De’Vaun’s favorite activities, like watching movies or playing with Legos, are enjoyed best with his parents and older sisters. What he did not know is that his family would grow because his care team at Scottish Rite for Children would become an extension of home.

When De’Vaun’s parents noticed his left leg had bumps on the skin and was curving inward, they came to Scottish Rite’s Center for Excellence in Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction (CELLR). De’Vaun has Ollier disease, a rare condition in which masses of benign cartilage, or enchondromas, grow in the bones. De’Vaun also developed genu valgum, or knock-knee, which caused his left leg to curve inward and become shorter than his right leg.

“We had no idea what Ollier disease was,” says Kristen, De’Vaun’s mother. “We felt shocked and scared, wondering how this happened or what we did to cause this. However, we knew Scottish Rite could help us.”

A multidisciplinary approach is key to supporting De’Vaun’s physical and emotional well-being. His care team includes CELLR Clinical Director David A. Podeszwa, M.D., Emily Elerson, R.N., pediatric psychologist Whitney M. Herge, Ph.D., and physical therapist Stephanie Conti, P.T. After many discussions with De’Vaun and his family, Dr. Podeszwa treated his condition by applying an external fixator to De’Vaun’s

left thigh bone. The device helps gradually straighten and lengthen his thigh bone over time.

“Correcting a deformity or lengthening a limb with an external fixator is a process in which the surgery is just one part,” Dr. Podeszwa says. “The CELLR team takes the time to explain what we are doing and how we will treat the child and their family. A child won’t know what an external fixator feels like until we apply it, so the key is preparing them for it.”

Since getting his external fixator applied, De’Vaun’s family shares that his confidence has returned. He is always excited to visit his care team to show how strong he has gotten. With the help of physical therapy, De’Vaun has progressed from using a wheelchair to using a walker to walking independently. Now, De’Vaun looks forward to getting his fixator removed!

“The whole team is literally our family,” Kristen says. “They have given us a level of support we cannot believe. They genuinely care for De’Vaun as if he is a child of their own. I couldn’t have asked for a better set of people to be in our lives.”



Paving the Way to Bright Futures, One Brick at a Time

The opportunities to leave a life-changing impact on patients are abundant at Scottish Rite for Children — even beneath your feet. The Dallas and Frisco campuses feature beautifully paved walkways with personalized bricks through the Engraved Brick program. The program invites individuals, families or anyone who would like to leave their legacy on the grounds of Scottish Rite by donating a one-of-a-kind brick that can be engraved to honor a loved one, celebrate a milestone or just because.

Long-time donors Angie and William Whaling discovered this unique way of giving in 1996. Their daughter received treatment at Scottish Rite, and the Whalings have donated ever since. “We give because we want other children and their families to receive the best care,” Angie says.

The Whalings have donated 55 bricks along the path in the Jas F. Chambers, Jr. Youth Fitness Park. Their bricks commemorate the expansion of their family, with each highlighting their love for their children and grandchildren. “Giving is a family affair now,” Angie says. “Scottish Rite gives so much to the community. We want to make sure Scottish Rite is around to care for children forever.”

