

BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM

Raising funds and awareness in support of individuals living with autism spectrum disorders and their families, with a focus on research, education and programming.

Bailey's Team is helping to put the pieces together!

FALL 2014 Newsletter – Prepared by Sammi Robertson

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the twelfth edition of our BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM newsletter! We have included updates on our fundraising success, our life with Bailey... his successes and challenges, our upcoming event schedule, as well as other plans for the future. We thank you for your continued interest and support and hope you enjoy our newsletter.



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BAILEY'S TEAM RAISES A RECORD BREAKING \$35,000 AT 10TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT!

BAILEY'S TEAM CELEBRATES 10 YEARS AT ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT WITH LOTS OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND ONE VERY SPECIAL SURPRISE GUEST...

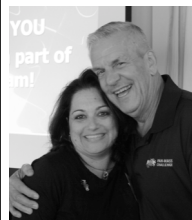
On June 22nd, Bailey's Team once again welcomed a full field of golfers to Crystal Lake Golf Club for our 10th annual charity golf tournament in support of individuals living with autism and their families.

We paid tribute to our golfers, sponsors and volunteers, specifically those who have been with us for 9 and 10 years!

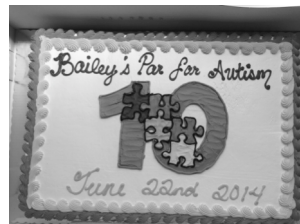
Bailey joined us for our dinner program and entertained the guests with a brief (and unexpected) rap song... you simply can't give that kid a mic!!

But the real surprise guest was funny man and Boston's own... **LENNY CLARKE!**

We first met Lenny Clarke in 2006 when he agreed to participate in a special event in support of autism. He has been a friend ever since and we were delighted to learn that he would be able to celebrate with us at our 10th anniversary golf event! [Please see more details about the day on page 5.]



Sammi Robertson
& Lenny Clarke



Special 10 year anniversary
celebration cake

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 6TH ANNUAL WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014
AT CBS SCENE - PATRIOT PLACE
Foxboro, MA**

\$60.00 per person

**Enjoy a variety of wine, spirits & beer
selections presented by:**

**ROUTE 106 WINES & SPIRITS
Mansfield, MA**

**Event will also include a Savory Menu, Cash
Bar, Silent Auction, Raffle, Annual iPad Appeal,
Special Presentation... and more!**



WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR OUR 4TH ANNUAL

Bailey's Run for Autism

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2015
Foxboro, MA**

Information about this event will be on our
website by November 1, 2014.



For more information about BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM, please visit www.baileysteam.org

A Message from the President

FAMILY UPDATE

Dear Friends,

Another great year... 2014 brought us more milestone celebrations including our 5th annual Education Series along with our 10th annual Bailey's Par Charity Golf Tournament! We continue to thrive raising funds in support of our mission allowing us to support important programs for people with autism and their families. Please read on to hear about our events, our celebrations and a little bit about our very special Bailey!

* * *

Bailey will be 15 on October 2nd and entered his first year at North Attleboro High School! What else is there to say? This has taken a lot of time to digest! ☺ It seems like only yesterday we were receiving his diagnosis 13 years ago although the years of tremendous struggle (thankfully) become a bit more of a blur with each year that passes.

Bailey is doing wonderfully. His use of appropriate language continues to slowly increase and even some *inappropriate* (teenage) language has shown it's ugly face; however, very typical... and very exciting! This is the first year that he and Rachel are in the same school as she is a senior and he is a freshman. Also due to Rachel's involvement in the Best Pals program at the High School supporting individuals of all abilities, she often visits his in class and at lunch while helping to support his classmates. He enjoys seeing his sister and it has provided her the opportunity to see him in a new environment that is very difficult for all of us to imagine. Fortunately, when it is time for Rachel to graduate, Spencer will arrive at the High School just in time next September to keep an eye on his big brother.

