MARCH OF DIMES
Gourmet Gala
SUPPORTING MOMS AND BABIES EVERYWHERE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015 | NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
United Technologies salutes The March of Dimes for its efforts on behalf of mothers and babies everywhere. We are honored to support you and humbled by your drive.

Carrier
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Welcome and thank you for joining us at the 33rd Annual March of Dimes Gourmet Gala. Tonight, we celebrate the lives saved because of your countless efforts to support the March of Dimes mission to prevent premature birth, birth defects and infant mortality.

More than four million babies were born in the United States last year, and the March of Dimes has helped each and every one through research, education, vaccines and breakthroughs – thanks to generous contributors like you.

Although the nation’s preterm birth rate is declining, one in nine babies is born too soon. Premature birth remains the leading cause of newborn death, and babies who survive an early birth often face the risk of lifetime health challenges. There is more work to be done, and we are proud to work together to fight prematurity and improve the health of babies.

Gourmet Gala would not have been a success without the countless volunteers and dedicated committee members. We also appreciate our distinguished Celebrity Chefs and Celebrity Judges for sharing their time and culinary expertise.

Lastly, we are grateful for the generosity of our sponsors and donors, whose support helps fund the vital research and programs to help women have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.

It has been an honor and pleasure to chair this year’s Gourmet Gala. We hope you enjoy the evening and the additional time for tasting. Thank you for supporting the March of Dimes so that all babies have the best possible chance at a healthy start in life.

Mrs. Dianne Isakson, Georgia
Dr. Carolina Reyes, California
We know life can be a real challenge at times. That’s why AARP continues its legacy by combating hunger, fighting age discrimination, providing caregiver resources and helping people get back to work. We want everyone to reach their full potential. See what we’re doing to help at aarp.org.

A PROMISE TO DELIVER

UPS proudly supports the March of Dimes Gourmet Gala and its commitment to ending premature births, birth defects and infant mortality.

THANK YOU FOR COOKING FOR A CAUSE.

Comcast NBCUniversal is proud to support the March of Dimes. Thank you for your commitment to healthy families.

Honored to sponsor the March of Dimes Gourmet Gala.
MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES
Mrs. Sheinelle Jones, NBC’s “Weekend TODAY”

WELCOME REMARKS & FUND THE MISSION
Dr. Howse, March of Dimes President
Elijah Jackson, March of Dimes National Ambassador

CO-CHAIR REMARKS
Senator Johnny Isakson and Mrs. Dianne Isakson, Georgia
Representative Xavier Becerra and Dr. Carolina Reyes, California

FINANCE CO-CHAIR REMARKS
Mrs. Kathy Didawick, BlueCross BlueShield Association
Ms. Gina Rigby, Aflac, Inc.

PRESENTING SPONSOR REMARKS
Krister Holladay, United Technologies Corporation

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

DESSERT RECEPTION
BCLEBRITY CHEFS

BRUNCH ~ LUNCH ~ DINNER

“A French Revelation”
– Tom Sietsema, Washington Post

315 Pennsylvania Ave SE Washington, DC 20003
202.450.4800 www.bearnaiserestaurant.com
Senator Johnny Isakson and Mrs. Dianne Isakson, Georgia
Representative Xavier Becerra and Dr. Carolina Reyes, California
Representative Robert Aderholt and Mrs. Caroline Aderholt, Alabama
Senator John Barrasso and Mrs. Bobbi Barrasso, Wyoming
Representative Sanford Bishop and Mrs. Vivian Bishop, Georgia
Senator Richard Blumenthal and Mrs. Cynthia Blumenthal, Connecticut
Senator Roy Blunt and Mrs. Abby Blunt, Missouri
Senator Richard Burr and Mrs. Brooke Burr, North Carolina
Representative Tony Cardenas and Mrs. Norma Cardenas, California
Senator Ben Cardin and Mrs. Myrna Cardin, Maryland
Senator Bill Cassidy and Dr. Laura Cassidy, Louisiana
Senator Dan Coats and Mrs. Marsha Coats, Indiana
Senator Susan Collins, Maine
Senator Chris Coons and Mrs. Annie Coons, Delaware
Senator John Cornyn and Mrs. Sandy Cornyn, Texas
Representative Debbie Dingell and Honorable John Dingell, Michigan
Senator Mike Enzi and Mrs. Diana Enzi, Wyoming
Senator Deb Fischer and Mr. Bruce Fischer, Nebraska
Senator Al Franken and Mrs. Franni Franken, Minnesota
Representative Gene Green and Mrs. Helen Green, Texas
Senator Martin Heinrich and Mrs. Julie Heinrich, New Mexico
Representative Ruben Hinojosa and Mrs. Marty Hinojosa, Texas
Senator Amy Klobuchar and Mr. John Bessler, Minnesota
Representative Doug Lamborn and Mrs. Jeanie Lamborn, Colorado
Representative Dave Loebback and Mrs. Terry Loebback, Iowa
Representative Billy Long and Mrs. Barbara Long, Missouri
Senator Joe Manchin and Mrs. Gayle Manchin, West Virginia
Representative Doris Matsui, California
Senator Lisa Murkowski and Mr. Verne Martell, Alaska
Senator Bill Nelson and Mrs. Grace Nelson, Florida
Senator David Perdue and Mrs. Bonnie Perdue, Georgia
Senator Gary Peters and Mrs. Colleen Ochoa Peters, Michigan
Representative Bill Posey and Mrs. Katie Posey, Florida
Senator Jim Risch and Mrs. Vicki Risch, Idaho
Senator Pat Roberts and Mrs. Franki Roberts, Kansas
Representative David Scott and Mrs. Alfredia Scott, Georgia
Senator Tim Scott, South Carolina
Representative Mike Thompson and Mrs. Janet Thompson, California
Senator Thom Tillis and Mrs. Susan Tillis, North Carolina
Senator Pat Toomey and Mrs. Kris Toomey, Pennsylvania
Senator Tom Udall and Mrs. Jill Udall, New Mexico
Senator Mark Warner and Mrs. Lisa Collis, Virginia
Representative Lynn Westmoreland and Mrs. Joan Westmoreland, Georgia

