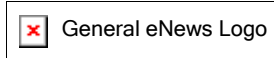


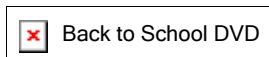
donna.dedario

From: BOUNCE_2434_12296_76@renetmailatl.blackbaudhost.com on behalf of enewsletter@starlight.org
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2009 6:06 PM
To: donna.dedario
Subject: Starlight eNews September 2009

Volume IV, September 2009



Starlight Helps Children and Teens Prepare for 'Back to School' No Matter the Time of Year



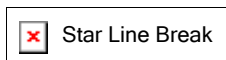
Summer is ending, and children are preparing to head back to school. At this time of year we often think about family life returning to “normal”; family vacations are over, and the daily routine of the school year is about to begin. Many children feel out of touch, haven't seen friends in a long time and are nervous about returning to school. For Starlight families with seriously ill children, these are concerns that can plague them no matter the time of year. Children with chronic and life-threatening illnesses frequently miss school for weeks, even months at a time. Particularly when this is a new experience for a family, they might appreciate some guidance and support to help ensure their child feels confident and ready to go back to school. This is where Starlight can help!

Starlight has a documentary-style DVD called *Back to School* that helps teens and pre-teens prepare to return to school after a long absence due to a serious illness or injury. The video features interviews with real teens with cancer, irritable bowel disease, cystic fibrosis, heart transplants, burn injuries and other disorders. They offer their stories and advice on:

- School routine – attendance, homework, academic expectations
- Social life – dating, fitting in, catching up socially
- Being different – teasing, staring, rumors and gossip
- Limitations – determining what you can/can't do, getting involved in activities, getting back to “normal”

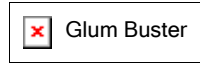
The DVD also features documentary-style videos that provide tips for communicating with your doctor, surviving hospital life and coping with chemotherapy.

Back to School addresses themes experienced by all teens who are attempting reintegration to a “normal” adolescent life, so if someone you know could use some assistance in this area, [order your free copy from Starlight today!](#)



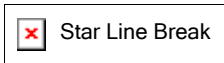
A New Video Game That Makes Supporting Starlight Easy!

About four years ago, two things happened. Justin Leingang started building Charityware, a brand new model for integrating charitable donations into video gaming, and two, pegged Starlight Children's Foundation as his first charity recipient. It's taken him since then to complete and launch his first charityware game, Glum Buster, a downloadable video game, created by [CosMind](#), for Windows PC platforms. Glum Buster is a dreamlike action adventure game, and it's free to download and free to play.



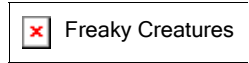
However, players can choose to pay any amount they want for the game. Charityware establishes a structure where paying players are "playing against" Justin and with each round a higher percentage of the donation comes to Starlight. Players can even pay after they've downloaded and played the game as many times as they like. Each month, CosMind collects the charitable donations and sends them to Starlight to, as Justin says, "help bust some glum in real life."

Try this new game and support Starlight while you're playing! [Download it today.](#)



Are You Freaky?

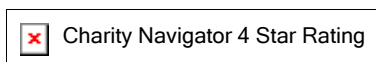
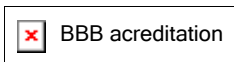
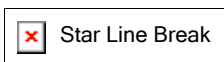
Abandon Interactive Entertainment is partnering with Starlight to help raise awareness for our cause, support children's hospitals nationwide and promote its new video game, [Freaky Creatures](#). Freaky Creatures is an online creature-building and battling game available in stores now. Abandon is donating a percentage of proceeds from its sales of all Freaky Creatures games, products and merchandise with a minimum guaranteed donation of \$30,000.



Families and gamers are invited to experience Freaky Creatures for themselves, and if you live in Pennsylvania or Maryland, you can enjoy free demo stations, giveaways and prizes at participating Simon Mall locations in the coming days (see list below). Starlight change collection boxes will be on hand for attendees to contribute to Starlight, and Abandon will match the proceeds from change donations up to a total of \$15,000.

Abandon has also just brokered a deal with the world's largest regional theme park company Six Flags. Freaky Creatures will be showcased in a retail and promotional partnership in 12 different Six Flags theme parks nationwide with hopes to gain even more exposure for Starlight and our [Grea Escapes](#) family activities program.

Shopping Center Name	City/State	Location	Date
Oxford Valley Mall	Langhorne, PA	Sears Court	8/21/2009
Franklin Mills	Philadelphia, PA	Grand Court	8/22/2009
Lakeforest Mall	Gaithersburg, MD	Sears Court	8/29/2009
St. Charles Towne Center	Waldorf, MD	In Front of Old Navy	8/30/2009



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