



**8th Annual  
Road Race  
June 10, 2007**

**8th Annual  
KDMF Golf Tour-  
nament  
and Auction  
September 17,**



**Fall/Winter NEWSLETTER**

**2006**

***Letter from the President, Joel S. Chase***

As the second President of the KDMF, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have contributed financially and with your time and spirit to make the Katie DeCubellis Memorial Foundation a success. On the 7-year anniversary of the KDMF, I am pleased to announce that we have successfully furthered our mission by promoting youth leadership, supporting education and generating public awareness of the dangers of drunk driving and substance abuse. In particular, we have kept Katie's memory and spirit alive by the following accomplishments to date:

1. Provided almost 50,000 scholarship awards, prizes and donations.
2. Spoke to approximately 60,000 students and parents to generate awareness of the dangers of drunk driving and substance abuse
3. Distributed approximately 50,000 bracelets and up to 40,000 bumper stickers as reminders of the deadly consequences of poor decision-making
4. Motivated more than 130 students to think and write about important topics such as decision making, friendship and the value of life through our annual writing

competition

5. Sponsored youth leadership retreats involving approximately 43 students, representing 9 schools, while focusing on social norms, the freedom to make choices and mentoring in substance abuse prevention
6. Developed an award-winning video collection entitled "**The Deadly Consequences Of Drunk Driving**"; distributed nationally and made available to high schools, colleges, universities, libraries, community groups and law enforcement agencies
7. Sponsored Bobby Petrocelli, an incredible speaker, who made a number of presentations that were extremely moving for high school students throughout the state.

As always, we appreciate your commitment to the Foundation and could not have realized these accomplishments without you. We continue to look to you for ongoing support to reach our long-term goals.

Together, we are definitely making a difference!

*Joel S. Chase  
President*

***Meet our Junior Board Members***

Junior Board members of KDMF attend meetings, events, and add a special insight into the lives of teens in our community. As our newest board members, Kyle, Keri and Alex participate in discussion on new programs, vote on issues at hand, and enlighten the board to ways in which KDMF can become active in programs at the high school level.



One of our new Junior Board Members is a Pilgrim High School junior, **Keri Castro**. Keri enjoys taking karate and playing tennis. She often volunteers at her karate academy and next year will be captain of the Girls' Tennis Team. Keri applied to be a Junior Board Member because she wants to help other teens make the right decisions and be responsible.



**Kyle DeCubellis** is one of our Junior Board Members this year. Kyle is Katie's younger brother and is a senior at Narragansett High School. He enjoys surfing, music, and tennis. Kyle will be the captain of his tennis team in the spring. Kyle is currently applying to colleges with hopes of pursuing a career in engineering.

Another one of our newest Junior Board Members is **Alex Issa**. Alex attends North Kingstown High School, where he writes for the school newspaper. He enjoys sports of all kinds and plays tennis for his school. He wanted to be a Junior Board Member because he feels he can help teens make smart decisions.



## 7th Annual Katie DeCubellis Golf Tournament and Auction

The 7th Annual Katie DeCubellis Golf Tournament and Auction returned to Valley Country Club on Monday, September 18, 2006. Many improvements have been made at Valley. The course and facilities were in tip top condition. After a delicious lunch, all 36 foursomes teed off at 12:30. The golfers enjoyed the event, especially when they were pampered with special refreshments during the day.



At the conclusion of the competition, players and guests were treated to a delicious buffet dinner. Prizes were awarded to the top four teams

Then the auction began. Over thirty-five auction items were up for bids in either the silent or live auction. Golfers and their guests had trouble choosing from the gloriously made themed baskets in the silent auction. Approximately 75 raffle prizes were also awarded.

Many thanks go to the volunteers who help out with all aspects of this event, including the raffle and auction preparation. Jeff Chase would especially like to thank Maria Cook, Barbara Pellegrino, and his wife Cathy Chase for their assistance in the auction this year. Deb Harig, once again, handled the raffle with expertise. Thanks so much!

The entire golf committee is to be commended for their fine work. We look forward to next year's tournament which has been scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2007.



## Garden of Hope Update

Anyone stopping by the Christofaro Park in Narragansett's north end will see that work is well underway at the Garden of Hope and Remembrance. A large patio area has been poured and a sitting wall has been constructed on the northern end. It will be faced with memorial bricks donated by supporters of the KDMF to remember loved ones, births, and special events.

The first phase of plantings is well underway and includes: wild blueberries, native grasses and a Rosebud tree with heart shaped leaves. In the spring we will fill in with additional perennials, hydrangeas and other flowering shrubs. Upon completion of the garden beds and sitting wall, there will be a dedication to thank all of those involved and open the garden to the public.