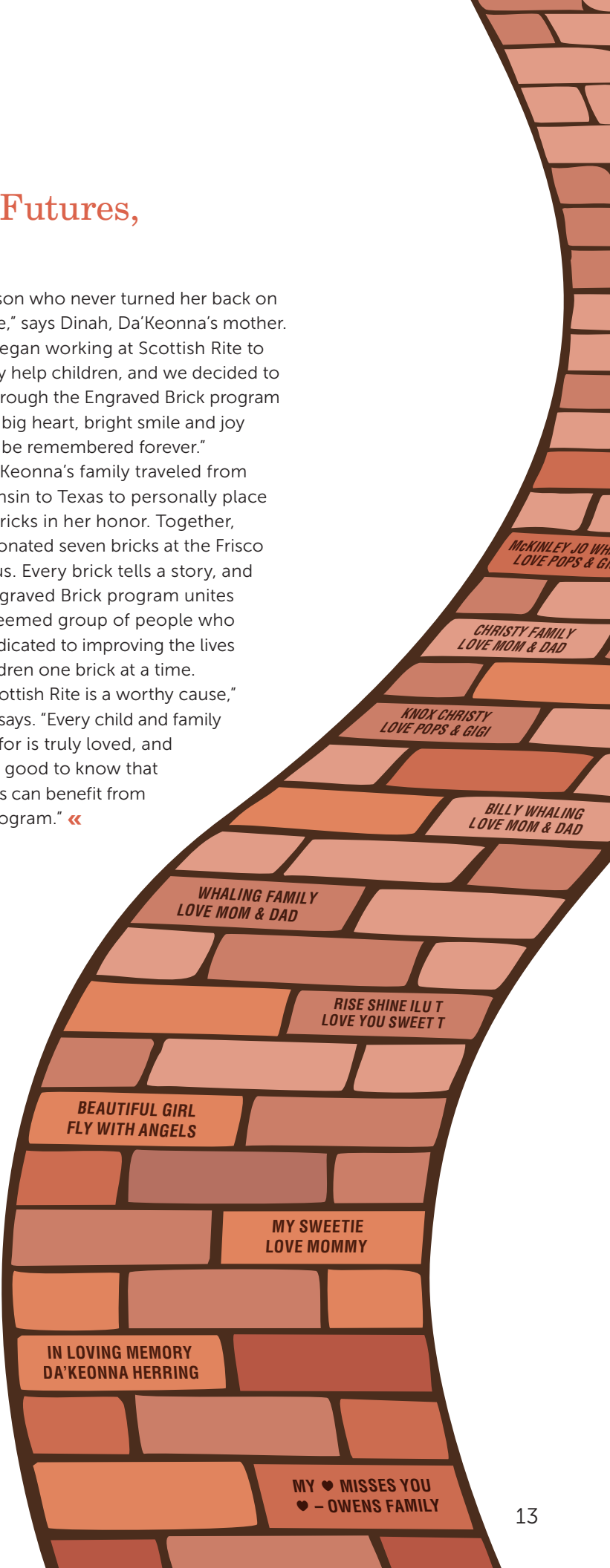
In January 2024, the Engraved Brick program expanded to Scottish Rite for Children Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center in Frisco. The foundational bricks were laid to memorialize the life of athletic trainer Da’Keonna Herring who passed away in 2023. “Da’Keonna was the type

of person who never turned her back on anyone,” says Dinah, Da’Keonna’s mother. “She began working at Scottish Rite to directly help children, and we decided to give through the Engraved Brick program so her big heart, bright smile and joy would be remembered forever.”

Da’Keonna’s family traveled from Wisconsin to Texas to personally place their bricks in her honor. Together, they donated seven bricks at the Frisco campus. Every brick tells a story, and the Engraved Brick program unites an esteemed group of people who are dedicated to improving the lives of children one brick at a time.

“Scottish Rite is a worthy cause,” Dinah says. “Every child and family cared for is truly loved, and it feels good to know that families can benefit from this program.”

For more information about the Engraved Brick program, please contact Development Officer Betsy Yeckel at 214-559-7684.



A Conversation With the Honorable Lyndon L. Olson Jr.

What are the major accomplishments you have seen at Scottish Rite for Children throughout the last three decades?

The goal at Scottish Rite for Children is and has always been to strive for excellence. It is our guiding light going forward and has been for the life of the organization.

We have preserved and grown a culture that is child-focused and transforming, that values accountability, respect, integrity, research and education. Our culture is directly reflected in our recognition by NRC Health as a national leader in patient satisfaction. Scottish Rite has received the NRC Health Excellence in Patient Experience Award eight times in the nationwide pediatric category. We are No. 1 in Texas and the Southwest and No. 2 in the nation for pediatric orthopedic care according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

In 2012, after decades of providing 100% charity care, Scottish Rite began accepting reimbursement from health insurance providers. We continue to provide treatment to all patients regardless of a family's ability to pay, remaining true to the principles of our founders more than a century ago. Scottish Rite then transitioned from using an internal health record to configuring the premiere electronic health record, at a time when we were the smallest hospital in America with this significant technology.

In 2018, we built the Scottish Rite for Children Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center in Frisco, and it has exceeded our expectations. We have seen unprecedented growth in patient demand, and we have met this need with world-class care. A few years later, we weathered the pandemic successfully while providing a safe environment for our patients. We have also beautifully renovated most of our Dallas campus, including a state-of-the-art surgical suite, private pre-op rooms, innovative Therapy Services and Child Life spaces, and much more.

We have a magnificent board comprised of individuals from across the State of Texas. While maintaining the board's vision of our independence as a world-renowned pediatric orthopedic institution, we have longstanding relationships with other outstanding health care facilities. Our physicians not only provide services at Scottish Rite but also at Children's Medical Center Dallas through their faculty appointments at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

We have the finest pediatric orthopedic medical staff in the world who are recognized professionally by their peers for research, education and patient care. Our physicians write and edit *Tachdjian's Pediatric Orthopaedics*. In its eighth edition, the textbook is considered the gold standard pediatric orthopedic reference guide by practitioners worldwide. Physicians around the world seek training from our surgeons in the Dorothy & Bryant Edwards Fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedics and Scoliosis program. With an exceptional combination of expertise and kindness, our clinicians care for our patients as though they were their own children. The board is proud of the entire Scottish Rite staff for their loyalty to the institution, the culture and the patient families we serve.

