



GUARD RAILS ALONG THE WANTAGH STATE BIKE PATH

Miles for Matt Foundation

December 2011

TOURNAMENT NEWS

The Power of You

None of us truly know our own strength, until we exercise it. We often feel powerless to effect the change that we believe needs to happen. However, this picture should help you all understand that one person, one voice, one signature can and did make a difference. Through the thousands of signatures that were submitted on petitions created by Gina Russo and through the tireless work and support of Senator Charles Fuschillo and Governor David Patterson, this path is now safer for all users.

In September, a pedestrian witness to a potentially fatal accident sent this message to Gina Russo. "I just wanted to let you know that the rail probably just saved 2 ladies. I go 3 or more times a week and within the last hour, a car going south bound lost control and came across an opening in center rail, across the north bound lane full gas, and smashed into that rail... probably 20 or so feet behind me and almost direct path of two ladies biking behind me. A brave runner behind then pulled the woman out of the car and we waited till police came... What's important is you know it made a difference

today and as scary it was for us to share (witnesses) we all agreed, thank goodness for the rail."

Thank goodness for all of you. The guard rails weren't up at the time Mr. Ryan left the parkway and struck and killed Matt. Together we have all made a real difference.



Guard Rails Make a Difference

This is the site of the crash where Matt was struck on July 20, 2009. The fence is still bent from the impact of the crash. The area is now much safer for the walkers, runners, rollerbladers and cyclist who enjoy the path on a regular basis .

The Journey Continues.....

2nd Annual MLS Memorial Soccer Tournament

The tournament was great success even the overcast weather could not dampen. It was actually great soccer weather on June 11th .



One again, Dan Silver, Tournament Director and a band of volunteers, dedicated players, referees and supporters helped to make this event even more successful than the first year. None of this would be easy without the support of HBC and Mike Bongino.

The funds raised support scholarships, MADD and the operations of Sunrise Day Camp, a free day camp for children with cancer and their siblings. A soccer field will be dedicated in Matt's name, which we hope will occur in 2012. We hope that many of you will be able to be there to make this a special time for the children who will be using the field. Stay tuned for this dedication and the date for the 3rd MLS Tournament!

James Ryan Pleads Guilty



On August 23, 2011 James Ryan pled guilty to the following charges related to Matt's death: Manslaughter in the Second Degree, Vehicular Manslaughter in the Second Degree, Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol (2 counts), Reckless Endangerment in the Second Degree and Reckless Driving. On October 19th, Mr. Ryan

was sentenced to a term agreed to previously by the defendant and the judge of 3 to 9 years. The maximum sentence for the charges in New York State is 5 – 15 years.

Mr. Ryan was first arrested in 1984 and has been known to the police and judicial system

for the past 25 years. He has had a plea bargain at each arrest. Mr. Ryan is currently in Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility in Wilton, NY (Saratoga County).

Scholarship Awards Made



SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2011

In June 2011 two graduating students from Half Hollow Hills High School—one student from East (James Reiser) and one student from West (Michael Primiano) were awarded a scholarship in Matt's memory. These funds were raised by the Half Hollow Hills Lacrosse Booster Club, through the sale of magnets, silicone bracelets and t-shirts. The Foundation has committed to continue these two scholarships.

Through Long Island Junior Soccer League (LIJSL), the Matthew Scarpatti Scholarship Fund was awarded in July 2011 to Billy Holevas, a graduate of St. Francis Preparatory.

The Matthew Scarpatti Endowed Scholarship Fund at the University at Buffalo was awarded to a student for the 2011-2012 academic year.

The students we have met are truly incredible. Thank you to Maxx Meyer for presenting the two HHH awards. You did an outstanding job.



Architecture Club and Film Club Honor Matt



In May 2011, the Architecture Club at Half Hollow Hills East, under the direction of Mrs. Mead, dedicated an original piece of art, incorporating the bicycle, something Matt always wanted to do, but was never able.

This beautiful bench is in a courtyard at Half Hollow Hills East. Thank you, Mrs. Mead and the Architecture Club at Half Hollow Hills East!

Thank you to the HHHE Film Club, under the guidance of Mr. Chris Beatty, who directed proceeds from their fundraising efforts to the Foundation. These funds will be put to great use.

5K Memorial Walk –Pi Lambda Phi A Walk to Remember



2nd Annual Matthew Scarpati Memorial Walk, sponsored by Pi Lambda Phi on the north campus of the University at Buffalo. Held Sunday April 3, to bring awareness to driving under the influence, proceeds were added to the Matthew Scarpati Endowed Scholarship Fund. The weather was beautiful; the event was a lot of fun. Thank you to all of Pi Lambda Phi, the Greek community and the students of UB.

The Journey Continues...

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Miles for Matt Foundation

P.O. Box 20117
Huntington Station, NY
11746

We have only just begun. We hope that you have many things to be thankful for this year. The Scarpati Family is very grateful for you. Your continued support through a year-end gift to the **Miles For Matt Foundation**, a 501 (c) 3, will help ensure that the Foundation can support and expand our commitments to our youth. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season,

Lynn Scarpati
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www.miles4matt.org www.miles4matt.com
You may donate securely via credit card online.

YES! I'll help the Miles for Matt Foundation. I know that every dollar I send provides valuable support for youth. Together we can make a difference.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift in the form of a check / money order for:

\$50 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ Other Amount \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The Journey Continues.....