



The a capella group Harbor Lights helped raise funds for the Panozzo family recently at Governors State University's Center for the Performing Arts and released a new album "Almost a Capella."

## Chicago chefs pour their chocolate hearts out for tiny tot

For Jan. 22, 2006

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*This story ran on nwitimes.com on Sunday, January 22, 2006 1:57 AM CST*

Little Abigail Wodrich of Porter, daughter of local chef David and his lovely wife Lisa, is just a year old, but because she was born with less than 5 percent kidney function, she's faced more daily struggles than many 50 times her age.

Abigail is about to receive a new kidney (the operation is scheduled for April) from her father. To help defray the costs of her transplant and life-long medications, which can cost as much as \$10,000 a month, top Chicago chefs are transforming a Chicago ballroom into a decadent chocolate wonderland.

Intricate chocolate clothing, dazzling chocolate body art, amazing chocolate sculptures and a luxurious Cocoa Sutra room will be on display during the For the Love of Chocolate benefit from 7 to 10 p.m. Feb. 11 at the South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Drive in Chicago.

Proceeds from For the Love of Chocolate will be split between Children's Memorial Hospital and the Children's Organ Transplant Association Fund for Abigail Wodrich.

Guests will enjoy a feast for the senses: create chocolate, wear chocolate and admire chocolate. Live music on three stages and a silent auction also will be featured. Tickets cost \$45.

The Wodriches and their daughter served this last year as ambassadors for the Northwest Indiana chapter of the March of Dimes.

For tickets to the benefit or more information, call (219) 921-0088 or [www.fortheloveofchocolate.org](http://www.fortheloveofchocolate.org).

#### Tall tales

Storyteller Dan LeMonnier, who for years performed as Benny the Bull for the Chicago Bulls, and local author Jane Bomberger were on WGN-TV for an interview with WGN-TV reporter/producer Jane Boal about Hospice of the Calumet Area's children's hospice awareness project recently.

The feature, which includes excerpts of LeMonnier's program presented to children at Alexander Graham Bell Elementary School in Chicago, is scheduled to air again at noon Jan. 24 on WGN's "Chicago's Very Own" segment.

Bomberger's book, "Hospice Helps Me," is accompanied by a Daisy the Hospice Hound stuffed animal, and both are tangible tools to help children better cope with the serious illness of a loved one. The book is endorsed by local pediatrician and Times columnist Dr. Robert Dersheiwitz of Munster.

Copies of the book and dog, along with program information for schools, libraries or youth group functions, are available through the Hospice of the Calumet Area office, 600 Superior Ave. in Munster.

for information on the book or the work of Hospice, call (219) 922-2732 or visit [www.hospicecalumet.org](http://www.hospicecalumet.org)

#### Doo wop

What a year 2005 was for local retro-laced a capella group Harbor Lights.

This year it was picked up by recording company Collectibles, which produced and distributed the group's newest album, "Almost a Capella." The CD can be purchased at any local music store, including Borders Books and Music.

The vocal stylists consist of George Carl, Cheryl DeRosier, Dave Mitchell, Jason Andrews and Ron Hanchar. They first came together six years ago and are well-known for their performances at charity functions in the area.

The group ended the year with a holiday performance for Gov. Mitch Daniels and the Indiana Farm Bureau at the historic Statehouse in Indianapolis.

To start off 2006, Harbor Lights performed to help raise funds for the Judy and Samantha

Panozzo Cancer Relief Benefit when it opened for comedian Tom Dreesen at Governors State University's Center for the Performing Arts.



Children's book author Jane Bomberger and storyteller and musician Dan LeMonnier were recently on WGN television. The show will be aired again at noon Tuesday.