



Cancer fundraiser aims to leave no stone unsold

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Sam's Day is returning and this year's organizers of the fundraiser hope to leave no stone unturned, or unsold, in collecting money for cancer research.

Sam's Day is named for Sam Lack, a four-year-old local resident and cancer survivor. At 19 months he was diagnosed with Stage 3 neuroblastoma, a rare and potentially-deadly form of childhood cancer. He underwent chemotherapy and surgery to treat his tumour and recently celebrated his third year of being cancer free.

Sam is currently attending junior kindergarten at Pineland P.S. Every six months he goes for a medical check-up.

The annual Sam's Day fundraiser, now in its fourth year, raises funds for The James Fund for Neuroblastoma Research at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Sam's family has organized the annual family fun day to celebrate his birthday (June 4) and ongoing remission.

Last year's event raised \$42,000 with the three-year total at nearly \$90,000.

Sam's Day 2008 takes place on Saturday, June 7 from 1-4:30 p.m. at Brant Hills Community Centre, 2255 Brant St.

This year's Olympic-themed event will offer live entertainment, children's games, crafts and interactive exhibits, balloon creations, temporary tattoos and a silent auction.

Lunch and afternoon snacks are included in the \$25 admission for a family pass or \$10 for an adult.

A new fundraising addition to Sam's Day this year is the selling of themed stones, called Stones of Hope. They are small stones inscribed with an inspirational word such as 'Believe', 'Hope' or 'Faith'.

Each stone is numbered, with the hope 200 stones will be sold. They cost \$20 each; 30 have been sold so far. One number between 1-200 will be drawn on Sam's Day. The person who purchased the stone marked with the lucky number will win a 42-inch Panasonic plasma TV.

"... Every stone purchased helps give a bit more hope to kids like Sam that rely on advances in medicine to help save their lives. This is an important cause that we feel good about supporting", said Nizar Esmail of CIBC Wood Gundy, the Sam's Day Stones of Hope campaign sponsor.

To purchase a Stone of Hope or a Sam's Day ticket, contact Andrea at 905-632-4471 or e-mail andrea@samsday.org. For more information on Sam's Day, visit www.samsday.org.



A 'ROCK' SOLID FUNDRAISER

SAM'S DAY: Five-year-old cancer survivor Sam Lack is joined by Mayor Cam Jackson and Nizar Esmail of CIBC Wood Gundy to help promote Sam's Day 2008, a day of fun, family activities on Saturday, June 7 at Brant Hills Community Centre. Mayor Jackson holds one of the special inspirational-message stones that are being sold for \$20 each with proceeds going to cancer research. Someone who buys one of 200 stones for sale will win a 42-inch Panasonic plasma television.

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