



Newsletter



Vol 3 - April 2012

Last Chance to Get Your Tickets to the "Toast the Good Times" Wine Auction for Camp Goodtimes

The 2012 "Toast the Good Times" Wine Auction for Camp Goodtimes is pleased with the overwhelming support it has already received from the community. We are proud to say that we have a limited amount of space remaining for this boutique wine auction, and we want to make sure you, the loyal supporter, gets one more chance to get your ticket to the premier event that funds this amazing camp for children with cancer.

Tickets can be purchased by phone by calling ACS staff partner Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or by going to our online website at www.GoodTimesWineAuction.org. Tickets are \$175, a portion of which is tax deductible, something I know you're all thinking about as tax day approaches!

We hope to see you there!



You can join in the bidding on April 14th too! Get your tickets now at www.GoodTimesWineAuction.org!

Buy your Wine Auction tickets today for the chance to bid on these fabulous items!

Escape to Mexico!

Experience the vacation of your dreams at El Cid Resorts, where authentic Mexican hospitality sets the stage for an extraordinary escape. Enjoy breathtaking Pacific Ocean sunsets, indulgent spa services, warm, friendly service, and world-class golf courses at El Cid Mazatlán Resorts. Cradled by the Pacific Ocean and Sierra Mountains, Mazatlan is a prosperous seaport where Mexican heritage, traditions, and pride are on full display. This package includes two unrestricted roundtrip tickets on Alaska Airlines to destinations in Mexico and seven days of parking at SeaTac MasterPark Valet Airport Parking. Value: \$5,630

Six Liter Bottle of 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon XII, 93 Point Editor's Choice

A nose of ripe, exotic cherry and cranberry with baking spices and bramble. Richly structured with lush tannins, evocative minerality, mountain berries, plum, and a racy core of black cherry. Value: \$400

Relive the Moment

Relive this wonderful evening with a meal from the Harbor Club, paired with wines from Patit Creek! Chef Chris Frantela will design a superb five-course dinner menu for you and nine guests. He will also match your selection with wine from the club's own wine cellar and from presenting winery Patit Creek Cellars. You'll be sure to enjoy a dinner of unsurpassed cuisine and the highest level of personalized service for which the Harbor Club Bellevue is known. Value: \$1,550

For more information, please visit <http://goodtimeswineauction.org>
or contact Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or lisa.meindl@cancer.org

In 2004, Sara Turley was 8 years old and living a peaceful, normal life. She loved her family, enjoyed school and excelled at gymnastics, winning numerous awards for those athletic skills. During gymnastics practice one day she was performing a front tumbling move and noticed some sharp pain in her left leg. The pain was intermittent but still she went to a doctor to have it checked out. The doctor didn't find anything out of the ordinary and simply prescribed some rest.

Fairly soon afterwards she was playing with her sister Krista and fell out of small tree which caused excruciating pain. She again was taken to the doctor and this time they did find the underlying cause for the extreme pain; a tumor that extended all the way from her hip bone to her knee. She was immediately taken to Seattle Children's hospital where she underwent emergency surgery. It was then that Sara and her family were given the devastating news; Sara had Stage 4 Neuroblastoma. Neuroblastoma is one of the most deadly of childhood cancers and usually occurs in very young children.



Sara in November 2011

Sara's treatment was quite intensive. She had to endure eight months of chemotherapy, which caused her to lose all her hair and leave her exhausted all of the time. She also had a stem cell transplant, went through 14 rounds of radiation and even tried numerous special study drugs...and she was only 8 years old.

Her hospital stays were painful and long; often for weeks at a time. Thankfully, her cancer was mostly stabilized by all of the rigorous treatment, and she was able to keep up with school and lead a very active childhood. She began attending Camp Goodtimes in the summer of 2005 and hasn't missed a summer yet. She has attended with her younger sister Krista who has always been a source of great support for Sara (and comic relief for everyone else). For those of us camp volunteers these kids have literally grown up before our very eyes.

Sara is a very unique person, unlike most that you will ever encounter. She has a quite and gentle disposition, and possesses poise and grace that are very surprising for a girl of her age. Her smile will stay with you long after she leaves the room and her dry sense of humor and quick sarcasm with certainly keep you on your toes. She loves what Camp Goodtimes is all about and really accelerates

**For more information, please visit <http://goodtimeswineauction.org>
or contact Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or lisa.meindl@cancer.org**

through every moment. She would definitely be the type to hit the gas pedal to get through the yellow light if it meant keeping up with something fun that is going on.

This past Christmas, Sara and her family attended the Camp Goodtimes Christmas cruise. It is always a highlight of the year for camp families and most kids get onboard and immediately rush to find their friends from camp and get out on the dance floor. Sara does a little of that as well but the very first thing that I saw her do this past Christmas was go up to about the littlest child on the entire boat who was sitting by herself. Even though this child's parents were sitting nearby there was no smile on this child's face or any indication that she was enjoying herself. That is until Sara came up to her. Sara scooped her up in her arms and made a brand new friend instantly. She showed her around the boat, lifted her up so she could look out the window and even did some laps around the dance floor with her. Maybe she saw a little of her younger self in that child. Most-likely the real reason is that Sara has developed a compassion towards others that is genuine and free to all who want to be her friend. How lucky this little girl was that night. Although Sara has every right to be a little selfish now and again, she instead always looks outwards to others. She is generous beyond measure and has made a huge impact on the people around her in every aspect of her life.