Bailey is now 5 feet, 2 inches tall and taller than mom (not hard to do), however, he will still walk while snuggling out to the bus every morning. Although this may not seem like typical or appropriate teenage behavior, it pleases me to no end to know that I cannot embarrass him! After all, he loves us all very much and is not afraid to show it... something we wish from all of our children!

This year, our new adventures with Bailey included preparing and sending him to his first dance at the Middle School. Although he went stag, he did spend most of his time with his best girl – friend Celya; and although she went with a date, she spent most of her time with Bailey (see pictured below).

Another adventure was a very special surfing event in Narragansett, Rhode Island. "Surfers Healing" is a spectacular event developed by a father of a son with autism to support individuals living with autism and their families. He created a surfing program that is now giving children with autism an opportunity to learn to surf on the waters of more than 15 different beaches throughout the United States creating a wonderful sensory treat as many children with autism enjoy the water. For some, it creates a sensory balance and affects a child's behavior and disposition throughout the day (see pictures of Bailey enjoying the surf on page 5).

We also enjoyed our weekends as well as two full weeks in August in Chatham on Cape Cod. Bailey enjoys the Cape Cod House and although he doesn't spend much of his time at the beach or outside, he does enjoy this alternate setting with the family, at restaurants and especially his frequent visits to the Hyannis Toys 'R Us!!

As I've mentioned, his birthday is a bittersweet time for us, as we must remind him of the day and his age. He does become excited that it is approaching and he knows what to expect in the way of gifts and a celebration of some kind. He continues to enjoy childlike videos and loves reciting the same words or phrases over and over again. He also enjoys making us all recite his favorite words and sound effects. He still loves music and Mario games and plush dolls. He is almost always happy – but our biggest challenge continues to be the sudden loss of Internet service at home, at the Cape, in the car and in the community. If our Internet service goes down intermittently and Bailey cannot access the web, we are all at risk of his very loud outbursts or tantrums.

As Bailey gets older and continues to mature, we look forward to more wonderful adventures with him, while also always preparing ourselves for what lies ahead relative to his autism.



Rachel, Bailey & Spencer
At Special Olympics



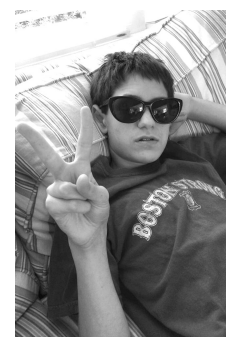
Celya & Bailey
at the 8th grade dance



Bailey & Celya
very romantic!



Elijah & Bailey
Middle School Graduation



Peace!
(at the Cape)

FAMILY UPDATE

[Continued from page 2]

As I mentioned, Rachel is a High School Senior and visiting her colleges of choice... all relatively close to home. She continues to work hard in school and works at the Gymnastics Academy of Boston and also assists children with special needs including her brother... a very exciting time for Rachel!

Spencer is in 8th grade and continues to excel in all of his classes. He celebrated becoming a Bar Mitzvah on May 31st of this year with his friends and family (pictured at right) and enjoyed graduating from his Hebrew School program...also a very exciting time for Spencer!

Lindsay, Brent & Georgie welcomed *Bernadette Lynne* on April 16th and what a beautiful baby she is – sleeps well, eats well and smiles all of the time! Lindsay and her family spent some special time with us at the Cape and are moving to a new home in Philly in October. It seems that we are all experiencing all good things and have exciting times ahead!

Doug and I are enjoying it all and happy to report that everyone is happy and healthy and doing just fine!

We continue to appreciate your ongoing dedication, commitment and generosity and we thank you for your help supporting individuals living with autism and their families!

Sammi Robertson

TRIBUTE CARDS

In 2008, we introduced our Tribute Card Program, providing individuals with the opportunity to make a donation in honor of a special someone, in celebration of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. To date, this initiative has raised over \$3,800 for Bailey's Team.

