



Camp Rising Sun Newsletter • July 2017

Premier Subaru + CRS = LOVE!

Premier Subaru really knows how to “Share The Love.” This marks the third consecutive year Brantford’s Premier Subaru has chosen Camp Rising Sun as its “hometown charity,” as part of Subaru of America’s national “Share the Love” campaign. “Share the Love” is a program in which individuals purchasing or leasing a new car during the holiday season have the option of picking the “hometown charity” or one of four national charities, to which Subaru donates \$250. Bob Alvine credits his sales staff for educating their customers about Camp Rising Sun. Every

customer picked Camp Rising Sun as their charity.

On April 4th, Premier Subaru owner, Bob Alvine presented Camp Rising Sun with a check for \$60,092.00. This brings the three-year total to over \$143,000. Camp Rising Sun Director, Shaun Heffernan told Premier Subaru employees, “This donation will send over 40 kids to camp this summer,” and added, “You will not believe the number of smiles and tears of joy you have just created. We appreciate



the support of the Premier Subaru family and their customers; the ongoing support they provide allows us to create ‘a place where kids with cancer have fun,’” Heffernan said.

A Look Back: Mini-Camp Weekend 2017

Campers enjoyed seeing their CRS Family at our Mini-Camp reunion weekend this past March. Although the lack of snow prevented such activities as tubing and cross country skiing, there were still plenty of things that kept us entertained over the weekend.

Campers enjoyed indoor sports, video games, candle making, arts & crafts, karaoke, BB guns, 9 Square, crate stack, tasty treats and other fun activities. This year’s all-camp activity consisted of Game Show Night where the boys

defeated the girls in a very close contest! Campers and staff all got into the act! Game Show challenges included trivia, hula hoops, tug-of-war, spelling games, dancing and more. The night was topped off with an ice cream sundae bar. Although Mini-Camp only lasted from Saturday to Sunday morning, it was a fun-filled day enjoyed by all. Just a taste of what’s to come in August!



It is our mission at Camp Rising Sun to provide a safe, nurturing environment to kids who have faced the diagnosis of cancer, so that they may grow and learn from their experiences to become the best they can be.

Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation

P.O. Box 472
Brantford, CT 06405

www.camprisingsun.com



Circle the Sun Sibling Camp

Have you heard the news? Camp Rising Sun, in partnership with Circle of Care, is excited to offer our families Circle the Sun Sibling Camp. Siblings of current Camp Rising Sun campers ages 8-14 are invited to attend. Camp is held the same week as CRS on the grounds of Camp Jewell YMCA but on the other side of the lake. Applications are online at <http://app.campdoc.com/register/circlethesun>. Your CampDoc user name and password will be the same. Thanks to all our donors for making this opportunity (free of charge) available to our families.



A Look Ahead: Camp Week 2017

Get ready to travel the world this August as Camp Rising Sun takes its campers around the world! This year's theme will be both fun and educational as we travel through the different countries around the globe from the U.S. to Ireland, Italy to Germany, Australia to Egypt and everywhere in between.



Each cabin will represent a different country and the staff is already hard at work preparing for this geographical week. This year's camp week promises to be full of fun, surprises and international zest.

Make sure your child rests up this summer because it's going to be an exciting week at camp!

KOA Supports Oncology Camps

If you have not been to a KOA Campground lately you will be surprised. They are no longer a quick stop on the side of the highway, but a family camping destination, complete with heated cabins, pools and awesome programs. One program they are proud of is KOA Care Camps; their foundation in support of Pediatric Oncology Camps. They will distribute over \$1,500,000 to camps across the country in 2017.

Camp Rising Sun is grateful to be the recipient of a \$5,000 grant to support our program as well as funding for three new iPads for our medical staff. Thank you to all our friends at KOA and Care Camps.



CRS Thanks Binky Patrol

Our campers were warm in March during our Mini Camp Weekend! JoAnn Zimmerman and Jeanne Malgioglio who run the Binky Patrol Monroe/Trumbull chapter, donated 96 blankets to camp. Binky Patrol is a national organization whose mission is to bring comfort blankets to critically ill and traumatized children.

Girl Scout troops and religious education students of St. Stephens in Trumbull generously volunteered to make the warm fleece blankets for CRS. More blankets were made at a binkathon, a community event where the fleece is supplied and community members provide the labor. Plus, there are about 130 blankets waiting for our summer session and sibling camp!



Out And About With Camp Rising Sun!



Camp Rising Sun held a beer tasting fundraiser at Two Roads Brewing Company. CRS staff, parents, and friends enjoyed a fun – and tasty – evening!



Counselors Melissa and Julia attended the Reach for the Stars Celebration, celebrating all cancer survivors at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.



A group of Camp Rising Sun staff members attended the Inaugural Madeline Guarraia Celebration of Life to honor one of our campers and to raise money for Lea's Foundation for Leukemia Research.



Our very own Doctor Joe is a grandpa! Meet cool Baby Joey, with his proud parents Freddy (Assistant Director) and Joanna (Camp Nurse). Congrats and best wishes from all of us at Camp Rising Sun!

We love our campers, families, and fans – connect with us online!

Head on over to www.camprisingsun.com today!

