



KATIE DECUBELLIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
P.O. BOX 3188
NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882-0796
www.kdmf.org

“her life still shines...”

SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER

2011

Over the past 12 years the Katie DeCubellis Memorial Foundation has given away more than \$75,000 in scholarships throughout the state of Rhode Island. Here are a few of our recipients who embody the spirit and mission of the KDMF.

The Scholarships they have received range from the following-

KDMF Memorial Scholarship which is awarded to a Narragansett resident to further his/her education in a technical or 2/4 year college program. This is the only scholarship which is renewable for up the three years provided the recipient meets the required criteria for renewal.

Make a Difference which provides will provide two \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors about to

further their education in a technical program or in a two- or four-year college program. Students must be CURRENT active members in their school's SADD, youth-to-youth, natural helpers or other school organization specifically targeted to substance abuse prevention and/or good-decision making and must maintain good academic standing.

Nobody's Glory- Students must be “that” person who always steps up and gets the job done! This is awarded to the student who makes his or her school a better place because of their efforts while maintaining good academic standing.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and their participation in our fund raising events over these past 12 years. We could not have done this without you!!! Thanks...



KDMF Road Race

The sky opened and rain fell for the first time in the 12-year history of the Katie DeCubellis Memorial Road Race, but despite the wet weather, hundreds of runners and walkers made the race yet another success.

Over 400 people gathered at Narragansett High School on June 12 to celebrate Katie's life and show support for the work the Foundation continues to provide to various schools and communities nationwide.

Participants began to arrive early in the morning, registering for the race, purchasing raffle tickets and perusing the large selection of IllumiNITE reflective running gear.

The race began at 9:30 a.m. beneath heavy clouds, but the rain didn't hold off for long, as it began to downpour shortly after the sound of the starting gun. The heavy rain didn't slow the runners as the top finisher, 20-year-old Tim Calcagni of Bradford, clocked in at 16:42. 32-year-old Natalie Fish of

Wakefield took the women's top time, finishing the 5k in 20:08.

After crossing the finish line, runners and walkers dried off in the gymnasium, where they enjoyed hot dogs, pizza, Brickley's Ice Cream and fruit and relaxed any sore muscles with complimentary massages.

Prior to announcing the names and times of the top-runners, John and Meg thanked everyone for their continued support of the Katie DeCubellis Memorial Foundation, which has enabled the Foundation to award scholarships and spread their message to communities and schools nationwide. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all the runners, walkers, sponsors and volunteers who participated in this year's road race.

LAX Garden Clean Up

It was cool, overcast and breezy in late April – perfect for a spring cleanup of the Garden of Hope and Remembrance at Christofaro Park in Narragansett.

Volunteers from the 2011 Narragansett High School girls' lacrosse program came armed with rakes and gardening tools. For more than two hours they pulled weeds, raked out bushes, picked up branches and hauled away brush and debris, giving the garden a fresh new look for the spring.

John and Meg DeCubellis were on hand for the clean-up effort. The team agreed to the project at the beginning of the season and thought it was a great way to give back to the community. At the half-way point in the season, and with the weather finally cooperating, this weekend was the perfect time to make it happen.



KDMF Writing Contest

The Katie DeCubellis Memorial Foundation recently sponsored its 8th annual statewide writing contest. High School students from throughout the state were encouraged to submit short stories, essays and personal narratives on the ever-relevant topic of bullying.

For the second consecutive year, professor and acclaimed author, Thomas Cobb, judged the contest's 161 entries. Cobb's novel *Crazy Heart* became a hit motion picture and helped actor Jeff Bridges earn his first Oscar.

"I was impressed at the sympathies to the bullied, and also to a kind of truth that goes far beyond the conventional and expected," Cobb reflected on the entries. "All of the entrants were impressive and deserving of real congratulations."

Winners were announced at the 8th annual awards ceremony that was held on Monday, May 23 at Warwick Mall. Laura Claurizio, broadcast journalist, producer and author, emceed the event, while Meg DeCubellis, as well as KDMF Board President and Chair of the contest committee, Joel Chase, presented monetary awards to three best entries.

Patria Hernandez of Middletown earned first place honors with her essay "A Voice for Those Who Have Been Silenced." Second place was awarded to Allie Thibault of Newport with her entry "The Introduction to What is Real." Rounding out the top-three was Rishabh Sharma of North Providence, who submitted "A Boy's Journey Without a Father." Each of the three winners received monetary prizes for their winning submissions.



All of the winning entries were displayed on professionally created posters at Warwick Mall for a week following the ceremony, allowing shoppers to read the winning submissions and gain further knowledge about bullying, KDMF and its mission.

The KDMF congratulates all of the winners and thanks all of the students who participated in the contest. The contest has effectively furthered the KDMF's goals of helping others, improving educational opportunities for youth and promoting public awareness on the dangers of substance abuse and drunk driving.

A special thank you to professor and acclaimed author Thomas Cobb, who judged the final entries and selected this year's winners. The KDMF would also like to thank Laura Clarizio, who was the emcee of the awards ceremony and for her continuous work for the foundation.

KDMF Speaking Engagements

Speaking engagements were curtailed this year after a banner 2010 year of traveling to various schools throughout the east coast. Although we love the opportunity to address both students and adults alike, we felt that we needed to give ourselves a much deserved break in the action this past year.

Our longest standing forum has been at Pilgrim High School in Warwick, RI, so that was a must! Upon finishing the assembly, as they have in the past 11 years, the administration gave us their dates for 2012 which is great planning...thanks! Other assemblies were held at Davies Vocational and Technical School in Lincoln, RI and at Christ the King Church at the University of Rhode Island, for the confirmation candidates.



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THE OFFICIAL KDMF PAGE

**If you are interested in
serving on a committee
or being a KDMF board member
Please email us at www.kdmf.org**

HELP US GO GREEN

As we try to become more “**GREEN**”, we would like to e-mail as many newsletters as possible to cut down on the printing and mailing of paper newsletters.

PLEASE...Send us your e-mail address through our website www.kdmf.org . Thanks!

Are you looking for a Senior Project or Eagle or Gold Scout Project?

Please contact the KDMF for some ideas.

Upcoming Event



13th Annual KDMF Road Race

June 9, 2012



... her life still shines