

www.stephencomunale.org

Do you have an updated mailing address, email address or wish to be removed from our mailings? Please let us know! 330.835.5985 or info@stephencomunale.org



Give Back to the Community Raffle! May 1 ~ December 15 Stop by Shulan's Jewelers, in Fairlawn, to participate in the store's 90 Anniversary Give Back to the Community Raffle! Raffle tickets are \$10, and

100% of the proceeds can benefit the SAC, Jr. Family Cancer Foundation! Your tickets will enter you into a drawing to win a \$17,000 diamond bracelet!

The bracelet is on display in the store and the winner will be drawn on December 15!

John Shulan will also be raffling off a different fantastic item every Monday, between now and December 15, so the sooner you purchase your tickets, the more opportunities you have to win! You may purchase as many raffle tickets as you like!

Good luck to all and thank you for considering the SAC, Jr. Foundation as you purchase your raffle tickets!!

A special thank you to John Shulan for celebrating 90 years in business in such a giving way! Congratulations on 90 wonderful years!!

BOARD MEMBERS

- Rennick Andreoli - Chairman
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STAFF

- Marisa Hoffmann - Associate Director

Celebrating Our Five Year Anniversary 2006-2011!

STEPHEN A. COMUNALE, JR. FAMILY CANCER FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 13805 Akron, Ohio 44333



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Stephen A. Comunale, Jr. Family Cancer Foundation www.stephencomunale.org

SUMMER 2011

COMING ALIVE at FIVE John Comunale - Foundation President

It's hard to believe that five years have passed since we took a leap of faith and formed the Stephen A. Comunale, Jr. Family Cancer Foundation. Our Foundation started with the inspiring battle Stephen waged against cancer, and it continued with nothing more than the simple idea that we wanted to help families facing cancer in a small but meaningful way. When Stephen was sick we'd accompany him to chemotherapy, and with each trip we would gain more exposure to the horrible realities that families battling cancer face. On one such trip, we saw an older gentlemen finish chemo and then sit alone in a wheel chair sucking on oxygen for a half hour while he waited for a ride home. That experience was reinforced time and time again. Each week there was always someone having a hard time getting transportation, another without child-care for their kids, or an individual explaining to the nurse why she stopped taking her medication because she had to choose between food or her prescription copays or the rent payment for her home. With memories of those individuals in mind and the inspiration of Stephen's battle in our hearts, we decided to form the Foundation and assist others battling cancer with certain day-to-day necessities that many of us take for granted.

Our first year was a transitional one to say the least. From putting our first budget together, becoming a 501 c3 tax exempt organization, and assembling our board, to figuring out how we could effectively assist people battling cancer, we had many hurdles to overcome. Looking back, that simple idea of wanting to help in a small way with day-to-day necessities was not so simple. Putting everything together has taken an immense amount of time, an incredible amount of discussion and, most importantly, a lot of hard work and dedication! Through

our Individual Grant Giving Program, our Summer Horse Camp Program, our Back-to-School with Confidence Program and our Holiday Meals Program, we have seen our goals realized in a very significant way. All of these programs took careful planning, budgeting and preparation over the course of the last five years in order to be effective. The community's participation in these various programs and in our fundraisers, as well as the donations we receive, have made these programs and realizing the Foundation's mission possible. Stephen's inspiration clearly lives on in the Foundation and the community through the inspirational support all have given to the Foundation. And for that, we are eternally grateful.

The first five years of the Foundation have passed by so quickly and it is amazing to look back on all the Foundation has accomplished. From our various programs to the financial and emotional support the Foundation and those within it have provided to members of the community battling cancer, it is truly gratifying to look back on the progress we've made. We look forward to finding more ways we can both reach more individuals in need and better serve those that we seek to help. With your continued support, there is no limit as to what the Foundation can accomplish in the next five years to positively and effectively impact the lives of those battling cancer in our community. The Foundation has decided to forgo a large scale fundraiser in 2011 to focus on our programs and grant giving where our energy is most effective. With that in mind, we appeal to all of you interested in supporting our grant giving and programs.

5TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

In February of 2006, we were founded in Akron, Ohio by the Comunale family and their close friends to honor the memory of Stephen A. Comunale, Jr. who fought a courageous battle against cancer. A year later, his aunt, Amy Comunale Klein was diagnosed with cancer.

The Foundation now lives in memory of both Amy and Stephen.

Read more about these wonderful people at: www.stephencomunale.org



2011 SAC, Jr. Family Cancer Foundation Programs

Assisting Individuals and Families Battling Cancer in Our Community
with hopes of relieving some stress and trying to provide a smile...

Individual Grant Giving Program (January 1 ~ December 31):

Provides everyday financial assistance to local individuals and families who are currently battling cancer.

- 80 local families have received assistance, with everyday financial relief, through this program this year. We're expecting to help 195 families in 2011.

