

# NEWS



**taffy**  
Taking Action for Friends, Family, & Youth

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## First Annual Joel Huber Fun Run celebrates the spirit of giving

By Robb Drzewicki

August 28<sup>th</sup> of 2011 saw the start of yet another great T.A.F.F.Y. tradition. The first ever Joel Huber Memorial Fun-Run and Walk was full of fun and the spirit of giving just like the man it's named after. Joel, a long-time supporter of T.A.F.F.Y., left us in January but his spirit of giving and community service live on through his friends and family. Over 50 people attended the walk on a hot August afternoon and countless more joined the after party that evening at Bar Louie in Laurel Park Mall. In the end, over \$3000 was raised in Joel's name to benefit projects and causes that we know he would have wanted to help out with.

The T.A.F.F.Y. Board of Directors and its volunteers are proud to be a part of Joel's tradition and to keep his spirit alive. For updates on future events, be sure to "like" us on Facebook. There's never a bad time to have a good time.



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### SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, July 28, 2012**

**Mark your calendars for this year's annual T.A.F.F.Y. Summer Fundraiser. We're already working on some special auction items and exciting musical performances.**

## Summer fundraiser provides scholarship for local freshman

Funds from T.A.F.F.Y.'s 2011 Summer Fundraiser provided a \$3,000 scholarship for Christine Gerard of Bloomfield Hills. Christine is a triplet (she has two other sisters), and developed complications from the premature birth resulting in not only having a profound hearing loss but also in developing cerebral palsy.

Nevertheless, she's been able to overcome these physical barriers in a most remarkable way and is now attending Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. A special thanks to the Louise Tumarkin Zazove Foundation for partnering with us on this very special project





## Thank You

The T.A.F.F.Y. Board would like to thank everyone that gave so generously to our causes last year, especially the following:

Wells Fargo  
DeWitts Radiator  
Garden Fresh  
Mike McGuire  
Ruth McGuire  
The Dingman Family  
Audra Westberg  
Sue Thomson  
Phoenix Electric  
Kelly Jeffery  
Roy and Barb Jeffery  
Becky Drzewicki  
Bridget Drzewicki  
Ginny Sullivan  
Diane Hanlon & Dave Berry

## How has your support made a difference?

T.A.F.F.Y. raised over \$15,000 in 2011 and the following stories are just a few examples of the local families we've helped this year thanks to your support.

- Megan, a 32 year-old mother of two, was diagnosed with brain cancer last summer. Treatments have shrunk the tumor but doctors say there is no cure for her type of cancer. Megan will continue treatment for as long as she lives to keep the tumor from growing. She would also like to seek alternative treatments but that costs money. T.A.F.F.Y. raised \$3,000 for Megan and her family to help alleviate their financial burden.
- Greg, a 44 year-old father of four, recently suffered a debilitating heart attack. He spent two weeks in Intensive Care and is slowly making progress. Medical bills have been piling up. Greg's wife is currently employed but her income is only enough to cover the costs of their daily living and it will be months before Greg will be well enough work. T.A.F.F.Y. organized two fundraisers to help Greg and his family make ends meet.
- Lisa, a wife and mother battled breast cancer this past year. Happily after a double mastectomy, chemo and radiation, and a partial hysterectomy, she is cancer free. T.A.F.F.Y. donated \$1,000 to Lisa and her family to help with bills and health care costs.
- Anne, a Westland school district art teacher, spends much of her own money each year on supplies for her students. With no budget to provide supplies for her special ed students. T.A.F.F.Y. donated \$500 to Anne so that she could buy what she needed.

## T.A.F.F.Y. joins forces with Woodward Academy

During this Christmas season, T.A.F.F.Y. joined forces with the Woodward Academy, a charter school located in downtown Detroit. T.A.F.F.Y. answered the call by adopting a total of five families whose children attend the Academy. These families requested help to provide a proper Christmas for their children.. T.A.F.F.Y. was more than happy to help these families who were suffering from setbacks including unemployment, homelessness, and being a

single parent household trying to provide for their families. Each family member received clothing items, a toy, books, and a game for the families to enjoy together. When the presents were delivered the families were overjoyed and extremely thankful. T.A.F.F.Y. was grateful to be able to help out others in their time of need, especially when it meant providing a Christmas for children and families who might not have been able to enjoy one otherwise.



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