



the four diamonds fund
Conquering Childhood Cancer

Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Office of University Development, A120
P.O. Box 852
Hershey, PA 17033-0852

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❄️ 2003 FOUR DIAMONDS HOLIDAY CARDS ❄️

*We are pleased to announce the winners for the
2003 Four Diamonds Holiday Card contest:*



Madeline Harbick
Age 11
Mechanicsburg, PA



Amanda Baylor
Age 5
York, PA



Susannah Misiaszek
Age 18
Reading, PA



Matthew Seybert
Age 12
Warriors Mark, PA

Cards will be available October 1.

*If you would like to purchase or sell cards at your school, business, or
community organization, please contact the Four Diamonds office at
(717) 531-6086.*

FOUR DIAMONDS FORUM



The Four Diamonds
Fund Newsletter
Summer 2003



Mini-THON MADNESS

Students Making a Difference!

Four Diamonds mini-thon fever is spreading throughout Central PA. This year, we were extremely fortunate to have eleven Four Diamonds mini-thons, with six new schools joining the ranks of students staying on their feet for the kids. Together, the total amount raised by the participating middle schools and high schools for 2002-03 was a remarkable **\$169,363.98!** Congratulations to every student who helped make this possible.

In recent years, schools have implemented student community service projects in their curriculum, encouraging students to identify ways they can use their talents to give back to their communities.

Such projects help students tie community service to academic learning by giving them an opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom to help solve problems and address local needs.

Four Diamonds mini-thons provide students the satisfaction of knowing that their fund-raising efforts will directly impact the lives of children, and quite possibly students within their own school district, who are battling a life-threatening illness. By planning a mini-thon, students are able to test their academic, organizational, and leadership skills as well as discover that fund-raising for a worthwhile cause can be fun.



Pictured above are twelve volunteers after they each contributed a minimum of 10 inches of hair to Locks of Love during Dover Area High School's first Four Diamonds mini-thon. Dover had 172 students participate in their mini-thon.

On behalf of the children and families who benefit from special programs and services provided by The Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Children's Hospital, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the schools who have worked so hard this year to help make a difference in the lives of others. Your enthusiasm and caring is truly appreciated. ❖

Save the Date

September 3, 20036:30 p.m.

Friends of Four Diamonds Meeting
Academic Support Building, Room 2008

September 14, 2003Noon

Four Diamonds Family Picnic
Shank Park, Hershey

October 19, 2003Noon

THON™ Harvest Day
Harner Farm, State College, PA

October 25, 20036:30 p.m.

Friends of Four Diamonds Art Auction
Hershey Golf Club, Hershey, PA

November 2, 200310:00 a.m.

THON™ 5K Run
University Park, PA

November 16, 2003Noon

THON™ Family Reunion Carnival
University Park, PA

*Please contact the Four Diamonds office
at (717) 531-6086 if you would like
additional information about these events.*

**If you do not wish to receive Four
Diamonds Forum, please contact
Marcy Maher at (717) 531-6086.**

*Information provided to Penn State Hershey Medical
Center and Penn State College of Medicine is kept in the
strictest of confidence. Please write to us if you wish to
have your name removed from future publications. Upon
notification, all reasonable effort will be taken to adhere
to your wishes.*

Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.

—Helen Keller

2002-03 Four Diamonds Mini-THON Highlights

Central Dauphin High School has been organizing Four Diamonds mini-thons for the past ten years. Their event, which was held in November, kicked off the 2002-03 mini-thon season and included a number of fund-raising projects such as a mini-thon t-shirt contest, a powder puff football game, jello-wrestling, and a silent auction.



For those who attended Spring Grove Middle School's first Four Diamonds mini-thon, it was a 12-hour "no sitting" event with non-stop activities thanks to Jessica Donnelly, who is not only the Health Education teacher, but a 2002 THON™ Morale Captain.

Between **Annville-Cleona Middle School** and **Annville-Cleona High School**, 368 students "Anted up for the Cure" and participated in mini-thons to benefit the Fund. One of the high school mini-thon events was a student fashion show during which Four Diamonds patient, Mara Zomok, age 6, Harrisburg, PA, escorted some of the models down the runway.



Springfield High School, located in Bucks County, held their first Four Diamonds mini-thon in memory of Mr. Steve Stefani, a beloved teacher of 30 years, who lost his battle with cancer last year. "He (Mr. Stefani) loved kids and what better way to honor him than to help kids with cancer. Next year, we are going to raise even more money!" — Dr. Bridget Kelly, Principal, Springfield High School

The Hershey High School Key Club has been "Dancing for Diamonds" since 1994 and for the past several years they have asked a Four Diamonds patient to provide the artwork for their mini-thon t-shirt. For their 2003 event, Craig Cline, age 14, Shippensburg, PA contributed the t-shirt design.

In February, **Big Spring High School** held their third Four Diamonds mini-thon in memory of a former student, Brian Lehman, who lost his battle with cancer several years ago. The Lehman family appreciates Big Spring High School's tribute to Brian as well as the school's efforts in helping to find a cure for childhood cancer through their annual mini-thon.

Garden Spot High School and **Ephrata High School** joined forces to host their first Four Diamonds mini-thon on May 30 with approximately 100 students participating. Alison Good, a junior at Garden Spot High School and sister of Four Diamonds patient, Kaitlyn Good, age 11, got this mini-thon initially off the ground by proposing the idea to her high school. The students from both schools organized this mini-thon entirely on their own and did a fantastic job!

