

camp rising sun **news**

Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation • April 2015

*A place where kids
with cancer have fun!*

Looking Back on a Fun-Filled Mini-Camp Weekend

Old Man Winter didn't let us down this year at Mini-Camp -- with a weather forecast of 40 degrees, it was no surprise that we started our weekend with snow! That meant we could throw out the "no snow" plan and go tubing, make snowmen and ice fish.

The day was action packed for all; if they weren't out playing in the snow they were creating with the one and only Crafty Patty, trying out the new Nine Square in the Air, competing in Camp Jewell's new indoor gaga pit, playing video games or participating in the many other fun activities planned for the day. The new crate stacking activity had 7-year-old

camper Tess standing atop a stack of 11 milk crates while camper Emely topped everyone going 17 crates high! With teamwork and encouragement from friends and staff she touched the ceiling of the gym.

The fun-filled evening activities started with a magic show followed by music, ice cream and games before everyone retired to their cabins. The entertainment didn't end there. Sunday morning was filled with games, activities and the all-time favorite, karaoke. We bid each other adieu knowing that summer camp is right around the corner!



Are You Part of the Bone Marrow Registry?

Patients with blood cancers -- including many of our campers -- often need a bone marrow transplant as part of their cure. Donors need to be a genetic match in order to provide a successful transplant, so the more people in the Be the Match registry, the better the chances of finding a match.

Joining the registry is easy -- you can do it online at bethematch.org or keep an eye out for a bone marrow drive in your area.

Please consider joining the registry today -- you just might have the opportunity to save someone's life!



“We are all one big happy family and that’s what I love about camp!”

- Gianna, senior camper

“Without Camp, I would not be the person I am today.”

- Katie, counselor & former camper

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 472
Branford, CT 06405*

www.camprisingsun.com

Team Camp Rising Sun Raises Funds, Gets Fit at Spin CT Challenge

On Sunday, February 1st, while most of the country was getting ready for the Super Bowl, Team Camp Rising Sun was participating in the Spin CT Challenge at The Edge in Norwalk, CT. From 9 am to noon, the team rode stationary bikes under the direction of rotating instructors.

The fund-raising event was put together by CT Challenge, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping empower cancer survivors through exercise and nutrition.

Team Camp Rising Sun consisted of counselors Melissa Pandolfi, Jordan Mann, Scott Capozza and Kelsey O'Reilly along with friends of CRS Ray Ingraham, Suzy Marshall, and Clint Sollenberger. All told, the team raised \$4,400, 75% of which will go to Camp Rising Sun with the remainder supporting CT Challenge's programs



across the state. The approximately 50 total participants in the event raised over \$42,000 for CT Challenge and other

cancer-related charities.

Melissa, the captain for Team Camp Rising Sun, really enjoyed the event. "The energy was awesome and the music was pumping!" she said afterwards. Scott, an avid cyclist, estimated that the team rode between 45-50 miles each during the event, noting that "3 hours is a long time in the saddle!"

Thank you to all of our Camp Rising Sun fans and supporters who sponsored our riders, and a big thanks to Melissa, Jordan, Scott, Kelsey, Ray, Suzy, and Clint for participating in this great event!



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Dr. Seuss We Want Your Stuff!

Our theme this summer is going to be Dr. Seuss. If you have any costumes or decorations lying around, we'd love to use them!

Let us know at:
info@camprisingsun.com

Camp Rising Sun Salutes America's Kindest Kid

Seven-year-old camper Sierra Prevesa, a second year camper at Camp Rising Sun, has proven to be a combination of dedicated and compassionate beyond her years. Many seem to agree, as she recently won Sprout's Kindest Kid Contest this past December. Sierra was awarded the Grand Prize amongst four other finalists, which was formally announced on the TODAY Show and Sprout on air. This annual contest is sponsored by Sprout, a 24-hour preschool channel that also provides online resources, events, games, and much more.