Summer Horse Camp for Kids Touched by Cancer (June ~ July):

- Three Summer Horse Camps will be hosted this year! We're grateful to be partnering with local nonprofit **Victory Gallop** and the **Montrose Chick-fil-A** for two of our summer camps. A sincere "thank you" to **Jacob and Clara Faber**, who are generously funding of one these summer camps! A third camp will be held at Buffalo Therapeutic Riding Center, where Stephen Jr. loved to ride horses during his college years.

Back-to-School with Confidence Program (August):

- 47 local children touched by cancer will receive new backpacks, school supplies and a voucher to Payless Shoe Source for two new pairs of shoes. The Foundation assisted 30 children through this program in 2010.

Holiday Meals Program (November and December):

- 75 local families that are currently battling cancer will receive complete holiday meals, with all the fixings, to enjoy in the comfort of their own homes this holiday season. Families arrange to pick up their meals the week of Thanksgiving and Christmas, or someone from the Foundation happily delivers the meal to their homes.

If you would like to lend a hand with any of the Foundation's programs listed above, please contact Foundation Associate Director, Marisa Hoffmann, at 330.835.5985 or marisa@stephencomunale.org.

We would love to have you join us!

Support the SAC, Jr. Foundation by participating in one of our upcoming 2011 Community Events!

(Visit www.stephencomunale.org for more event details...)



SAC, JR. FOUNDATION NIGHT WITH THE AKRON AEROS

Thursday, June 16th! Please join us as we celebrate the Foundation during a family fun night at the ballpark! Foundation Chairman, Rennick Andreoli will be throwing out the first pitch and all Foundation friends and supporters will

be seated near first base! Call the Foundation Office to purchase your June 16th Akron Aeros tickets and half of your ticket purchase will benefit the SAC, Jr. Foundation! Tickets are \$8 and children 3 years and younger are free! **Call 330.835.5985 to purchase your tickets to benefit the Foundation!**



SEPTEMBER 24, 2011

Are you running in the Akron Marathon? Whether you're running the full marathon, half marathon or on a relay team, please consider running to support the SAC, Jr. Foundation, and the many individuals and families in our Akron community who are battling cancer. You can set your own fundraising goals, and

an online program is already set up to help you fundraise! Runners who raise \$100 or more will receive a Foundation t-shirt, and our top fundraiser will receive a gift card to one of Akron's best restaurants! Details are posted on our website. Call Marisa with any questions! 330.835.5985



2011 BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL TICKETS

Purchase your 2011 Bridgestone Invitational tickets through **Tickets for Charity**, using the SAC, Jr. Foundation's Promo Code (BSLWRG), and you will receive a ticket price discount. PLUS the Foundation will receive 75% of your ticket sales (and the remaining 25% will also go to charity)!

- \$20 Any Day Grounds Passes (normally \$45)
- \$70 Weekly Grounds Passes (normally \$95)

Visit www.stephencomunale.org for more information and a link to purchase your Bridgestone tickets!

PREVIOUS 2011 COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING EVENTS!



The Walsh Jesuit High School Men's Volleyball Teams

Raised funds this spring for the Foundation by selling the ever popular Arnold Palmer Ice Tea drinks during each lunch period this volleyball season. To build community awareness for the Foundation, they also wore Foundation team shirts during their senior game night on May 5! Thank you to the coaches and to these great young men for all that they did for the Foundation!!

Shop-For-A-Cause Boutique ~ April 28th The Shop-for-A Cause Boutique took place on April 28th at the Akron Woman's City Club to benefit the SAC, Jr. Foundation. Retailers at the boutique were: Elise Bennett, Christine Fiocca, Lindsay Jean-Marie, Shelley Mapp, Audrey Masterson, Julie Prysecki, Kristy Steeves and The Petite Boutique (located inside the Akron Woman's City Club). A sincere thank you to each of these wonderful women for their kind support! A special thank you to Elise Bennett and Christine Fiocca for creating this fantastic shopping event!



TGI Friday's Restaurant (Montrose) ~ May 19th

TGI Friday's Montrose Restaurant supported the Foundation on May 19th by donating \$5 for every \$20 spent if guests brought a Comunale Foundation flyer with them to the restaurant. Thank you to General Manager John Burkhart and Assistance General Manager Michael Wormald for this wonderful opportunity and to all who came out to TGI Friday's on May 19th to enjoy a great meal and to support the Foundation!!



OUR MISSION

The Stephen A. Comunale, Jr. Family Cancer Foundation is a nonprofit organization that endows an outreach program to provide comfort to cancer patients and their families by easing the ancillary financial burdens that confront them.

By partnering with social workers, community members, hospitals and other organizations, our efforts empower cancer patients while improving their quality of life.

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The Stephen A. Comunale, Jr. Family Cancer Foundation is a 501c3 organization.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Comunale Foundation for their commitment to the families in our community who are experiencing a cancer diagnosis. The Comunale Foundation provides hope at a time when patients are facing enormous challenges. Families are grateful for the generous financial help provided by the foundation. Patients especially appreciate the prompt response they receive after completing their grant applications. The help provided allows patients and families more time to focus on what is truly important. Our community is blessed to have the foundation serving and comforting families touched by cancer.

