

Ian's Friends Foundation
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR IAN'S FRIENDS FOUNDATION:

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Look Inside to See What's Going On with Ian's Friends, and
Make Note of our Events to Come. Thanks for Your Support!

LETTER FROM PHIL YAGODA: IAN'S UPDATE

Dear Friends,

My wife, Cheryl, and I are proud parents of our son, Ian, who is just five years old. Approximately three years ago, Ian was diagnosed with a type 2 astrocytoma located in his brain stem – more commonly known as a brain tumor. As shocked as we were to learn about the horrific disease that plagued our child, we were equally as shocked to find little research was being done. Today, cancer is the second leading cause of childhood death: the number one cause of death from cancer is from a brain tumor.

Ian's Friends Foundation was set up with the sole focus of funding projects for the advancement of pediatric brain tumor research. We were astonished to learn there is relatively little public money dedicated to research in this field and therefore felt compelled to embrace this fight ourselves; not just for Ian, but for all of his little friends battling for their lives.

Our Board has identified three projects to fund:

The first project funded is run by one of the top US pediatric brain surgeons, Dr. Mark Souweidane, Vice Chairman of Neurological Surgery at Weil Cornell University Hospital in New York City. Dr. Souweidane and his lab are dedicated to abating brain cancer through the delivery and administration of therapeutic molecules directly into tumors. As there are many advantages over conventional administration (i.e. bypassing the blood brain barrier (BBB) and the limitation of toxicities of more conventional chemotherapies), these features have been integrated into one particular form of local delivery called interstitial infusion. Dr. Souweidane's lab is investigating interstitial infusion as a potential form of therapy for children with unresectable brain tumors. In addition to mechanical considerations, the lab also focuses on different therapeutic compounds. Conventional chemotherapeutic compounds, conjugated immunotoxins, and radio-labeled monoclonal antibodies are all in different phases of investigation.

The second project funded is at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. With lead investigator Dr. Stefan Blüml, we will focus on MRS Spectroscopy and the investigation of genetic and metabolic markers as evidence of changes in tumor growth. With the belief that the metabolic makeup of a tumor will change before a radiographic or physical change occurs, we are very excited about the possibilities of this lab and the information we can learn about tumors from this research.



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We recently funded a joint-venture three part project with Children's Healthcare, Emory and GA Tech. With Dr. Ravi Bellamkonda as lead investigator, this lab focuses on the use of nanotechnologies. Through this research we aim to achieve:

- 1) The delineation of tumor from regular tissue which often is not made during surgeries causing residual tumor to be left in the patient in 30% of cases.
- 2) The encapsulation of inoperable and operable tumors to restrict further tumor growth.
- 3) An agent designed to kill the tumor in its tracks.

We are delighted with the success of these labs, and it is critical that IFF ensure the vitality of these works and others in the future. It is only through private donation that these successes can continue. With that in mind, Cheryl and I, along with the Ian's Friends' Board and every child fighting this terrible disease ask for your support.

Ian is an example to us all. His resilience and hard work is an inspiration to our family and friends, and hopefully an example to all that we must achieve.

This disease is blind to the economy. The only way to find a cure is through more research, which unfortunately doesn't come at a low price.

I would like to thank all of you who have given to Ian's Friends in the past and those who continue to support us in our quest to give the children suffering from this terrible disease a future. It means the world to us and to them.

Our Warmest Regards,
Phil Yagoda

PAST EVENTS

FedEx Cup

Once again, 80 PGA players supported IFF by wearing the blue belt during the Fedex Cup at the Deutsche Bank Classic in Norton, Massachusetts during Labor Day weekend 2008. In addition, IFF was chosen to be one of the charities in "Birdies for Charity". Not only was IFF able to raise awareness for pediatric brain tumors but we also raised money for much needed research.

Ice for Ian

Erin Beiner, seventh grader at The Epstein School, raised over \$4,000.00 for her Bat Mitzvah project by holding an ice skating party on February 8, 2009.

