



# *camp rising sun* **news**

Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation • March 2012

*where kids with cancer have fun!*

## **Spotlight on Katie Winkle**

Did you know that there is a celebrity amongst the ranks of Camp Rising Sun's staff? She is none other than Katie Winkle, former camper and one of the newest volunteer counselors devoted to making Camp Rising Sun a safe and nurturing place "where kids with cancer have fun" Katie has been in the local headlines quite a bit lately, for all the right reasons.

In May of this past year, Katie was hitting the homestretch toward graduating from Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden and toward completing her senior season as a pitcher on the Pacers softball team. Putting her competitive instincts aside, Katie teamed up with Colleen Murphy, a senior catcher for the Hamden High School Dragons softball team, SHA's traditional cross-town rival, to plan a fundraiser benefitting Camp Rising Sun. Their efforts culminated in a pizza and bake sale that took place behind the backstop during the softball contest between SHA and Hamden at the Dragons' home field.

Katie reflected on the event, "We thought it would be a great idea if we could donate the proceeds of the bake sale to Camp Rising Sun because it's something that's close to my heart, and I know it is to Colleen too. This is really a heartwarming event. It's great that we could play in a game, not only to see who wins, but for all those who are battling cancer. Hope is on the softball field."

They say that good deeds reap rewards, and this rings true in the more recent headlines involving Katie Winkle. This past June, Katie and the Pacers' softball team, a 23rd seed in the Class M state tournament, stunned 1st seed Seymour to win the



championship – the first in school history. For her exploits on the field, Katie was a first-team selection for the All-SCC softball team as well as the recipient of the Comeback Player of the Year Award.

For her achievements in the classroom and her dedication to the community, Katie received the Mother Clelia Merloni Award, given to the senior who, in the opinion of the Sisters of Sacred Heart, is an outstanding Christian woman who embodies and remains true to the values of Sacred Heart Academy. Katie attends Quinnipiac University and is studying nursing. Katie is a true champion – on the field, in the classroom and in the community. We are proud to have her as a member of the Camp Rising Sun family.

**Get Ready for Mini-Camp Weekend, March 24-25! Applications on-line.**

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

*Camp Rising Sun exists so that all who come can have fun, improve familiar skills, learn new skills and develop self-confidence by joining in camp activities in a secure positive place.*

*Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation  
P.O. Box 310611  
Newington, CT 06131-0611*

*[www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com)*

# Annual Night Out, Camp Rising Sun's Largest Fundraising Event

Looking for a good time and the opportunity to help send some kids with cancer to Camp Rising Sun? Join over 1000 other people at the 11th Annual Night Out for the Kids at the Owenego Beach Club in Branford. This family event is our largest fundraiser organized and supported by Camp Rising Sun campers, staff and their families. It features a cookout style dinner, two live bands, kid's activities, a raffle and a silent auction.

This year you might have the opportunity to bid on a night at the MGM Grand, tickets to the Shubert, Yale Rep or Long Wharf, or a home catered dinner with wine for 8. There will be something for everyone. Last year the bidding was animated for a beach cruiser bicycle donated by Zanes Bike Shop of Branford. We already started soliciting raffle and silent auction items for this summer's event. If you have an item to donate, please contact Kathy Shannon at [KFSShann@aol.com](mailto:KFSShann@aol.com).

Camp Director Jeff Holt said, "the funds raised at this event are critical to keeping the camp free of charge to all campers. I have

no idea where we would be without the generous support of all who attend the event."

For tickets to the Night Out, to be held rain or shine, please visit [www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com).



## 11th Annual Night Out

to benefit



A place where kids with cancer have fun...

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Owenego Inn  
40 Linden Ave  
Branford, CT

\$25 Adult/\$10 Children (aged 3 – 15)

Dinner – Live Bands – Cash Bar

[Help send the kids to camp!](#)



# Thanks to All Our Sponsors!



Yvette and Arthur Eder  
**Foundation**



**FOXWOODS**<sup>®</sup>  
RESORT ♦ CASINO



Our sponsors, big donors and small, are the reason that we are able to give the children a week of camp full of friendship, laughter and happy memories. All donations to the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation are used exclusively for camp expenses. You can make a secure donation on-line at [www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com) or by mail.