To date, we have been blessed with endless volunteer help and supplies and would like to thank the following people & companies: Alan McLaughlin, Susan Saunders, Sue Gordon, Dave Napier & Dave Zielinski from TruStone, John Timpson & Timpson Sand & Gravel, Arnold Lumber, Mark Cullion and Cullion Concrete, Chuck NeJame, Dean Palumbo & Airport Nursery, and Norman & Maria Cook. Special thanks to Barry Fontaine, Jay Winter and the Town of Narragansett for their support and help with this endeavor.

Although this will be an on-going project, we will be placing our initial memorial brick order by the beginning of the New Year. If you would like to be part of the first phase of the garden then send your brick form in soon.

Thanks once again to all of you for support with this project, it is greatly appreciated! For the complete ProJo article by Dave McCarthy, visit [www.kdmf.com/news](http://www.kdmf.com/news)



## **KDMF Receives Grant from Cox Cable**

Recently, Cox Cable graciously awarded KDMF with a generous grant including \$25,000 in public service advertising followed by a \$1000 donation. At the Cox film studios in Warwick, RI, John DeCubellis filmed a public service announcement which ran during the summer months on all of Cox's television stations. We received numerous calls that the p.s.a. was well received and viewed by thousands of people. Thanks to Amy Horan, Ana Paiz and everyone at Cox for choosing KDMF to carry out this much needed community service.

To view this public service announcement, check our website [www.kdmf.org](http://www.kdmf.org)



*Pictured Above (L-R): Ana Paiz from Cox Communications' John DeCubellis, Meg DeCubellis and Senator Jim Sheehan*

## **KDMF Donates Funds to Rhody Rides**

Last year, the University of Rhode Island developed a program to reduce drunk driving in the community aptly named Rhody Rides. This student-run volunteer organization provided over 275 rides to URI students during their spring 2006 pilot program alone.

After hearing about how successful this program has been in reducing the number of impaired drivers on the road, the Katie DeCubellis Memorial Foundation donated \$5,000 to help with funding for one year. The money will finance the purchase of T-shirts for Rhody Rides volunteers and gasoline for the program's vehicles for the 2006-2007 academic year.

"We are extremely happy and privileged to be able to contribute to a program that is, and will continue, to definitely, without question, make a positive difference in our community", said John DeCubellis, Executive Director of the Foundation.

The KDMF is proud to partner with this organization to do all we can to make our roads safer. Said DeCubellis, "Together, we can help save lives in this community."

## **Legislative Grant**

Once again, Katie's foundation is the proud recipient of a \$1500.00 Legislative Grant. Our thanks go to Senator Jim Sheehan who has been an advocate of the foundation for many years. When asked about the grant, Senator Sheehan remarked "The foundation's program...is saving lives."

For the complete Providence Journal article, go to our website [www.kdmf.org/news](http://www.kdmf.org/news)

### **Emails Received From Friends of the KDMF Foundation**

*As a teacher, I was deeply moved by your presentation. So moved, in fact, that I have not stopped talking about you and Katie since! Being a teacher, I have been touched by tragedy too many times to count. It is the only thing I hate about my job. As a parent, I can't begin to imagine the hurt you are feeling, and I am inspired and in awe of your strength. May God bless you and your family. The message you are sharing, although difficult, is very important. Please keep sharing it! I am forever touched by you and Katie! If there is ever anything I can do to help, feel free to contact me!*

*I was lucky enough last spring, to have Mr. and Mrs. DeCubellis come to my Spring Convention in Rhode Island and talk to us about their daughter Katie. I do have to say that it was the most moving experience I have ever had and it has had such a drastic impact on my life. Not only do I think about it each and every day, but I wear the bracelet in Katie's honor. It made me believe that every decision I make has consequences that not only affect me, but my friends, family and even others that I do not know. As a result, I was wondering how I could get Mr. and Mrs. DeCubellis to come and speak at my school. I feel as if it made such an impact on my life and I would like to share this with the other students in my school.*

*Dear Mr. and Mrs. DeCubellis*

*My son is in the midst of his 2 week driver's ed. course at CCRJ. Last night when I picked him up, he told me he'd watched a video about a local girl who was killed by a drunk driver. Thanks to all you have done, I know Katie's name very well. I know your story and I see bumper stickers with her name on many cars. When I asked him, "was it Katie DeCubellis?", he answered me with a surprising "yes!" He wondered how I would know that. Anyway, my point is...he was VERY touched and moved by the video. And he is very aware of the dangers and repercussions of underage drinking / driving drunk. I believe that Katie's story will have a lasting impact on his decision making in the future. Thank you very much*