Sierra's kindness was noticed by others through her ongoing efforts to pay it forward to kids who are currently undergoing cancer treatment, an experience Sierra and her family have endured themselves through her fight against Wilms tumor, cancer of the kidney.



Sierra and her older sister, Emalena, visit children with cancer in the hospital while they are undergoing cancer treatment. Sierra shares gift bags and demonstrates deep breathing, yoga, use of stress balls, and relaxation techniques. These are techniques that helped Sierra during her

treatments.

Sierra has also worked hand in hand with her sister in their creation of a charity, Childhood Cancer Kids. Through the backdrop of this new charity, Sierra and her sister made one of their first goals to raise money for the well-known Make A Wish Foundation. With perseverance and hard work, this goal was achieved, as Sierra and her sister were able to raise \$10,000 for Make A Wish.

Sierra's grand prize victory has not only brought her public recognition as America's Kindest Kid, but it also included a contribution of \$5,000 to her Childhood Cancer Kids organization.

Camp Rising Sun is very proud of the acts of selflessness and kindness that Sierra has demonstrated in her first couple of years out of treatment. We can't wait to see what she does next!

Premier Subaru "Shared the Love" with Camp Rising Sun

For the seventh time, Subaru of America held its "Share the Love" event, during which Subaru donates \$250 for each new car sold or leased during a specified time period. The customer purchasing the car determines where the donation goes, choosing among Subaru's four national charities or a local charity chosen by each dealership.

Premier Subaru of Branford selected Camp Rising Sun to be its local charity, and its customers

chose CRS as their recipient to the tune of \$33,239!

Camp Rising Sun thanks Premier Subaru -- and its customers -- for sharing their love and honoring us with this extremely generous gift.



Have you seen our awesome new website?
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)



Hartford Marathon 2014

Over 20 brave souls ran in support of Camp Rising Sun at the 2014 NU Hartford Marathon. The weather conditions were less than ideal: rainy, windy, and cold. Yet campers Thad Allen, Justin Ordway and Cameron Merritt led the way as Team Camp Rising Sun was once again featured as an official charity for the race. Veteran Camp runners, like the Ordway family, Kathy Castillo and Mike Donahue, were joined by new runners like Debbie Crowley and Stacey Rose. We were well represented in all three races: the 5K, half marathon and full marathon.



Team Camp Rising Sun - Ready To Run!

Team Camp Rising Sun also had a very special runner join our team: Chuck Engle, an accomplished marathon runner and self-proclaimed “marathon junkie,” joined our team through his Chuck Engle Charity Challenge. Chuck started at the back of the pack in the marathon, and for every runner he passed, the Hartford Marathon Foundation donated a dollar to Camp. Chuck ended up passing over 2,300 runners that day, but the HMF rounded up and presented Camp with a check for \$2,500. Adding that total to the over \$15,000 our runners raised, Team Camp Rising Sun raised almost \$18,000!

In addition to our runners, over 20 volunteers (headed up by Rachel Hardy) organized the Kids' K race. Despite the conditions, the kids (and our volunteers) all had a blast!



2015

Camp Rising Sun Calendar of Events

Friday, April 17th

Spring Beer-fest

Details at camprisingsun.com

Friday, May 1

Wine & Cheese Fundraiser

Greendale Vineyards, Portsmouth, RI

Contact info@crswineandcheese.com

Saturday, June 6th

Pawcatuck Lion's 5K Road Race

Details at camprisingsun.com

Wednesday, July 15

Annual Night Out For The Kids

Owenego Inn, Branford, CT

Tickets at camprisingsun.com

July 24-25

Connecticut Challenge Bike Ride

Contact scapozza@hotmail.com

August 23-28

Camp Rising Sun Camp Week

Camp Jewell, Colebrook, CT

Contact Tina@camprisingsun.com

Saturday, October 10

**Team Camp Rising Sun Runs
the Hartford Marathon**

Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT

Contact scapozza@hotmail.com

Runners and Volunteers Needed!



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



**Until there's a
CURE,
there's CAMP**