West Perry Middle School held a Lock-in from 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and had 200 students participate. Taylor Scarnato and Michele Gordon, both eighth grade students, chaired the event and credited the students, parents, and their community for its success.

Susquenita Middle School held their first Four Diamonds dance-a-thon on May 30. Over 150 fifth and sixth graders danced from 6:00 p.m. – midnight to raise over \$5,000 for the Fund. The students plan to make it an annual event.

As the 2003-04 mini-thons are scheduled, they will be listed on the Four Diamonds web page at www.fourdiamonds.org. If you notice a mini-thon being held in your area, stop by and show the students your support. *They would love to see you there!* ❖

2002-03 FOUR DIAMONDS HIGH SCHOOL MINI-THONS

SCHOOL	EVENT DATE	\$ RAISED
<i>Central Dauphin High School</i>	November 16	\$48,893.40
<i>Gettysburg High School</i>	February 8	\$6,080.00
<i>Hershey Key Club</i>	February 21	\$20,000.00
<i>Springfield High School</i>	February 28	\$11,617.00
<i>Big Spring High School</i>	March 8	\$21,000.00
<i>West Perry Middle School Lock-in</i>	March 21	\$9,000.00
<i>Annville-Cleona Middle School/High School</i>	April 5	\$16,000.00
<i>Dover Area High School</i>	May 3	\$12,378.81
<i>Spring Grove Middle School</i>	May 10	\$11,800.00
<i>Ephrata High School & Garden Spot High School</i>	May 30	\$9,700.00
<i>Susquenita Middle School</i>	May 30	\$5,000.00

Thank You to...



Pictured left to right: THON students Scott Upright, Jon Brooks, Lee Kimball, and Four Diamonds Advisory Board Chair, Stuart Spisak, challenged the golf links at the third annual Scramble for Four Diamonds on May 2. The outing, sponsored by the Four Diamonds Advisory Board, had another record-breaking year, raising over \$23,000.



Kuppy's Diner, Middletown, PA, sponsored the Kuppy's Diner Cruise-In on May 8, and raised over \$5,000 to benefit The Four Diamonds Fund. On display were 110 domestic, imported, classic hot rods, muscle cars, and 25 motorcycles. The Cruise-In was held in memory of Barbara Wareham Genther, who lost her battle with cancer last year. We would like to extend our thanks to all the loyal customers of Kuppy's Diner who helped make this event so successful.



AutoTrader.com sponsored their first golf tournament to benefit The Four Diamonds Fund on June 16 at Iron Valley Golf Course, Cornwall, PA. Chip Perry, CEO, and Polly Nash, District Sales Manager for PA and WV, presented a check for \$2,030 to Sara Firestone, Four Diamonds Coordinator, and Sean Laird, age 9, Annville, PA.

The Justin LeFevre Foundation for their additional gift of \$15,000 in support of the Pediatric Cancer Research Institute. The Foundation's commitment to finding a cure for childhood cancer is deeply appreciated.

Hershey Bears Booster Club for their donation of \$3,840 representing a portion of the proceeds from their 50/50 raffle held during the 2002-03 hockey season.

Hershey Bears Hockey Club for their continued support and for their gift of \$1,400 generated through their annual players' awards.

The members of the **Mid-Atlantic Region of the Retreads Motorcycle Club** for their generous gift of \$1,520, representing the proceeds from 50/50 breakfast raffles, a poker run, and the sale of a handcrafted wooden rocking motorcycle.

The Pine Grove Church in Bowmansville, PA for sponsoring a carnival on June 6 in honor of Four Diamonds patient, Victoria-Lynn Longaberger, age 11, Denver, PA. The Bowmansville community support was amazing as \$5,500 was raised for the Fund and 41 units of blood were donated to Penn State Hershey Medical Center. Over 400 students and teachers from Brechnock Elementary School attended. Now that's what you call teamwork!

Sixth grade students of Linglestown Elementary School for participating in Penny Wars for five days, and raising an amazing \$1,021.68.

Starr Elaine Black and **George William Akens** for asking friends and relatives to help celebrate their recent marriage by forwarding contributions to The Four Diamonds Fund in lieu of wedding gifts. This request was a way for Starr and her family to remember David Black, Starr's son, and to also give back to the Fund for the support their family received during David's illness.

Mr. Austin Willi and his **fifth grade class at East Pennsboro Middle School** for their generous gift of \$1,000 to benefit the

Fund. Their class is part of the school's community service program, Solutions Incorporated, through which each fifth grade class chooses a charitable organization to support. We truly appreciate their commitment to The Four Diamonds Fund.

PNC Bank for offering the use of their suite at the Giant Center to our Four Diamonds families on several occasions.

We are unable to recognize everyone in the newsletter, but we want you to know how much we appreciate your continued support.

Meet the Penn State Children's Hospital Cubby

We would like to introduce you to the Nittany Lion cubby, the new mascot for Penn State Children's Hospital. This cuddly bundle of joy can be yours for only \$12.00. If you would like to purchase a cubby or if you know of a community organization, which would be interested in selling cubbies as a fund-raiser to benefit The Four Diamonds Fund, please contact the Four Diamonds office at **(717) 531-6086**.

