

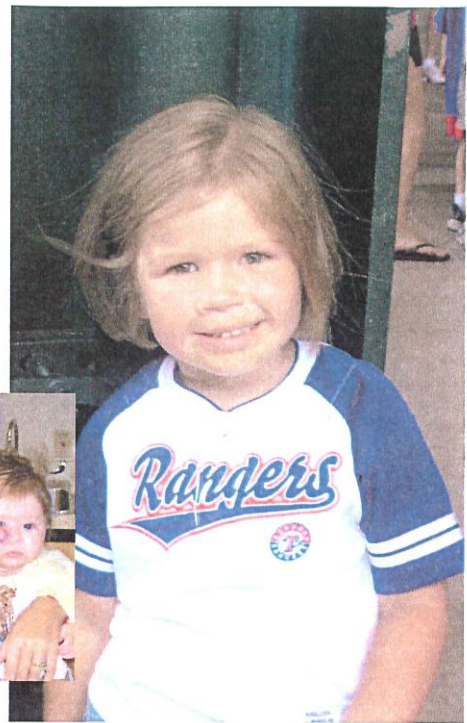
# An Evening of Fun and Fundraising

This exciting event benefits a foundation that has helped local children and their families affected by birthmarks.

THE 4TH ANNUAL North Texas Vascular Birthmarks Foundation Benefit will be held on August 10, 2007 from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Speedway Club, a spectacular nine-story structure overlooking Turn 1 at the Texas Motor Speedway.

The benefit began after Nicole Bolinger of Corinth was born with a compound hemangioma (two tumors, one above the skin and one below the skin, consisting of an abnormal amount of elevated blood vessels that grow rapidly) at the corner of her right eye and nose.

After visits to numerous area doctors with no success and little hopeful information, Nicole's parents, Brian and Natalie Bolinger, began to look outside of the metroplex for physicians who specialized in vascular birthmarks. They found the Vascular Birthmarks Foundation (VBF) in Latham, NY ([birthmark.org](http://birthmark.org)). VBF founder Linda Rozell-Shannon put them in touch with Dr. Milton Waner, an internationally recognized expert and pioneer in the treatment of hemangiomas and vascular birthmarks. After several operations, Dr. Waner was able to completely



remove both hemangiomas with little scarring.

The Bolinger's were so grateful to the VBF that in 2003 they asked friends and relatives to make donations to the foundation. In 2004, the couple began an event to raise money. Last year, the event was the largest single fundraiser for the VBF.

The couple never expected the popularity of their

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event. "We just wanted to have some fun and raise money for a fantastic organization," said Natalie. "This year, we expect about 500 people to attend. We have been really blessed to have help from a lot of wonderful people."

Through the event, the Bolinger's have met other North Texas families with similar experiences that share a desire to support the VBF. The families all work together to pull off such a large event.

Cleve and Stephanie Ryan's daughter Kennedy, 6, of Denton, was born with a port wine stain (a flat purplish birthmark on the skin) on her face. Kennedy has undergone numerous laser surgeries to reduce the coloring of the birthmark. The port wine stain also caused Kennedy to have glaucoma for which she needed eye surgery.

Brooke Slusser, 4, was born with a vascular malformation on her temple. Her parent's, Paul and Kim of Corinth, have

taken her to the Vascular Birthmarks Institute of New York for sclerotherapy treatments.

Similar to Nicole, Hannah Rauschuber, 2, has a hemangioma. Hannah's hemangioma is on her eyelid and her parents, Stephanie and Dave, in conjunction with their doctor have been able to treat her vascular birthmark with oral steroids.

Several local businesses have sponsored the event each year so that all of the money received at the fundraiser can be donated to the VBF to help others affected by birthmarks. Sponsorships are still needed for this year's event. View available sponsorships at [vbf-texas.com](http://vbf-texas.com).

Similar to last year's hugely successful event, this year's benefit includes dinner, a silent auction, raffles, and Texas No Limit Hold'em where one lucky player will win a trip to a Las Vegas casino including airfare for two and a hotel stay. New this year is live entertainment provided by Random Axis Band, an eight-member band featuring both male and female vocalists and the most formidable rhythm section in the Metroplex. Their play list includes contemporary hits, classic 60's Rock, 70's Disco, 80's Pop Rock, Soul, and more.

Join others from your community to enjoy this exciting event. The cost to attend is \$50 per person. Registrations and donations can be made online at [vbf-texas.com](http://vbf-texas.com). ♦

## 4TH ANNUAL NORTH TEXAS VASCULAR BIRTHMARKS FOUNDATION BENEFIT

August 10, 2007

6:30 PM - 11:00 PM

The Speedway Club at Texas Motor Speedway

Tickets - \$50 per person, purchase at [vbf-texas.com](http://vbf-texas.com) or 940.595.1800

Hotel Accommodations - Doral Tesoro Hotel and Golf Club, [doral-tesoro.com](http://doral-tesoro.com) or 817.961.0800