If you would like to make a donation in honor or in memory of someone special, please visit www.baileysteam.org and download our tribute form for more information.



Spencer reading
Torah



Bernadette with
Uncle Bailey & Pops



Georgie with
Uncle Bailey

THANK YOU TO TOM PEREIRA FOR BEING A FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER & OFFICER OF BAILEY'S TEAM



A very heartfelt thank you and farewell to Tom Pereira, a founding Board member and Officer who has decided to step down from his Board position with Bailey's Team. Tom works at Boston Capitol and also teaches at both Boston and Harvard Universities.

We thank Tom for his years of dedication and commitment to Bailey's Team as he was not only a Founding Board member and Treasurer beginning in October of 2008 but he went on to serve many roles in support of our mission including Wine & Beer Tasting and Bailey's Run for Autism planning committee member, event volunteer and Board retreat host... to name only a few! And much more importantly we thank him for his ongoing friendship and support from not only him, but the entire Pereira family!

AUTISM AWARENESS JEWELRY FOR SALE TO SUPPORT BAILEY'S TEAM

Did you know that Bailey's Team has been selling autism awareness jewelry since 2010? Our awareness jewelry contains colorful beads representing autism in red, blue, aqua and yellow and is displayed at our Education Series and at autism events throughout Massachusetts and Rhode Island. You may also contact us at sammirobertson@comcast.net if you would like more information about how to purchase our beautiful handcrafted jewelry.



Bling
Bracelet
(left)
\$22.00



Spiral
Bracelet
(left)
\$16.00



Cuff
Bracelet
(left)
\$12.00

Handcrafted jewelry featuring Miyuki glass beads with heavy silver -plate rings or rods [nickel free]; with sterling silver puzzle piece charm.

BAILEY'S TEAM HOLDS FIFTH EDUCATION SERIES WELCOMING BOTH SUSAN CONSTABLE & STEPHEN SHORE BACK TO THE FRONT OF THE ROOM!

In April and May of this year, we welcomed two very important speakers back to our program. Sue Constable, who first spoke on the subject of Inclusion & Acceptance (along with Janet McTarnaghan) in 2010, spoke to a full room on **Using Positive & Practical Strategies to Develop Social & Emotional Skills in Children with ASD**. Feedback was tremendous as Sue was able to provide hands on strategies for both educators and family members supporting individuals with autism.

Stephen Shore, who first spoke on the subject of what it is like to be autistic, returned to speak on the subject of **Autism & Bullying: A Vulnerable Population**, and how individuals with autism can be easy targets.

Bailey's Team has hosted these lectures in an effort to provide opportunities to all who are interested to learn more about individuals with autism and how to best support them – at home and at school. As school and state budgets continue to be cut – year after year – decreasing the funds available to support special education programming and resources available to families, we felt it necessary to contribute to a very special population that continues to grow as funds continue to decrease.

Bailey's Team received permission to share with you a note sent at the time of registration for these two events from a former schoolteacher:

Thank you very much for offering these wonderful, educational lectures! I really do appreciate Bailey's Team for Autism. I am a former teacher of 18 years and now have a child with autism. Every day brings new challenges. My son experienced awful bullying in his old school in Kindergarten. We moved and switched schools because of the horrible year for him and for our whole family. We now have a good school, safe environment and great team in Massachusetts!

- Mary from North Easton, MA



Earlier this year, members of our Board of Directors participated in an exercise presented by Holly Flanagan of South Coast Collaborative. Holly visited with us at our annual July Board meeting where we welcome Bailey's Team grant recipients to present findings to our Board as a part of our funding process.

Bailey's Team has funded **Hanen Programs** including both More than Words and Talkability in years 2010 through 2013. Holly has facilitated this program all but once* and we are excited to welcome her as one of our guest presenters at our Education Lecture Series in 2015.



