

Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico Launches the "Can Tabs For Kids" Program

posted on 3/27/2013 12:15:58 PM

March 26, 2013



Farmingville, NY - Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico with the Marks family launching the "Can Tabs for Kids" program today at Town of Brookhaven's Town Hall.

"This is a wonderful program to benefit a very worthy cause," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "Maria Marks is a survivor with an unbreakable spirit who has made a remarkable impact at only 11 years of age. I thank her and her family for working so diligently to help others."

"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 two 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 victims 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 (seen above), got involved in the Sunrise Fund at Stony Brook University Medical Center.

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 Medical Center, an organization that raises funds and awareness about childhood cancer. The Town of Brookhaven will continue and expand the effort started by the students from the William Floyd Elementary Schools. To date they have collected over 3 million can tabs. Collection bins will be located at the following locations around the Town of Brookhaven:

Rose Caracappa Senior Center 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 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.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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