

Councilman Dan Panico Celebrates the Successes of "Can Tabs for Kids"

posted on 6/14/2013 12:29:41 PM

June 13, 2013



Farmingville, NY - Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico attended the closing ceremony at William Floyd Elementary School for the third year of Can Tabs for Kids with the classes from K-5 that collected the most can tabs. Gershow recycling matched the year's total and to date this program has raised over \$5000 through 4,002,000 aluminum can tabs. It is most worthy to note that the Town of Brookhaven continues to collect the can tabs throughout the year at all of the public locations listed below.

"This is a wonderful program to benefit a very worthy cause," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "Maria Marks is a remarkable young girl from Shirley who beat cancer and now raises money to support cancer research through Stony Brook Children's Hospital's Sunrise Fund."

"Can Tabs for Kids" began with an idea in 2010 from 11 year old Maria Marks. Maria was born with hepatoblastoma which was a cancerous tumor on her liver. With 20% chance of survival, Maria (pictured above) began chemotherapy treatments at 2 weeks old until she was five months old. She beat all odds and is now 10 years in remission. Maria has suffered a hearing loss because of chemo treatments and is doing fine. When she was in the third grade, she noticed the school announcing fundraisers for diabetes awareness and for the victim's of the earthquake in Haiti, but there were no fundraisers for childhood cancer awareness. Maria wanted to give back and help children with cancer like her. She brought that to the attention of school officials and at that time, her parents, Peter and Nancy Marks, got involved in the Sunrise Fund at Stony Brook.

Maria's dream is to have everyone in Suffolk County collect can tabs to help children with cancer. Please help Maria's dream come true. All proceeds will benefit the Sunrise fund at Stony Brook University, an organization that raises funds and awareness about childhood cancer. Town of Brookhaven will continue and expand the effort started by the students from the William Floyd Elementary Schools. Collection bins will continue to be located at the following locations around the Town of Brookhaven:

- Rose Caracappa** 739 Route 25A, Mount Sinai, NY 11766
- Mastic Recreation Center** 15 Herkimer Street, Mastic, NY 11950
- Centereach Pool** Wireless Road, Centereach, NY 11720

Holtsville Pool and Ecology Site Buckley Road, Holtsville, NY 11742

Mastic Athletic Complex 300 Mastic Beach Rd, Mastic Beach, NY

Mastic Beach Nutrition Center 369 Neighborhood Rd, Mastic, NY

Town Hall First Floor Lobby, Second and Third Floor One Independence Hill, Farmingville NY

Highway Administration 1140 Old Town Road, Coram, NY 11727

Parks Administration 286 Hawkins Rd, Centereach, NY 11720

Henrietta Acampora Recreation Center 39 Montauk Highway. Blue Point NY

Calabro Airport 135 Dawn Drive, Shirley, NY 11967

Brookhaven Animal Shelter- 300 Horseblock Ad, Brookhaven, NY

Shoreham Nutrition Center Defense Hill Road, Shoreham, NY

For more information please go to our website at www.brookhaven.org or you can call Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico's office at (631) 451-6502.

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