Thank you to the distinguished celebrity chefs for supporting the March of Dimes by participating this evening!

(As of 4/22/2015)
A RECIPE FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE.

The men and women of Lockheed Martin are proud to sponsor the 33rd Annual Gourmet Gala 2015 as it celebrates the March of Dimes and its mission to improve the health of every one of the four million babies born in the U.S. every year.

Learn more at lockheedmartin.com/community

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AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

BEST PRESENTATION Award
The Best Presentation Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d’oeuvre recipe is the most attractive and appetizing.

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS Award
The Health and Happiness Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d’oeuvre recipe is essentially low fat and nutritious and celebrates healthier cooking.

AMERICAN REGIONAL CUISINE Award
The American Regional Cuisine Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d’oeuvre recipe is made with the best-tasting ingredients indigenous to the locale.

EASIEST PREPARATION Award
The Easiest Preparation Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d’oeuvre recipe is the easiest to prepare.

BEST IN SHOW Award
The Best in Show Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d’oeuvre recipe has the overall best taste and flavor.

THE PEOPLE’S CHOICE Award
The People’s Choice Award is voted on by the guests at the Gala and will be presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d’oeuvre recipe receives the most votes.

2015 CELEBRITY JUDGES

Chef Ris Lacoste
Ris

Chef Matt Parrilli
National Democratic Club

Chef Jamie Leeds
Hank’s Oyster Bar

Chef Jeff Tunks
Passion Food Hospitality

Chef Spike Mendelsohn
Béarnaise
This is our American journey.

Volkswagen Group of America is proud to sponsor the March of Dimes Gourmet Gala. We share your mission of protecting young lives, and older ones.

Proud to support the March of Dimes in order to ensure healthy generations of engineers and construction managers.
GOURMET GALA CO-CHAIRS

2015 GOURMET GALA CO-CHAIRS
Mrs. Johnny Isakson and Dr. Carolina Reyes

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Mrs. John Barrasso and Mrs. Ruben Hinojosa, 2014
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Mrs. Carl Levin and Mrs. Mac Collins, 2004
Mrs. Conrad Burns and Mrs. Calvin Dooley, 2003
Mrs. John Edwards and Mrs. David Hobson, 2002
Mrs. Jon Kyl and Mrs. Richard Gephardt, 2001
Mrs. Don Nickles and Mrs. Benjamin Cardin, 2000
Ms. Lucy Calautti (Conrad) and Mrs. Bill Archer, 1999
Mrs. John Dingell and Mrs. Spencer Abraham, 1998
Mrs. Frank Murkowski, 1997
Mrs. Trent Lott, 1996
Mrs. Kimberly Olson Dorgan, 1995
Mrs. Thomas Daschle, 1994
Mrs. Slade Gorton, 1993
Mrs. Christopher Bond, 1992
Mrs. Howell Heflin and Mrs. David Busby, 1991
Senator John Warner, 1990
Mrs. Alan K. Simpson and Mrs. William P. McClure, 1989
Mrs. John B. Breaux, 1988
Mrs. Ted Stevens, 1987
Mrs. Ernest Hollings, 1986
Mrs. Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr. and The Honorable Penne Percy Korth, 1985
Mr. and Mrs. James Brady, 1984
Mrs. Strom Thurmond, 1983
2015 GOURMET GALA FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCE CHAIRS
Kathy Didawick, BlueCross BlueShield Association
Gina Rigby, Aflac, Inc.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Amy Hawkins, BNSF Railway Company
Melissa Maxfield, Comcast NBCUniversal
Missy Edwards, Missy Edwards Strategies, LLC
Amy Muhlberg, PWR
Kent Knutson, The Home Depot
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(As of April 22, 2014)
Elise Jackson of Chicago was healthy and doing everything right when her water broke halfway through her pregnancy. After 5 weeks of bed rest in the hospital and careful monitoring, she and her husband, Todd, welcomed their son into the world on 5/8/02 at 25 weeks. He weighed just over a pound and was 11 inches long, which is the length of a sheet of paper. Everything happened so suddenly, explains Elise, that “there wasn’t time for me to take in the magnitude of the situation — the birth of my only child, the fact that he arrived months earlier than expected, and the incredibly long journey ahead for our family.”

