

12-29-11

**KATE'S KART —**  
From left to right  
are Emily Hower,  
of Psi Iota Xi, Jo  
McIntire, director of  
nursing at Adams  
Memorial Hospital,  
Krista Layman,  
Grant Layman  
(held), and Andrew  
Layman. In front  
is Seth Layman.  
(Photo provided)



## 'Kate's Kart' comes to local hospital

### Offers free books to hospitalized children

Working in conjunction with the local chapter of the Psi Iota Xi sorority, the Adams Memorial Hospital is now offering free books to hospitalized children and their siblings through the not-for-profit Kate's Kart organization.

According to a hospital spokesperson, the children are encouraged to keep the books and take them home as part of the organization's mission which strives to provide a comforting diversion to children and their families, foster a love of books, and ultimately literacy.

AMH community outreach director Susan J. Sefton said the hospital "is grateful for

the Psi Iota Xi membership for sponsoring the program. Their sponsorship will help children and their parents participate in a constructive, educational activity that will help while they're in the hospital."

Kate's Kart was founded in 2008 in memory of Baby Kate, who suffered a chromosomal disorder known as Tetralogy of Fallot with Pulmonary Atresia that affected her heart. After four open heart surgeries, five heart catheterizations, and over 150 days in the hospital, Baby Kate died at the age of 18 months.

One of Baby Kate's favorite activities in the hospital was to have her parents and others read to her. When the infant died her parents, Krista and Andy Layman, decided to start

a rolling book cart in the pediatric unit of the hospital. The goal was that all books would be new and children could keep the books they selected.

Now, nearly three years later, Kate's Kart is serving pediatric and newborn intensive care units, emergency rooms, and various specialty clinics and waiting rooms at 16 hospitals in northeast Indiana, including Adams Memorial Hospital.

Tax deductible donations for Kate's Kart are accepted to assist in purchasing new books for children. Locally, the Next Page coffee shop on North Second Street in Decatur has a box at which individuals may place donations for the program. More information about the organization is available online at [www.KatesKart.org](http://www.KatesKart.org).

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