You can choose to sponsor a specific need, in whole or part, as well.

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$15,000 Mini-Camp Weekend
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$5000 A week of fun for a whole cabin
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$2000 Golf Cart Rental
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$2500 Leaders in Training Trip
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1250 Send a kid to Camp Rising Sun
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$750 Art and Crafts Supplies
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Special Enrichment Program

Donations can be mailed to:

Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation  
P.O. Box 310611  
Newington, CT 06131-0611

email: [camp-rising-sun@hotmail.com](mailto:camp-rising-sun@hotmail.com)  
[www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com)





Our Senior Campers were jumping for joy as they experimented with self expression through photography. Our friends from Craig Cutler Studios, New York City, spent 3 mornings teaching Photo Camp. Above is a self portrait of Alex Shay.

## Camp Rising Sun Set Sail on the Schooner Quinnipiack



It was a beautiful Sunday in July, sunny and clear with calm seas, and our Senior Campers were treated to a sail on the Schooner Quinnipiack. We met at Long Wharf in New Haven and set sail for an hour and a half excursion. Some of the campers pitched in to help trim the sails. We all spent a relaxing hour sailing on Long Island Sound.

R.A.C.E, Remissions and Cures Everywhere, is a non-profit organization who sponsor the sails for children with cancer and their caregivers. Thank you to all at R.A.C.E. for including Camp Rising Sun in their schedule.



## Crisanti Places 2nd at Hartford 5K

Sam Crisanti is a 16 year old junior at Windsor High School. He is also a 13 year cancer survivor, and longtime camper at Camp Rising Sun. He's looking forward to Mini-Camp Weekend and to attending camp this summer as an LIT.

Sam ran the Hartford 5k on Saturday October 15, 2011 with the CRS team. This was his second time running the Hartford 5k, and his 13 year old brother Ryan joined him in the race. Sam finished with a fantastic time of 20:15, second in his age group (15-19). Ryan came in at 25:10. To train for the race, Sam runs in the park near home and cross-trains by playing on the Windsor High soccer team. He says, "When I'm running, I'm racing against myself and working to top my own best time."

Race morning means getting up early to get to Bushnell Park to get settled in at the CRS tent. There's just enough time to say hello to the rest of the team and catch up a little before it's time to stretch and find the starting line. Sam wants other campers to run the 5k on the CRS team next year: "Senior Lodge, this is your warning, I'll be recruiting runners during Mini-Camp Weekend and over the summer."

## Highlights for Summer 2012: Road Trip and Staff Training

We're just months away from what is shaping up to be another memorable year for the Camp Rising Sun family! The CRS Team joined together on the first weekend of January to brainstorm, train and plan for CRS's upcoming "Road Trip" Theme.

The staff participated in "True to Life" training where the room was split up into groups and a professional actor was assigned to each group to act out a scenario as a camper being difficult and refusing to participate in activities. The experience was extremely educational as well as moving.

Next came a brainstorming session for the Road Trip theme! Cabin themes have been assigned and will include Florida, Texas, Kentucky, Alaska, Colorado, New York, California, Tennessee,

the Wild West and Rest Stop. The week will be packed with an array of entertaining activities, including a Hollywood red carpet dinner, casino night, Spring Break, Tailgate Party, as well as a Country Barbeque and Hoedown hosted by EDR.

The staff training continued with discussions of fund raising, including road races, marathons, head shaving and the annual "Night Out" at Owenego Inn, and the weekend concluded with planning for March's Mini Camp Weekend.

It was a very educational and entertaining weekend that got the staff prepared, planning and pumped as we get ready to take a road trip none of us will ever forget!

## EDR Continues to Volunteer

– By John Boanno, EDR Employee

Cancer has touched many of us in so many ways, whether it be personally, or to a loved one. It brings out many emotions and when a child is affected by cancer, those emotions become even stronger. Therefore, it was no surprise, that when Camp Rising Sun reached out to EDR to join its mission, we jumped at the opportunity. Not only did EDR gladly accept, but we received a large amount of support from our staff.

