

# great GALAS!

## *Prestonwood Country Club Hosts Brookhill Gala*

Before fans cheered on horses as they raced down the track at the 12th Annual Raleigh Jaycees Brookhill Steeplechase in Clayton, race enthusiasts gathered April 30 for a formal evening of good food, dancing and raising money to help fight cancer at the Brookhill Gala held at Prestonwood Country Club in Cary.

Bright-eyed Anna Michelle Merrills was the special guest of the evening representing the foundation named in her honor to support research at the Duke Cancer Center on leukemia patients with Down Syndrome. Proceeds from the gala's silent and live auctions went to support Anna's Angels—The Anna Michelle Merrills Foundation.

Anna was born June 13, 2001, with Down Syndrome and in November 2002, she was diagnosed with leukemia.

"We had known from her birth that she ran a higher risk to contract this type of cancer," said Michelle Pfeiffer, Anna's mom. "Through the difficult time of chemotherapy and recovery, we got to know how incredibly strong our little girl is, but we also learned a lot about both Down Syndrome and leukemia, and were amazed at how little is known about the two conditions."

Thus, the foundation was formed in partnership with Duke Children's Hospital and Anna's physician, Dr. Philip Rosoff, to fund research and clinical trials on ways to treat Down Syndrome and leukemia patients.

Nancy Coyne, of the Raleigh Jaycees and co-chair of the gala, said more than 130 attendees bid to make the evening a huge success.

For more information, visit [www.annas-angels.org](http://www.annas-angels.org).



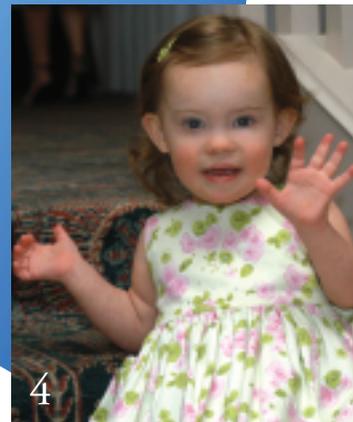
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## Cary Hosts Gubernatorial Gala & Forum



### Brookhill Gala at Prestonwood

Photography by David Scabarasi

1. Gala attendees bid on items donated from various businesses, artists and sports teams during the silent auction. Proceeds benefit Anna's Angels and the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center.
2. Dick and Theresa Stevens
3. Michelle and Tim Shauf, Paul and Aimee McIntyre

4. Anna Merrills, of Anna's Angels
5. Allison Friar, of the Raleigh Jaycees, encourages attendees to bid high during the live auction for a good cause.
6. (bottom row) Gala supporters Camino and John Anthony, Dr. Dona Chikaraishi and Dr. Philip Rosoff, of the Duke Cancer Center. (top row) Michelle Pfeiffer and Andrew Merrills, parents of Anna.
7. Gala co-chair Nancy Coyne with Karen Schellhorn, vice president of community fundraising for the Raleigh Jaycees.

More than 300 Republican supporters were at Cary's Embassy Suites Hotel April 7 for a formal gala featuring Republican candidates for Governor of North Carolina.

All seven candidates were on hand for a fiery debate moderated by Jerry Agar, of WPTF 680 Talk Radio, and Andrew Taylor, associate professor of political science at N.C. State.

Candidates included Patrick Ballantine, Dan Barrett, Bill Cobey, George Little, Fern Shubert and Richard Vinroot.

Ferrell Blount, chairman of the N.C. Republican party, was the master of ceremonies. The Durham, Orange and Wake County Republican parties jointly hosted the event.

### Tri-County Gubernatorial Gala

Photos Courtesy of Linda Hunt Williams

8. Master of Ceremony Ferrell Blount (Chairman, NCGOP) and Linda Hunt Williams (Event Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman, Wake).
9. Candidates (l to r) Timothy Cook, Patrick Ballantine, George Little, Dan Barrett, Richard Vinroot, Fern Shubert, Bill Cobey, and Ferrell Blount.
10. Candidates (l to r) Fern Shubert, Dan Barrett, Richard Vinroot, George Little, Patrick Ballantine, Timothy Cook and Bill Cobey.
11. Forum Moderators Jerry Agar, Host of "Jerry Agar Show" WTPF 680 News/Talk Radio, and Andrew Taylor, Ph.D, Associate Professor of Political Science, NCSU.
12. Gala and Forum Event Committee (l to r) Doug Biddy, Chairman, Orange County; Marilyn Avila, Chairman, Wake County; Jack Steer, Chairman, Durham County; Jesse Torres, Vice Chairman, Orange County; Greg Doucette, 2nd Vice Chairman Wake County; Ruthy Jones, Site Logistics Coordinator, Durham County; Richard Hill, Director of Organization, Wake County.