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/camprisingsun

Follow us on Twitter: [@camprisingsun](https://twitter.com/camprisingsun)



Keeping Up With Our Campers: The Latest From Our CRS Family

- Jenna has had quite a busy spring – not only was she inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in her first year in middle school, she also performed in her school's production of Beauty and the Beast, Jr.! Way to go, Jenna!
- Jenna's not the only one hitting the books: Aiyana made 2nd honors this quarter! And in even better news, her latest MRI came back great, making her 13 years with no evidence of disease.



with being named Student of the Month at her school and making honor roll all year. She's also been very active in the Kindness Club at her school, which is working on making donations to the kids at Yale Children's Hospital. She's also been able to "repay" her bone marrow donor a little bit by helping to take care of him after a recent knee surgery. And oh yeah, she performed in her school's production of "Soapy Smith's Winter Wish."

- Sophia's school has an annual oratory contest, and this year's topic was, "What a hero means to you." Who did Sophia write about? Our very own Doctor Joe, of course. And no surprise, she was named a finalist! Way to go, Sophia!



- We already knew that Camp friends make the best friends. But did you know that they make the best prom dates, too? Just ask Ava and Andrew, who attended the Shelton High School prom together in May. Looking great, you guys, hope it was a blast!
- Our other camper Ava has been busy, too – starting



- Alex is looking forward to Camp Week more than anything in the world! In the meantime, he's been busy playing baseball and recently performed in his first band concert (he plays the trumpet). See you in August, Alex!



- Kailiah was very excited to become an auntie to twin nieces back in November! Great photo!
- One of our former campers, Jay, is going above and beyond in his efforts to support Camp Rising Sun. Jay, who will be a sophomore at Tufts University in the fall, will be celebrating 16 years since his diagnosis – and trying to raise \$16,000 – by biking 160 kilometers from his house to Camp Rising Sun! More information and an opportunity to donate can be found here: <https://www.crowdrise.com/ride-for-rising-sun/fundraiser/jaymirecki>.

- Brooke has had a busy spring too, spending time with her pony Renee in the Horses Healing Humans program. She also attended her school's semi-formal.

- Joey was recently presented with the



Mayor's Youth Award by Milford Mayor Benjamin Blake in recognition of Joey's efforts to support local non-profit organizations. Joey has helped support Make-A-Wish, St. Baldrick's, LIVFree, and of course, Camp Rising Sun! Congrats, Joey, keep up the great work!

- And last but certainly not least, a big Camp Rising Sun shout-out to our camper Henry! As of late May, Henry's treatments are in maintenance – and we are jumping with joy right along with Henry! While he'll continue to receive treatment for the next year and a half or so, the medications will be less intense and he'll be able to enjoy his summer, including coming to CRS!



Registration is Open!

2017 Summer Week Camper Registration is still open and bunks are starting to fill up! Parents, please make sure that your camper is registered for the week, medications are up-to-date and that their CampDoc profile is 100% complete. Thanks, see you in August!

Camp Rising Sun Staffers SHINE

We all know that the counselors and staff at CRS are the best, but we're always striving to be even better. At our staff training session in January, we asked the question, "What do our very best staff members do and say that make them special?" The answers have been condensed into our SHINE model:

Smile

- Greet everyone in a friendly way, using their names
- Act silly and energetic
- Help campers work through mistakes positively

Hear

- Listen actively and attentively, maintaining eye contact
- Respond actively to camper concerns and questions
- Say things like, "What made you smile today?"

Initiate

- Setup and clean up before and after activities and meals
- Take precautions like sunscreen and hydration
- Say things like, "How can I help?"

Nurture

- Establish and maintain rules and boundaries
- Give campers a way to take responsibility for themselves
- Model respect and behavior for campers and other staff

Engage

- Actively participate in activities with campers
- Get to know campers individually
- Say things like, "Can I play?"

Forever In Our Hearts



Rahsohn Wali, Jr.

Camp Rising Sun Calendar of Events

Wednesday, July 12

Annual Kids Night Out Owenego Inn, Branford, CT

Saturday, July 29

CT Challenge Bike Ride Fairfield County Hunt Club Contact scapozza@hotmail.com

August 20-25

Camp Rising Sun Camp Week Camp Jewell, Colebrook, CT Contact Tina@camprisingsun.com

Month of September

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Go Gold for our Campers!

September 30

April's Rising Sun Run Start and end: Monson, MA Contact bgdg121@aol.com

Saturday, October 14

Team Camp Rising Sun Runs the Hartford Marathon Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT Contact scapozza@hotmail.com

For more information on any of these events, please visit our website or Facebook page. If you are interested in hosting a fundraiser to benefit Camp Rising Sun, please contact Shaun at shaun@camprisingsun.com



When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate to Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation Inc. Support us every time you shop.







Camp Rising Sun
P.O. Box 472
Branford, CT 06405

Return Service Requested

16TH ANNUAL **NIGHT OUT**

to benefit



A place where kids with cancer have fun...

JULY 12, 2017 • 6-10PM

OWENEGO INN

40 Linden Ave • Branford, CT

\$25 Adults • \$10 Children (3-15)

Dinner • Cash Bar • Live Band

featuring

VIVID

for tickets:

www.camprisingsun.com or 203.481.7277



\$100,000 CHALLENGE

*The Yvette and Arthur Eder Foundation
will match all donations made between
June 1st & July 12th
(Including Annual Night Out Tickets and Raffle Tickets)*

**BUY your TICKETS ONLINE
or BY MAIL NOW to Help us meet
the CHALLENGE!**