

TO MEDIA:

CONTACT PERSON: Robin Jennings

Director, Communications

Excelsa Health

724-837-1781 TEL

724-516-4483 CELL

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ELECTRONIC PHOTO AVAILABLE (rjennings@excelsahealth.org)

CAPTION: Eli Holm's Curing Cancerosaurus brightens day for cancer patients, Including his mom.

CANCEROSAURUS HOPE-FILLED EXPRESSION OF SON'S LOVE

GREENSBURG, PA, July 24, 2010 ... If Eli Holm had his way, cancer would go the way of the dinosaur - into extinction. The 9-year-old third grader at Franklin Regional's Sloan Elementary School is doing his part through art to challenge the predator who is preying on his mother's health.

Eli created a paper mache Curing Cancerosaurus in art class this spring. Now that school is out for the Murrysville youngster, the 3-dimensional pink and purple omnivore is on display at the Arnold Palmer Pavilion, a UPMC Cancer Center and joint venture with Excelsa Health at Mountain View Medical Park, where his mother, Jessica, is in active treatment for breast cancer.

The Holm family, including dad David, and Eli's siblings - Owen, 61/2; Ben, 5, and Aidah, 2 - also joined the campaign to end cancer this spring as participants in Franklin Regional's Relay for Life event for the American Cancer Society, and Pittsburgh's Race For the Cure held each Mother's Day to benefit Susan G. Komen Foundation in fighting breast cancer. The family's team name: Racing 4 Stage 4 Mommas.

A nurse and a runner, Jessica Holm is midway through a master's program in nursing education at IUP. She's taking a break from studies while she recovers.

Eli's project has generated much positive comment among cancer center staff and patients. He says, "I just want to help people find a way to cure my mom."