~ Susan Popovici, LISW-S
Jean and Milton Cooper Cancer Center



REMEMBER: bring this coupon with you on June 23!



Join Us at Our Fundraising Event!

Stop by the Montrose Chick-fil-A restaurant on June 23rd between 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. and based upon the evening sales,

Chick-fil-A will make a donation to the SAC, Jr. Foundation! Not only will the cows win, but you will too!

You must present this coupon when ordering.

Applies for Dine-In or Drive-Through

**Organization: Stephen A. Comunale, Jr.
Family Cancer Foundation**

**Date of Fundraiser: Thursday, June 23, 2011
Between 5:00-8:00 p.m.**

**Redeemable Only at: Chick-fil-A of Montrose
47 Flight Memorial Parkway,
Fairlawn, OH 44333**

**Be sure to bring \$1 with you to win prizes at the Chick-fil-A spinning wheel - present at the restaurant on June 23rd!*

Rennick Andreoli (Chairman):

Northeast Ohio proudly wears a crown of numerous nonprofit organizations. As Board Chair, I see our SAC, Jr. Foundation as a new jewel on that impressive crown. The real gems however are the families that find their way to us every week, every month.

If you could see the Foundation's works through our board's eyes, you would see how the Foundation touches real families, everyday, and on a real basis of need; whether we're assisting with a utility bill, helping to get someone to chemo treatment or assisting with a mortgage payment. Families who come to us deserve help from their own community. With every good deed that our Foundation does, we are a better and more caring community.

Personally, I am honored to have been involved these past five years with a wonderful organization that has helped so many families – persistent in their pursuit to be well, to be whole, and to be happy. I am also honored to have touched children, parents and grandparents who are so grateful for our help to ease their financial worries. When I look at the Foundation's work, I see how we have helped build a better future for so many families touched by cancer.

John Comunale (President):

I'm very fortunate for having been exposed to someone like my brother Stephen, who showed me how one's perspective on difficult situations can really inspire ourselves, and others, to improve the lives of people in our community. Stephen's confidence and perseverance to live his life, despite difficult circumstances, lead us to start the Foundation to honor his memory and hopefully provide some of the confidence that he showed us was so important during his battle with cancer. It's hard to believe that 5 years has gone by as fast as it has, but I'm thrilled with the progress that we've made. Hundreds of families have been awarded grants and each year we've started some type of new program. Most of all, I think Stephen would be proud of our confidence and determination for our goals for the next five years.

Julie Deane:

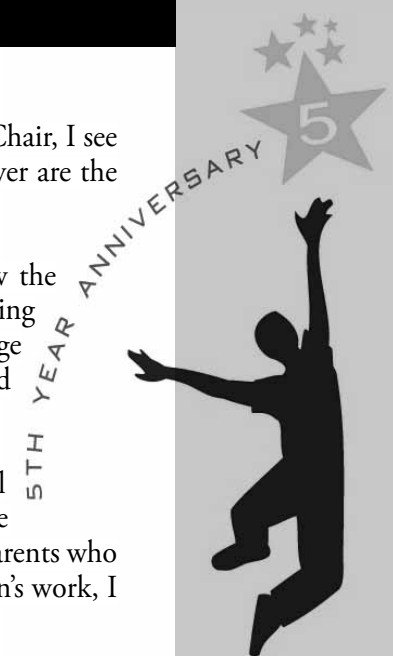
What started as a fitting tribute to my nephew's memory has, over the past 5 years, evolved into something much more to me. As the years pass, for a number of reasons the Foundation and what it stands for impacts me on a personal level more each and every day. Cancer is a terrible disease, but with the Foundation's help and the inspiration from both the memories of those we have lost as well as the strength of those that are still fighting, we make a real difference in the community. I am proud to be part of such an organization.

Ruthie and Nick George:

We both are heartened by the outpouring of support for the Foundation's mission. By volunteering, we honor the memory of those we have loved and lost to cancer, and help folks in our community through their diagnosis and treatment. We have never been involved with a not for profit that so immediately and profoundly assists families in their time of need. We are dedicated to continuing to serve.

Dale Ruther (Treasurer):

I believe that the Foundation uses its resources in an extremely efficient manner to provide much needed financial and emotional support to patients and their families during an extremely stressful time. I am proud of the work of the Foundation staff, board and the volunteers who utilize not only their financial resources, but invest their time and talents to help the Foundation and all the people they serve. The reach of this Foundation stretches across all people to ensure that no matter who you are, or what situation you are in, there are people that care about you. I believe that is why it is so satisfying to be a part of this group. The old saying of people helping people is nowhere better exemplified than with this group and all its supporters.



Taking Stock at Five Years

Please take a moment to read these thoughts, shared by six Foundation board members