Holly Flanagan

[Pictured above L-R: Board Members Tom Pereira, Tom Buckley, Danielle Desrosiers, Tony Calcia, Dan Joyce & Doug Robertson]

* Tammy Cahill of the Kennedy Donovan Center facilitated the More than Words program in 2012

BAILEY'S TEAM FUNDS SURFER'S HEALING

Surfers Healing (SH) is an innovative program providing the transformative experience of surfing to individuals with autism. Their mission is to change all pre-conceived notions about what kids with autism can and can't do. SH has spent the last fifteen years taking children with autism surfing in an effort to foster the understanding and acceptance of autism, and in 2013, with the help of incredible volunteers and a team of the most amazing surfers in the water, SH has provided this amazing experience to over 4,500 kids at 16 locations up and down the east and west coasts of the United States... all at no charge to families! As each location is charged with the task of raising funds to support this program, Bailey's Team was happy to donate \$1,000 for the Rhode Island event.



BAILEY ENJOYING THE WATER, GETTING UP ON THE BOARD AND SURFING!



Bailey's Team Board Members (L-R)
Todd Levine, Amy Laurent, Sammi & Doug Robertson & Julie O'Brien
Also pictured: Todd's daughter Sofia (far left) and Bailey (center)

BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM... CELEBRATES 10 YEARS!! (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



Lenny had fun with our patrons and showed his love and support every step of the way! He greeted our guests at registration, assisted with our afternoon announcements as the golfers took the field and facilitated our auction with a lot of laughs!

Another important highlight was the video and speech that preceded the auction. Bailey read a special message to our guests (see box below).

It was a beautiful day and the entire event was an enormous success earning us over \$35,000 in support of our mission... a record-breaking tournament for us this year!

Thank you for coming to our 10th golf tournament.

Ten years ago, I could not talk, I could not read... I could not do many things and I was very frustrated most of the time. I would scream and cry and sometimes hide from everyone spending most of my time alone.

I have been in a class for people with autism at school since pre-school and I ride a special bus. I am different but I am happy. My mom and dad work very hard to help people like me and families like ours... but they cannot do it without you.

Thank you for helping people with autism like me and thanks for supporting Bailey's Team!

Enjoy pictures from our 10th Bailey's Par for Autism



10 year golfer, sponsor & friend, Bob D'uva (2nd from Left)



Spencer & Nana-Barbara



Doug & Joe Messa



Bo Meyer & Jared Erikson



Rick Norberg



Bill Conroy and his crew: "Where's the ball?"



Doug thanking the crowd for 10 years of support!



Danielle Derosiers

2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 7

6th Annual WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING

Hosted by BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM

CBS Scene - Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA



2015 UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW

MARCH 14 **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING**

Hosted by Bailey's Team & The Arc of South Norfolk – (Location TBD)

MARCH 22 **4th Annual BAILEY'S RUN FOR AUTISM**

Neponset Avenue, Foxboro, MA

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2 **WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

APRIL 15 **6th Annual EDUCATION SERIES – PART 1**

SAFETY FOR CHILDREN WITH ASD

A SPECIAL TRAINING FOR FAMILIES & EDUCATORS ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & HOW TO KEEP THEIR LOVED ONES SAFE

Presented by Bill Cannata

Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro

31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

MAY 9 **5th Annual BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE**

Roger Williams Park Zoo

Providence, RI

MAY 13 **6th Annual EDUCATION SERIES – PART 2**

TUNING IN: COMPREHENSION, COMMUNICATION & FACILITATING CONVERSATIONS FOR ALL AGES & STAGES OF CHILDREN WITH ASD

Presented by Holly Flanagan, MS, CCC-SLP

Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro

31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

JUNE 14 **11th Annual BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM**

Charity Golf Tournament

Crystal Lake Golf Club

Burrillville, RI

AUGUST 1 **ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS**

NOV 6 **7th Annual WINE & BEER TASTING**

Hosted by BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM

CBS Scene - Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA

For more information about BAILEY'S TEAM, please visit:

www.baileysteam.org