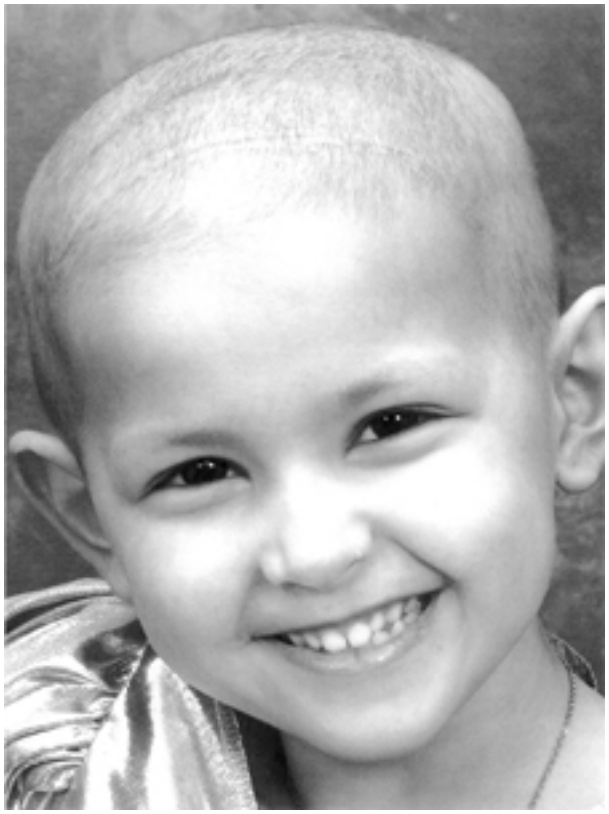

Isabella “Bella” Stanfield of MetroWest remains happy and positive throughout her cancer treatment.

Isabella “Bella” Stanfield, 4, loves karate, swimming and c

Full of personality, wit and charm, Bella was quick to make friends at her school, Children’s Lighthouse c

“She is so, so, so sweet,” said Deanna Gustafson, center director at Children’s Lighthouse. “She is bubb

One year ago this spring, Bella fell at the playground. That is when the doctors found the cancer. With b

“It was not a big fall,” Luciana said. “She was just running, and she fell. But she cried so much they thou

Bella quickly began treatment with Vincent F. Giusti, M.D., chair of the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology D

“This tumor is very rare in this age group,” Giusti said. “It most often occurs in teenagers.”

Bella went on to have three biopsies, and, in late September 2011, she underwent surgery to remove al

“Everything was really, really custom-made for her,” Luciana said. “It can extend to the maximum and ca

“Isabella is always happy and outgoing, no matter what,” Giusti said. “She is tolerating the therapy very

Bella also found strength through her dancing at N.Y.C. Dance in Ocoee, where she has attended since

“[Bella] told me, ‘I need to get strong again so I can go back to dancing,’” Luciana said.

“She is just always that outgoing kid,” Kristin said. “Any time we talk to anybody about her, they are alwa

Recently, Bella made her wish come true, when she returned for a dance class, even during her treatme
“She did really come to dance with her walker,” Kristin said. “She was even hopping on one foot. She dic

“She gives me strength,” Luciana said. “She didn’t care that she had no hair like the other kids; there she

People of Faith Lutheran Church and Children’s Lighthouse have also been tremendous sources of supp
Church, child care and staff members have offered the family unremitting prayers and emotional suppor

“We have deep faith that God will heal our child,” Luciana said. “However, we could not have walked thr

“If it happened to me, I would want someone to help me,” Deanna said, fighting back tears. “I would wan

“We could not have done all this without the community,” Luciana said. “I need to find a way to help the

Luciana hopes to one day form a foundation and help Bella encourage other patients who are diagnosec

“She can inspire them,” she said. “She can say, ‘Look at me, I had cancer, and I made it.’ She can help

MetroWest resident Isabella “Bella” Stanfield (center) receives support from Deanna Gustafson (left) and

Looking to the future, Luciana also dreams of watching her daughter reach her full potential.
“I want to see her grow,” she said. “I dream about seeing her as a teenager, really tall with long hair. I wa

“It doesn’t matter,” Luciana added, about Bella’s surgery scar. “She can wear it proud. She is always goi

As for Bella, she hopes to soon ride a bike and to one day help children like herself.

“This week, she told me, ‘Mommy, I want to be a doctor. I want to help the other kids,’” Luciana said. “Th

For more information about Isabella Stanfield, visit www.helpisabella.com on the Web.