Each year, EDR gladly participates in many Camp Rising Sun events. At the annual Night Out, we've manned the soda bar, sold raffle tickets and helped out with arts and crafts. During camp week, several of our employees have participated in Activities Day and shared such talents as fishing, hockey and hip hop dancing with campers. We have also gotten involved in fundraisers, such as a summer triathlon and volunteered at the Hartford marathon on behalf of Camp Rising Sun.

Our "main event" is the annual Camp Dance that our company organizes each year. This is a project we take very seriously and requires a lot of hard work, as each year we try to top the dance from the year before. We've sailed the seas at the Pirates and Princesses Ball, then counted down to 20'n Dream at the New Year's Ball. This year, we rocked the boat on a Caribbean Cruise. Not only did we sip tropical drinks at the tiki bar and limbo with the DJ, but we also learned hula dancing and watched an Island native twirl a baton ablaze with fire!

When EDR organized the first Camp Dance in 2009, we had 10 employees volunteering. Just two years later, that number has doubled. Not only has the experience of working with Camp



Rising Sun been rewarding, but it has also been a lot of fun in both, entertaining the kids as well as the employee camaraderie and teamwork that go into the preparation.

The Camp Rising Sun staff has shown its gratitude for our efforts on a number of occasions. Meanwhile, we the employees are the ones who owe the Camp Rising Sun staff a debt of gratitude because they have allowed us to participate in something so wonderful and so rewarding, and also something very, very fun! We constantly hear from the camp staff at how much the kids go away with when they leave camp. The employees of EDR feel as if they leave camp with so much more. Aside from a wonderful evening with a wonderful group of people, we end up leaving with the hope that we were able to let all of the kids at camp, for at least one night, leave behind any worries they might have outside of having a fun and memorable evening.

EDR is proud to be involved in something so special and we are honored to be considered members of the Camp Rising Sun Family.