There is no cure for Sara's cancer and the disease now is becoming more aggressive. Sara knows that this cancer will be taking her life, and at that, sometime in the foreseeable future. Still somehow, at only 16 years of age, she manages to keep an upbeat and very positive outlook on life, often reflecting on her situation with the wisdom normally reserved for an old man or woman who had lived a very complete and fulfilling life. Sara does share this same type of wisdom because she too has lived well and seemingly far beyond her years.

Sara now seeks to educate and inspire others to live life to the fullest and not take a single day for granted. At this she is an expert. She believes that each day is a gift and something to be thankful for. The real gift though is Sara herself, and luckily her family and friends truly understand how special a gift she really is.



Sara Summer 2006



Sara Summer 2010

For more information, please visit <http://goodtimeswineauction.org> or contact Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or lisa.meindl@cancer.org



Ever since 1991, Gene Juarez salons have been supporting Camp Goodtimes in the most colorful way imaginable. It was in that year that salon employees, led by Brenda “Poky” Karr, volunteered their time to come out to camp and add a special element to carnival day that instantly became a camp tradition. Poky had two brothers that had volunteered at camp, Terry and Kirk, or “Gumby” and “Varmit” as they were/are known. Gumby was a mainstay at camp in the late 80’s and Varmit has now been

there ever since. They helped make it possible for Poky and her fellow Gene Juarez volunteers to bring their cans of hair spray, colored hair paint, and a complete arsenal of kid decorating items to camp.

Poky and friends had a simple goal. They wanted to celebrate each and every camper that sat down in a chair in front of them. For over 20 years now, their crazy, over-the-top, and flamboyant styling have created human billboards-of-fun to be paraded around the carnival. For the Gene Juarez crew, each head is a new blank canvas for their unique brand of artwork. Some of it is only on display until obliterated in the whipped cream fight just a short time later. Other times it lasts for days as kids avoid showers or anything else that could diminish the art that they were wearing. I would bet that a few kids over the years probably tried to go to sleep sitting up so that their pillows wouldn’t mute their colors.

The beautiful thing, figuratively and literally, is that the outward celebration of a child, using all the colors of the rainbow, has even more effect inside the child. This “celebration of me”, seeps inward and can be quite transformative. The added self-confidence can be seen almost instantly. It becomes obvious on carnival day that beauty is not reserved for supermodels. True beauty is about being happy and sharing that happiness with others. On carnival day, this is happening all over the place. When a child can cause instant outbursts of laughter and huge lasting smiles only as if to say, “Hey, look at ME!, well that is just a great moment. In that moment there is a victory for that child, one which can never be taken away. For Poky, this experience has been transformative as well. She said, “There is no way you can go to camp and not be affected by the experience of working with these children. It changed me and I think all the stylists, for the better. To see the smiles on the kids’ faces is absolutely wonderful.”



Long after the colors from the spray cans fade, or are wiped away by whipped cream, or even washed away by the visiting fire hoses of the Vashon Fire Department during the end of carnival shower, the colors left within the child stay bright. This gift from Gene Juarez to the children of Camp Goodtimes has put a lift in the step of every single camper that they’ve worked with. This lift has caused these children to stand taller and stronger. For a child living with cancer, and for their siblings too, this strength is needed and put to use every single day.



Thank you Poky and friends for making life more vibrant, colorful and fun for the children and staff at Camp Goodtimes. Even though it was your hands holding the spray cans, bobby pins and combs, it’s obvious that it was your hearts telling them what to do. The result has been pure magic and those memories will last a lifetime.

For more information, please visit <http://goodtimeswineauction.org> or contact Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or lisa.meindl@cancer.org

Large Seattle Corporations Support American Cancer Society's Camp GoodTimes through Wine Auction

During Global Economic Crisis, Large Seattle Corporations place priority on philanthropic efforts within the Puget Sound supporting the programs and efforts of the American Cancer Society

As the Ninth annual American Cancer Society's 'Toast the Good Times' Wine Auction approaches on April 14, 2012 at the Harbor Club Bellevue, several large organizations have generously donated thousands of dollars in support of the event; corporations include Wal-Mart, Swedish Cancer Institute, Amgen, General Mills, Miller Coors, Coca Cola, Kellogg's, United Healthcare, Nintendo, 425 Magazine, Patit Creek Cellars, United Reprographics, Mercer Cellars, Cooper Winery, William Church Winery, VMC, The Harbor Club, and Alaska Airlines. The boutique wine auction, which is entering its ninth year, has continued to gain traction despite the global financial crisis the Seattle market is currently experiencing, selling 175 tickets to the premier event.

"Cancer is a disease that affects so many individuals in our community, and across the globe, and it is especially sad when we see it in children. In partnering with the American Cancer Society and Camp Goodtimes West through the Wine Auction, we are able to help support children in Washington and Alaska who are facing this horrible disease." states Marc Pelham, Market Manager for Wal-Mart.

"Wal-Mart's philosophy is to 'operate globally and give back locally'. This event allows our organization to increase the awareness of how important it is to find a cure to end cancer worldwide so that not only our community but communities across the world may celebrate more birthdays."

Themed "Toast the Good Times," the event fundraises in support of the American Cancer Society's Camp GoodTimes West summer camp program for children with cancer. Since launching, the event has raised over \$1.2 million dollars in support of Camp Goodtimes.



For more information, please visit <http://goodtimeswineauction.org>
or contact Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or lisa.meindl@cancer.org