

## Decipher the secret language of flowers

Whether you're bashful, head over heels in love or just want to make someone feel special this Valentine's Day — color talks. Roses continue to be one of the most popular gifts to give on Valentine's Day, and their subtle shades of meaning can say everything from "I love you" to "Thanks for being such a great friend." This Valentine's Day, Laura Milder, ProFlowers designer and floral expert, offers tips on how to make sure your flower selection matches your true feelings.

- Don't muddle your colors — Color can play a key role in choosing the right flower gift to express your feelings. If you are looking to cheer up a single friend or show a little appreciation this Valentine's Day, choose paler colored roses, such as yellow, pink or peach. Similar to the popular red rose that symbolizes passion and true love, the purple rose can also be given as an expression of enchantment or new love. The purity of the white rose naturally lends itself to meanings of innocence and loyalty and is the perfect gift to send to a beloved who is far away.

- One or a ton — The secret meaning of a rose can also be affected by the way in which it is presented. Offering someone a single rose versus a bouquet can speak volumes about the message that you are trying to convey. A single red rose traditionally means that you are deeply in love with someone, while a mixed bouquet containing both red and white roses signifies unity. For people with marriage on their minds, two roses entwined to form one single stem are said to represent a deep commitment and hint at an engagement or intention to marry.

- Getting fresh — If you put a lot of time and effort into choosing the right flower gift on Valentine's Day, you want to make sure that they last and that what you ordered is what gets delivered. The easiest solution is to choose flowers from a company such as ProFlowers, which eliminates middlemen to ensure that your bouquet is as fresh as possible and sends the message you intended. Other ways to keep your flowers at their best are to cut off about one inch of the stems and to keep them in a cool, dry environment away from direct sunlight and drafts.

Whether it's friendship, true love or just a simple "thank you," [www.proflowers.com](http://www.proflowers.com) has an arrangement that is sure to help you say exactly what you mean — with flowers.

Courtesy of ARA Content



## Parents start fundraiser, give back to lifesavers

by JILL SCHMELZER  
Reporter

Debra and Chad Glaser of Amherst wanted to start a fundraiser that would give back to three organizations that helped save their son Ethan's life.

Ethan, nicknamed "E," was born with a rare liver disease called biliary atresia. Children born with the disease have severe liver complications, requiring medical care that often results in a liver transplant.

In 2003, Chad became a living donor for his son, donating 20 percent of his liver to Ethan. Livers regenerate, Chad explained.

Ethan, now in kindergarten at Dodge Elementary School, is doing well but will require lifelong medical care. There is no known cure for biliary atresia, and it is not known what causes the disease.

"One thing scientists do know is that it is not genetic," Chad said.

The Glasers decided to start "Ski 4 E," which is a fundraiser for The Fund for the Cure: American Liver Foundation, Columbia Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Hospital's Center for Liver Disease, and the Children's Organ Transplant Association.

The event will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 3 at Holiday Valley, 21 Monroe St., in Ellicottville.

"There are a lot of golf outings and walk-a-thons in the summer," Chad said. "But there was nothing in the winter, and skiing is near and dear to me."

The Glasers want to continue the fundraiser annually, raising monies for the research facilities and doctors that saved their son's life.

The American Liver Foundation researches the disease Ethan suffers from and is the leading agency in pediatric liver transplants, Chad said.

There are approximately 200 to 300 biliary atresia cases annually.

"It is an extremely rare disease," the liver donor explained.

Doctors from Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital's Center for Liver Disease followed Ethan's case from diagnosis through transplant to today.

"They saved Ethan," Chad said. "We owe these doctors everything."

The Fund for the Cure helps families who may not have insurance or their policy does not cover the cost of transplants.

Although insurance covered the cost of Ethan's transplant, the boy was taking up to 13 medications at once, and the co-pay costs totaled \$40 for each medication.

The organization helped the Glasers and it continues to help people in similar situations, Chad said.

The Ski 4 E event will focus on organ donor awareness, and Upstate N.Y. Organ Transplant Association will be on-site for organ donation education and registration.

Special guest Chris Klug, an Olympic snowboard medalist and liver transplant recipient, will be attending the event. He will answer questions about organ donations and speak to the skiers about liver disease and the importance of becoming a donor.

For every skier who raises \$200 in donations, Ski 4 E, along with the support of Holiday Valley, will issue an eight-hour ski pass at no cost to the participant. All donations raised by the skier will be equally distributed among all three groups listed above.

Chad said any person who raises any amount of money for Ski 4 E can join the Glasers and the rest of the skiers for breakfast, donated by Tim Hortons, and a cookout during lunch, with beverages donated by Pepsi. Holiday Valley is the premier sponsor.

