

# join the fight against progeria

Thursday, September 23, 2010 Preakness Hills Country Club, Wayne, NJ



# **About Progeria**

Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome ("Progeria", or "HGPS") is a rare, fatal genetic condition characterized by an appearance of accelerated aging in children. Its name is derived from the Greek and means "prematurely old."

HGPS is caused by a mutation in the gene called LMNA (pronounced, lamin - a). The LMNA gene produces the Lamin A protein, which is the structural scaffolding that holds the nucleus of a cell together. Researchers now believe that the defective Lamin A protein makes the nucleus unstable. That cellular instability appears to lead to the process of premature aging in Progeria.

Although they are born looking healthy, children with Progeria begin to display many characteristics of accelerated aging at around 18-24 months of age. Progeria signs include growth failure, loss of body fat and hair, aged-looking skin, stiffness of joints, hip dislocation, generalized atherosclerosis, cardiovascular (heart) disease and stroke. The children have a remarkably similar appearance, despite differing ethnic background. Children with Progeria die of atherosclerosis (heart disease) at an average age of thirteen years (with a range of about 8 - 21 years).

# Schedule

- 10:00 am Registration and Brunch Driving Range Open
- 12:00 pm Shotgun
  - 5:30 pm Cocktail Reception, Hors D'Oeuvres, Dinner and Awards

# **Golf Entry Fee Includes**

- Breakfast
- 18 holes of golf
- Carts and caddies
- Refreshments on course
- Cocktail reception (for you and your guest)
- PHCC's sumptuous buffet dinner
- Awards
- Prizes and Raffle



Zoey Penny

#### How PRF was formed

In the summer of 1998, Dr. Leslie Gordon and Dr. Scott Berns found out that their son Sam, who was then 22 months old, had been diagnosed with Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome ("Progeria"), commonly referred to as a "premature aging" syndrome. It quickly became apparent to Sam's parents that there was an enormous lack of medical information and resources dedicated to Progeria. They recognized that there was no place for these children to go for medical help, no place for parents or doctors to turn for information, and no source of funding for researchers who wanted to do Progeria research. The lack of information available to families, combined with the lack of research and research-funding opportunities inspired Sam's family, together with their friends and colleagues, to launch The Progeria Research Foundation, Inc. ("PRF"), the only non-profit organization in the world dedicated to Progeria research.

#### CHAIRMAN

John Marozzi

# EVENT CO-CHAIRS

- Bob Chestnov
- Mark Rosen

# GOLF COMMITTEE

- Paul Abrams
- Norman Axelrod
- Doug Buch
- Alex Fleysher
- Ben Goldstein
- David Korn
- Harold Levison
- Donna Rosen
- Andrew Silverman
- Lee Silverman
- Estelle Soloman
- Steve Wener

### TeamZoey

- Barbara Batesko
- Donna Brewer-Rossi
- Doug Buch
- Mary Delarosa
- Marlene Marozzi
- Teresa Pugh

Zoey Penny is the granddaughter of John & Marlene Marozzi. She was born with Progeria, a rare and fatal disease. Caused by a mutation in the LMNA gene, these children will die of heart disease at an average age of 13!

All of the proceeds generated will go to the Progeria Research Foundation, to fund research for developing treatments and finding a cure.

Thank You www.teamzoey.com



# **Progeria** Research Foundation

www.progeriaresearch.org Audrey Gordon, Esq. Executive Director