The success of Scottish Rite for Children would not be possible without a tradition of generosity from our extraordinary donors and volunteers. In 1964, former U.S. Senator William Blakley and his wife, Villa, donated two large ranches. One is still operational and continues to benefit patient care today. This generous couple and so many other people simply love Scottish Rite. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to all those who support and sustain Scottish Rite's mission of giving children back their childhood.

What has been your highest joy serving at Scottish Rite for Children?

Having had the opportunity to serve! When President Clinton asked me to be United States Ambassador to Sweden, I had to resign from every board, divest of my financial holdings, resign from work, nonprofits, everything. But, I told them that I did not want to resign from the board of Scottish Rite for Children. When they asked why, I explained that I was a patient there when I was 11, had both of my legs amputated, learned how to walk there and that I owe a great deal of my life to Scottish Rite. Other than my wife and my family, Scottish Rite is the love of my life. Ultimately, I spoke with President Clinton, and he said I could stay on the board.

I love Scottish Rite for Children. I love the people, the mission, the children and the freedom of our doctors to practice a pure form of medicine — totally and completely devoted to a child that needs our help. ⚡

"OTHER THAN MY WIFE AND MY FAMILY, SCOTTISH RITE IS THE LOVE OF MY LIFE."

THE HONORABLE
LYNDON L. OLSON JR.
Chairman Since 2006
Trustee Since 1995



The Honorable Lyndon L. Olson Jr. grew up in Waco, Texas. He was born with clubfeet, and after years of complications, his parents brought him to Scottish Rite for Children where he received care from former Chief of Staff Brandon Carrell, M.D.

After graduating from Baylor University and attending Baylor Law School, Olson was elected to the Texas House of Representatives at age 23. He served as chairman of the Texas State Board of Insurance and as president of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. He was president of the National Group Corporation and CEO of its National Group Insurance Companies. Later, he served as president and CEO of Travelers Insurance Holdings and the Associated Madison Companies in New York City.

President William J. Clinton appointed Olson as U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden. He was also appointed by President George W. Bush as a commissioner and vice chairman of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Olson has received numerous honors, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the Swedish American of the Year Award and the Gates of Jerusalem Award presented by the State of Israel. In October, Olson will be recognized by the DFW Hospital Council with the Distinguished Health Service Award.

A 33rd degree Grand Cross Scottish Rite Mason, cattle rancher and banker, Olson resides in Waco with his wife, Kay.

SCOTTISH RITE



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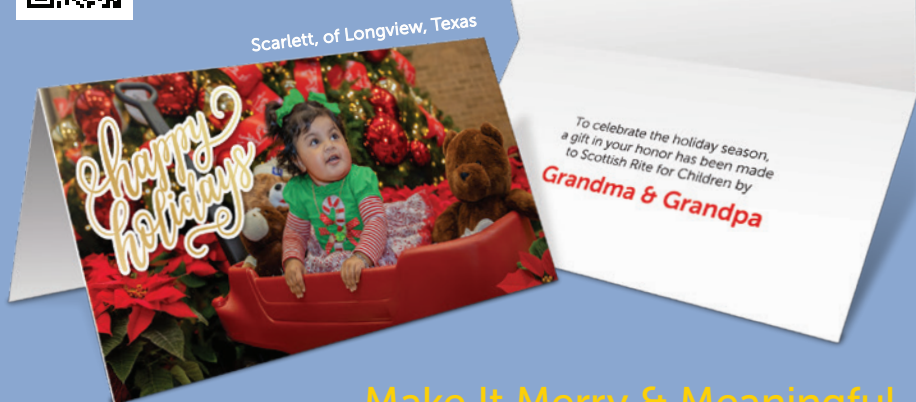
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ABOUT SCOTTISH RITE FOR CHILDREN

Scottish Rite for Children is a world-renowned leader in the treatment of pediatric orthopedic conditions, such as scoliosis, clubfoot, hand differences, hip disorders, limb lengthening and reconstruction, sports injuries and fractures, as well as certain related arthritic and neurological disorders and learning disorders, such as dyslexia. Patients receive treatment regardless of the family's ability to pay.

For more information about services available at the Dallas or Frisco campuses, visit scottishriteforchildren.org.

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Scottish Rite for Children is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