Families who raise \$350 or more in donations can ski for free.

People are asked to bring their donations to the event on March 3. The Glasers encourage people to participate in the ski-a-thon, collecting donations from sponsors.

For more information, call 568-2027 or e-mail in [fo@ski4e.com](mailto:fo@ski4e.com). Register online at [www.Ski4e.com](http://www.Ski4e.com).

Those who would like to support the fight but cannot participate in the event can send donations to Ski-4-e, P.O. Box 14, East Amherst, N.Y. 14051.

e-mail: [JSchmelzer@beenews.com](mailto:JSchmelzer@beenews.com)

### What's Going On

#### Spaghetti Dinner to benefit MOW

Amherst Meals on Wheels will benefit from a spaghetti dinner held from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 at the Amherst Senior Center, 370 JJ Audubon Parkway in Amherst. The dinner is open to the public and available for \$6 presale, \$7 at the door.

#### Panhellenic Group to meet at Family Tree

Marion Benner, President of the Greater Buffalo Alumnae Panhellenic Association, will conduct a meeting of all local delegates at noon Wednesday, Feb. 7 at the Family Tree Restaurant on Bailey Ave. in Amherst.

#### Valentine's Craft Show set at Eastern Hills

A Valentine's Craft Show will be held at the Eastern Hills Mall, 4545 Transit Road, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8-18.

#### Karate club to hold free introductory training

The Buffalo Shotokan Karate Club will hold a free introductory training session for teens and adults beginning at 8:30 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Harlem Road Community Center in Snyder. Call Bill Ruyechan at 741-8145 or e-mail [ruyechan@buffalo.edu](mailto:ruyechan@buffalo.edu), for more information or to register for the training session.

#### Literary Cafe to feature poets

The Center for Inquiry Literary Cafe will feature poets Robb Nesbitt and Anna Walsh at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 1310 Sweet Home Road in Amherst.

#### Church to hold luncheon Feb. 8

The United Methodist Women of Christ United Methodist Church will hold a luncheon and general meeting at noon, Thursday, Feb. 8 at 350 Saratoga Road in Snyder. The \$5 program will be "Keeping in Touch."

#### NAMI to hold meeting Feb. 8

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4007 Main St. in Amherst. NAMI is a support group for families with a mentally ill loved one. Call 832-4035.

#### Father-child spaghetti dinner set for Feb. 9

A father-child spaghetti dinner will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 at Fellowship Wesleyan Church, 1645 Southwestern Blvd., West Seneca. Grandfathers and uncles are also invited. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and illusionist Michael Hillburger will perform from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children.

#### Amherst students to perform at recital

Amherst students in the Presto Choir of Bel Canto will perform in St. Paul's Cathedral recital series, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 at 128 Pearl St., Buffalo.

#### Opera-Lytes to present Valentine's Concert


Opera-Lytes will present its annual Valentine's Concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 at Amherst Community Church, 77 Washington Highway in Snyder. The cost is \$10. Call 837-3440.

#### Lecture series to be held at Village Meeting House


Eckankar "Your Own Journey to God" will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 at the Williamsville Meeting House, 5658 Main St. in Williamsville. Call 839-9842 or visit the website at [www.eckankar-ny.org](http://www.eckankar-ny.org).

#### Garden Club to celebrate 65 years


The Forest Stream Garden Club will celebrate its 65th Anniversary at an afternoon Tea on Saturday, Feb. 10 at the North Presbyterian Church in Williamsville. Installation of officers for 2007 will also be held. They include President, Lois Weinstein; Vice President, Louise Farnier; Corresponding Secretary, Patricia Moren; Recording Secretaries, Liza Mitchell and Doris Orr and Treasurer, Jan Marino.



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### Plain facts about surviving heart disease

Living with a heart condition is not easy. And if you have heart disease, the fact is that you are at higher risk of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), a leading cause of death. SCA claims more than 335,000 lives in the U.S. each year.

Attend our Free Heart Success Fair at DeGraff with:

- Blood pressure screenings
- Body fat index screenings
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) Risk factor assessment
- Mini echo screening to find out your EF
- Information on ejection fraction (EF), Heart Failure and implantable cardiac devices
- Door prizes, refreshments and much more!

Heart Success Fair and FREE educational seminar

**Presenter:**  
Irfan A. Khan, MD, Heart Rhythm Specialist, Buffalo Heart Group, LL

**When:**  
Wednesday, February 14, 2007  
Heart Fair: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Presentation: 1 p.m.

**Where:**  
DeGraff Memorial Hospital Cafeteria  
445 Tremont Street  
North Tonawanda, NY

For more information or to register:  
Call 1-800-808-4139  
Free parking  
Refreshments will be served.