Thank you to all the families who attended "Ice for Ian."



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PAST EVENTS (CONT'D)

IFF 1st Annual "Evening of Inspiration"

On September 13, 2008, IFF's first "Evening of Inspiration" was graciously hosted at the home of Ruth and Gregg Freishtat.

Acclaimed chefs Jamie Adams from Veni, Vidi, Vici, Marco Betti from Antica Posta, Jennifer Etchinson from Pricci, Peter Kaiser from Twist and Ted Lescher from The Grape all donated their time and culinary expertise. IFF's live auction helped to raise \$249,000 for the foundation.

We thank each and every one of our guests for attending the event, and for contributing to the success of the evening. Here are a few photos from an unforgettable event. View additional event photos at www.iansfriendsfoundation.com.



IFF Golf Tournament

The 2008 IFF Golf Tournament was held on November 3 at the Sugarloaf Golf Course on one of the prettiest day of the fall season!

The 100 participants started their morning off with a clinic from PGA player, Stewart Cink.

After an absolutely beautiful day of golf, the winners were Todd Asarch, Bryan Lewis, Greg Lewis and Rob Leven.

The event helped raise over \$30k for the foundation. We thank all the golfing enthusiasts who came out to support Ian's Friends Foundation.



Winning Team: Bryan Lewis, Greg Lewis, Todd Asarch, Rob Leven (from left to right)



Please see *Upcoming Events* on page 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Deutsche Bank Championship
Labor Day Weekend: September 4-7, 2009

IFF Belts and Champions will be sported again this Labor Day 2009 during the FedEx Cup at the PGA Deutsche Bank Classic. The Championship features the best 100 golfers on the 2009 PGA Tour.

This year's event will take place on Friday, Sept 4 - Monday, Sept 7, 2009 at TPC Boston in Norton, MA.

We look forward to seeing dozens of PGA Golfers wearing our blue IFF belts in their support of advancing research for pediatric brain tumors.

To learn more about the FedEx Cup/Deutsche Bank Championship go to www.iansfriendsfoundation.com or www.deutschebankchampionship.com.



GA Tech Battle of the Grills
September 20, 2009

GA Tech fraternity, AETT, has organized a "Battle of the Grills" to take place on September 20, 2009. AETT's Battle of the Grills is a competition to find out who can flip the juiciest burger, cook the tenderest chicken, and serve up the most delicious beef brisket on Georgia Tech's campus. On September 20th each competing team will present their take on beef brisket to the panel of judges and a champion will be declared. In addition to the main competition, Taster's Choice prizes will be given out to the teams who have raised the most money from selling other BBQ foods. At the end of the day a new BBQ champion will be crowned on Georgia Tech's campus. The purpose of the event is to raise funds and awareness for Ian's Friends Foundation. All the proceeds from AETT's Battle of the Grills will go directly to Ian's Friends Foundation to promote research to treat Pediatric Brain Tumors.

GA Tech is determined to lead the charge against Pediatric Brain Tumors. Thanks to GT and our friends at AETT for organizing this event.



Evening of Inspiration - 2nd Annual Event
September 12, 2009

Our next "Evening of Inspiration" for the advancement of pediatric brain tumor research will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2009 at the home of Cathy and Steve Kuranoff.

This will be another unforgettable evening filled with estate fine wines, a live auction with rare items and experiences, not to mention culinary specialties prepared by Atlanta's top chefs.

We have already obtained amazing donations such as a stay at the Ferragamo Estate in Tuscany; Win Your Own American Idol in-studio song production, and art from Todd Murphy.

Invitations to follow later this summer. We look forward to seeing many of you at the event.

Shannon Tanner Concert
October 11, 2009

Acclaimed entertainer from Hilton Head, Shannon Tanner, will delight your entire family at a concert on Sunday, October 11, 2009. Location and details are forthcoming. Please save the date to attend this event with your friends and family. The benefit is being hosted by the members of FUNDRAISERS.