Elijah spent 7 months in a newborn intensive care unit where he had heart surgery and received treatment for respiratory and digestive problems, anemia and jaundice. When his happy parents finally took him home, he continued to be monitored with a feeding tube, respiratory support and a trach in his throat to help him breathe easier. Elijah’s medical bills totaled more than $1.2 million.

Today, at 12, Elijah is a student and basketball fan. As he continues to overcome challenges, he inspires others, especially his parents. Elise, a March of Dimes volunteer for 10 years, rallies her colleagues at United year round, while Todd, a member of March of Dimes national service partner Phi Beta Sigma, Inc., also helps lead the local March for Babies® walks and their family team. As the 2015 National Ambassador, Elijah and his parents will travel the country to share his story and raise awareness of premature birth.

Follow Elijah on his travels at facebook.com/marchofdimesnationalambassador www.marchforbabies.org/Elijah33
Investments in maternal and child health research and prevention activities improve the well-being and quality of life for women, infants, children, and families while reducing government costs. The March of Dimes urges Congress to fund the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources and Services Administration, and other key health agencies to promote the health of future generations. Examples of a few programs critical to maternal and child health include:

The NIH is the epicenter of our nation’s maternal and child health research. **Congress should fund NIH at $32 billion** and research on child health and human development at $1.37 billion in FY 2016.

The **PREEMIE Reauthorization Act** was passed by Congress last year to renew federal research and programs to help identify the causes and prevention of premature birth. As part of supporting these programs, **Congress should allocate $46 million for the CDC’s Safe Motherhood Initiative** and reinstate the preterm birth sub-line at $2 million.

Newborn screening programs allow every infant born in our nation to be screened for disorders that can cause severe disability or death in the first days or weeks of life if not identified and addressed. **HRSA’s Heritable Disorders program should be funded at $18 million** for FY 2016 to ensure these critical programs are maintained and improved.

For more information on these and other March of Dimes legislative priorities, contact the Office of Government Affairs at 202-659-1800 or advocacy@marchofdimes.org.
Come Out Of Your Shell!
The 2015 March of Dimes Silver Dollar is on sale now! It celebrates 75 years of research, education, vaccines and breakthroughs.

The obverse (heads) of the coin features the likenesses of March of Dimes founder, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Dr. Jonas Salk, whose polio vaccine was declared “safe, effective and potent” in 1955. The reverse (tails) of the coin depicts a baby cuddled in the hand of its parent, illustrating our dedication to the health of babies everywhere.

A special set will also be available, featuring a March of Dimes silver dollar and two silver Roosevelt dimes, to commemorate President Roosevelt’s role in the original “March of Dimes” fundraising effort to find a way to prevent polio.

The March of Dimes is authorized to receive $10 from each silver dollar sold to help more moms have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.

Visit marchofdimes.org/coin for ordering information.
Keeping your family protected.
Aflac is a proud sponsor of the March of Dimes Gourmet Gala.

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Our company can’t thrive unless our community does, too. Chevron is committed to promoting health, education, and economic development where we operate. From building medical clinics to training local workers, we’re getting involved to help create long-term, sustainable benefits for our community. And our business.

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Primerica is a Main Street company for Main Street North America. We help everyday families get on track to a better financial future.

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and its mission to improve the health of babies

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PLATTS  J.D. POWER
to ris, to dine, to talk, to wine, to laugh, to kiss, tonight, to ris.
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Responsibility begins with giving back to the communities that support us. Northrop Grumman is proud to support the March of Dimes Foundation.

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The March of Dimes thanks you for participating in the 2015 Gourmet Gala. We have been working towards stronger, healthier babies for more than 75 years, and your support furthers our mission to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. March of Dimes researchers, volunteers, educators, outreach workers and advocates work together to give all babies a fighting chance against threats to their health.

All proceeds from this evening will benefit March of Dimes research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies’ lives. Premature birth affects over half a million babies and their families every year. Even though preterm birth rates have decreased for eight consecutive years, one in nine babies will be born premature in America. Those who survive an early birth may have serious, lifelong health problems such as cerebral palsy, vision and hearing loss and other disabilities.

With your support, the March of Dimes is funding research to discover medical breakthroughs that increase the number of healthy, full-term pregnancies. Your contribution will also fund the March of Dimes Mama and Baby Bus, which provides free medical services to women in the Washington, D.C. metro area who would otherwise not receive care.

Thank you for being a champion for future generations of healthy babies!
Thank you for attending the 2015 Gourmet Gala. For recipes and photos from tonight’s event, please visit www.marchofdimes.org/gourmetgala.