## 2012 Dates to Remember

March 24-25

### ***Mini-Camp Weekend***

Contact: Tina.Saunders@cancer.org

July 18

### ***Kids Night Out Fundraiser***

Contact: HEFF@branfordfire.com

August 19-24

### ***Camp Week***

Contact: Tina.Saunders@cancer.org

September 19

### ***Golf Tournament at River Ridge, Griswold***

Contact: JGasparino@Foxwoods.com

October 13

### ***ING Hartford Marathon***

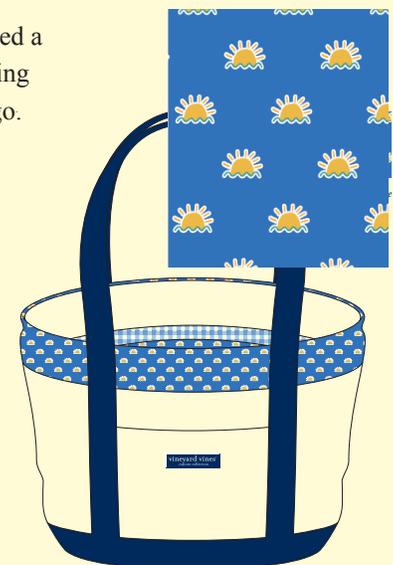
Contact: scapozza@hotmail.com

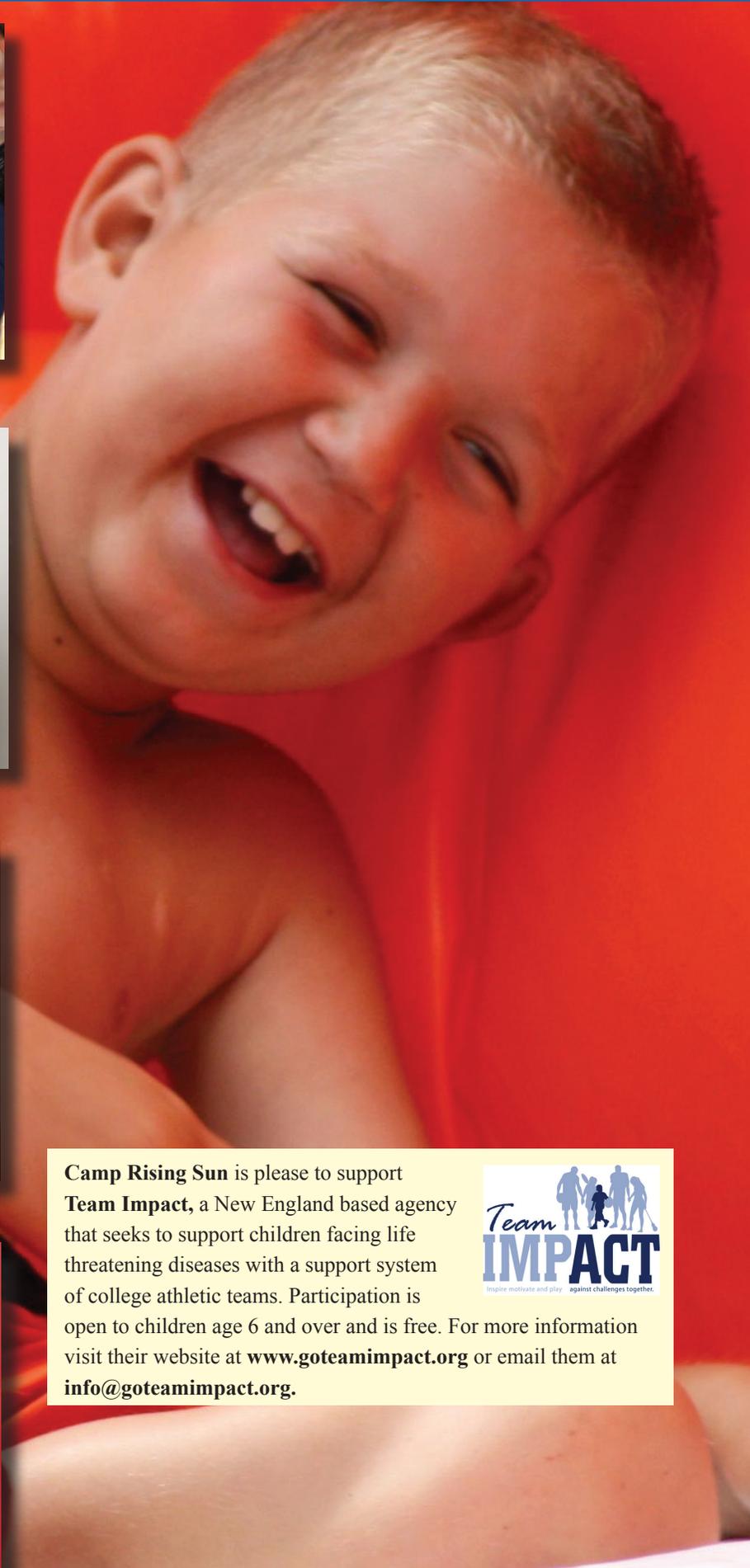
## Camp Rising Sun Exclusive Bag

Vineyard Vines has created a exclusive tote bag featuring the Camp Rising Sun logo.

Bags are \$95.00 and measures 13" x 17" full size with zipper closure.

To purchase contact Rachel Eder at [reder5885@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reder5885@sbcglobal.net) or on-line at [www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com)





Camp Rising Sun is pleased to support **Team Impact**, a New England based agency that seeks to support children facing life threatening diseases with a support system of college athletic teams. Participation is open to children age 6 and over and is free. For more information visit their website at [www.goteamimpact.org](http://www.goteamimpact.org) or email them at [info@goteamimpact.org](mailto:info@goteamimpact.org).





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**Return Service Requested**

## Where kids with cancer have fun!

[www.camprisingsun.com](http://www.camprisingsun.com)

A hundred years  
from now

It will not matter what my  
bank account was,  
the sort of house I lived,  
or the kind of car I drove.

But the world will be  
different because I was  
important in the life of a child.

