

Patient Ambassador Megan Johnson Visits Aleppo

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kwon do.

As they toured the Hospital, Megan snapped photos of everything! The wall hangings, the extremely colorful walls and floors, the pictures hanging all around that children have made. She saw it, she photographed it.

Megan and her mother were in awe at how welcoming, bright and colorful the Hospital was. Every time you turned the corner absolutely nothing at all in the entire hospital was dull and dreary. Even the research area was bright and inviting.

Megan gave a hug to each and every Shriner she met. While going past the volunteer station she stopped and gave one to **Paul F. Rubin** and **Elmer Maxwell**, hospital volunteers and Aleppo Nobles who were manning it. After talking to them for several minutes, off came her backpack and she pulled out a small book which she has each and every Shriner and Shriners Hospital worker she meets sign. Of course they obliged.

Megan has this way of brightening up a room and her contagious energy radiates to every corner. Every person she met, even passing by offices that had their doors open, she stopped and talked to each person, thanking them for all that they do.

Her goal is to visit all 22 Shriners Hospitals. So far she has visited five of them.

The day of the Ceremonial, Jill and Megan took part in the Lady's Luncheon at the Tewksbury Country Club. They came back with the Lady's to the Aleppo Shrine Center to catch the Installation of Officers and afternoon session of the Aleppo Ceremonial.

After Stephen G. Eriksen was installed as the Potentate of Aleppo for 2008 the lights went down and a video came on the screen behind the Divan.

It was a video of Megan's story, starting with her ongoing physical ailments and thru the trials and tribulations of her growing up enduring the dozens of surgeries. It then showed how the Shriners Hospitals for Children helped her



Megan stopped during her Hospital visit to say "Hi" to several patients, telling them that she's also a patient at the Shriners Hospital in Portland. She sat down to watch this patient play a computer game.

break through the rough times of dealing with the doctors and hospitals she had been at, opening the side of her that we see today. The incredible young lady who has gone thru so much and yet has brightened up many lives with her charitable avocations.

Proceeding the video, Illustrious Eriksen invited Megan from the stands. She bounded across the auditorium to the entire assemblage standing and applauding her, their eyes tearing up.

Of course Megan was eager to take the microphone. Immediately thanking the Shriners, Lady's and their families for doing so much for the children who are patients at the Hospitals. She even told them how she wants so bad to be a Shriner, but the only

thing standing in her way is that she is a female!

Another selfless act was displayed for all to see: Megan presented Illustrious Eriksen with a check for \$100 to go to the Aleppo Shriners Children's Transportation Fund.

After her speech everyone got to see first-hand one of her many talents. A grand piano was set up beside the stage. She took a seat, poised herself and played several songs. The beautiful notes permeating around the auditorium. Not another sound was to be heard.

At the end of the Ceremonial the Parade in Review was underway with all the Aleppo Units making their way around the auditorium pass the stage. Megan and Illustrious Eriksen stood proud as the Units passed by, saluting. When the Clown Unit went by she pulled out a clown nose and put it on. Smiling and saluting back, Megan had the time of her life. Not only was she in Massachusetts and had seen Boston, finally, and another Shriners Hospital, but she was in the company of Shriners.

And that book with all the signatures, of course during her speech she told everyone there not to leave until they signed it!

Aleppo Announces New Photo Kiosk

EVER wonder what happens to all those pictures taken at Shrine events? You know, the ones Aleppo's staff photographer Skip takes. You see him at parades, the circus and different social events snapping away. Yet, at the end of the day you never seem to know what happened to all those great pictures. Sure, you might see one or two in the Aleppo News but you know he must have taken fifty, sixty or even a hundred pictures. So, where do they go? Sadly, most of those great pictures are saved to compact discs and sit in a binder in the graphics department office waiting for someone to ask to see them. Well not any more.

Aleppo is very proud to announce the creation of a new photo kiosk for its members. The kiosk is located in the mezzanine level next to the storage closet outside the Wilson Room and is accessible to all members. The photo kiosk will provide members with the ability to view any of the photos from recent events and even save photos to a disk so they can be taken home. You must provide your own cd's for this. Photos are organized by year and event name making them easy to find. However, due to the cost and time involved Aleppo will not entertain requests to print photos.

If there is a photo you want, please bring a blank recordable compact

disc and follow the provided user instructions for saving photos. If there is an event you're interested in seeing and it is not available through the kiosk, please be patient as **Tom Friberg** will be adding new and past events as his schedule permits. The kiosk is going to be updated over the next month with photos from 2007 to date.

Please remember that the photo kiosk is in a public area so please keep the area clean. If there is an issue with the kiosk operation, contact **Peter Stone** or Tom Friberg. We hope that you enjoy this new service.



THE PHOTO KIOSK is located on the 2nd floor of the Aleppo Shrine Center in Wilmington. It will be updated over the next two months.

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LEGAL LINES

By Ludwig Alban, Esq.



In the last article, I wrote of the confusing and unusual auto insurance system we have in Massachusetts. You have read in the last several months of the Insurance Commissioner's move towards managed competition. This may affect your rates but the change will have no effect on your need to be adequately protected.

What do I mean by adequate protection and how dangerous is it for you and your family if you are not adequately protected? The answer is very simple: without proper coverage you are putting your assets, yourself and your family at great risk. This is why we have regularly written to our clients over the last twenty years with the following advice:

- Make sure there is enough protection under Part 5 (Optional Bodily Injury to Others), Part 3 (Bodily Injury Caused by an Uninsured Auto) and Part 12 (Bodily Injury Caused by an Underinsured Auto). For each of these Parts, the minimum amount of coverage is \$20,000 per person/\$40,000 per accident, which is often not adequate.
- Your right to receive compensation in a relatively serious accident may depend on the insurance limits you have selected under Part 3 (Bodily Injury Caused by an Uninsured Auto) or Part 12 (Bodily Injury Caused by an Underinsured Auto). However, you need to be aware that you cannot have higher limits under Part 3 or Part 12 than you selected under Part 5. Because some motorists are not insured (despite the requirements of compulsory insurance) and because other motorists often choose the minimum in protection, Parts 3 and 12 are crucial elements of your policy.

Too often we have seen clients suffer because their insurance limits are not high enough. This is a problem where the at-fault vehicle is not insured, from out-of-state or has insurance but with very low limits. That is why we have given this advice since we began writing these letters in the 1980s.

Ludwig Alban practices law with the firm of **Feinberg & Alban, P.C.** He concentrates in the areas of Real Estate, Elder Law, Probate, and Small Business Law. His firm also concentrates in all areas of Personal Injury Law. He can be reached at (800) 479-9991.

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