SOUTHEASTERN BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION'S

# HORIZONS OF HOPE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

# SBTF CELEBRATES 27 YEARS

Patients to receive care bags as a result of your response to our Birthday Bash Amazon Wish List -

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# VOICES OF HOPE SCHOLARSHIPS

A record breaking year for scholarship applications! Over 20 students applied for funding from the Voices of Hope program.

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# APHASIA AWARENESS EVENT

Patients dealing with Aphasia raised awareness at Emory John's Creek Hospital in May as part of Brain Tumor Awareness Month.

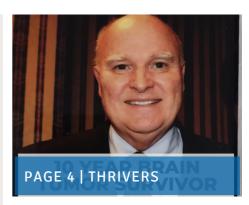
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### **RACE FOR RESEARCH 2022**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

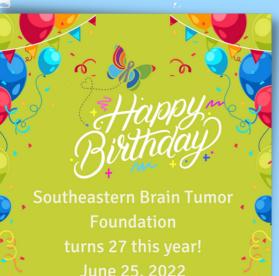
Join us in September at Atlantic Station for the 23rd annual Race for Research! **Registration is OPEN** for individuals, teams and volunteers at <a href="mailto:sbtfrfr.com">sbtfrfr.com</a>. Your registration choices include:

- untimed 1k walk/jog
- untimed 5k walk/jog/run
- timed 5k run
- · tot-trot for kids 6 and under
- volunteer
- virtual participant

Back again on the Green, we are looking forward to sharing stories of hope at the Survivor Tree, remembering those lost on the Wall of Honor, and celebrating our top fundraisers and speediest runners. Kids activities, food trucks and the DJ will keep you entertained while participants race for research. All funds raised are earmarked to fund brain tumor research grants.

Don't forget you can create a team (of 2 or as many as you wish) and reserve a rally spot for your team. Bring a tent, decorations, food, drinks, chairs or whatever makes your spot special. Who knows, you might be our next Team Spirit winner!

## **SBTF TURNED 27 IN JUNE**



Each year on June 25th we celebrate the creation of the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation in 1995, meaning this year we celebrate twenty-seven years of serving the brain tumor community.

We created a "wish list" of items commonly appreciated by patients. We invite you to view our <u>Amazon wish list</u> and purchase an item (or 27 to celebrate our 27th!) which will be sent to our staff to create Care Bags for patients. The list includes items such as hard candy, Biotene mouthwash, lip balm, puzzle books, journals, blankets, masks, fuzzy socks, and more.

The list remains active - belated gifts are appreciated!



#### **VOICES OF HOPE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS - FALL 2022**

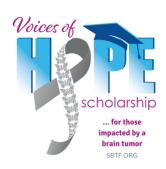


#### \$33,500 TO BE AWARDED FOR FALL 2022

As it gains visibility in the brain tumor community, our scholarship program grows in number of application submissions. This year our Scholarship Review Committee had a record breaking 21 applications to review; this is nearly double that of prior year.

Funding comes from members of our brain tumor community who have generously pledged their support. For those donors pledging a minimum of \$3,000, we offer the opportunity to name a scholarship in honor of a loved one. The Will Pridgen VOH, the Faulkenberry Family VOH, and the Craig "Ironhead" Heyward VOH Scholarships are among the named scholarships being awarded in June of 2022.

Let's give a huge shout out to the Heyward House, and the Cameron Heyward Foundation, who was among our inaugural donors to this program. If not for this amazing organization, and an anonymous donor, the program would never have debuted in 2019. Cameron Heyward, a Pittsburg Steelers NFL player, lost his father to a brain tumor.





In recent years, the Faulkenberry family and the family of Will Pridgen joined our list of donors with a named scholarship. If you'd like to create a named scholarship and donate to the SBTF Voices of Hope (VOH) Academic Scholarship program, you can reach us via email at scholarships@sbtf.org

Be sure to follow us on social media to learn about this years' scholarship recipients.



### **APHASIA AWARENESS**

Did you know that 30-50% of people with brain tumors experience aphasia or other cognitive-communication difficulties? Aphasia is caused by damage to the language-dominant side of the brain, usually the left side, and may be brought on by stroke, head injury or a brain tumor. There are several different types of aphasia.

On May 25, 2022, Speech Therapist Erica Johns Freestone and the SBTF held an Aphasia Awareness Event at Emory John's Creek Hospital. Not only did we educate people about the diagnosis, we provided some tips to improve communications with this unique patient population.

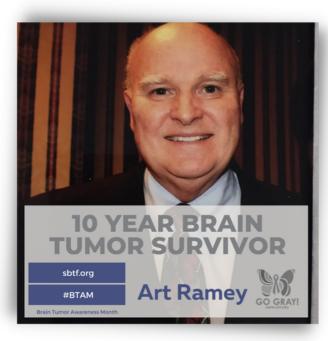
- speak slowly and look at the patient while talking,
- write down what you said verbally to the patient,
- speak in shorter phrases and reduce background noise/distractions,
- pause and give the patient time to speak,
- if an incorrect word is used (by the patient), don't rush to correct. The patient typically knows the wrong word was used.
- use photos or images to communicate when the patient is non-verbal

Most importantly, and above all else, be respectful. Finding the right words can be difficult for us all, and especially difficult for an individual diagnosed with Aphasia.



## **BRAIN TUMOR "THRIVERS"**

In this segment of our quarterly newsletter we salute and recognize brain tumor THRIVERS. Each and every day post-diagnosis is a day to celebrate and a day to share stories of Thrivorship. If you are a brain tumor thriver, be sure to let us know so we can celebrate you in our quarterly newsletter.



#### **ART RAMEY- 10 YEAR THRIVER**

"I'm all about encouraging others" says Art Ramey who tirelessly encourages people to "never give up and stay positive!" After his diagnosis, he became involved in Race For Research and joined Karen Sams' team "Dave's Team Hope". For the past decade Art has participated in our 5K road race and never hesitated to inspire others who he met at the event. We all keep track of milestones, or significant events, which occur in our lives. This year Art celebrates a 10 year milestone, and another year of clear brain scans. "My (recent) MRI showed nothing has returned since the 2012; Gamma knife procedure and blessings of the Lord". Be sure to look for Art at the 23rd annual Race For Research and extend congratulations to him on his 10th year at RFR but more importantly on his 10th year "tumor free" milestone.

# JOEY MARTIN - US PARALYMPIC ATHLETE

Do you know anyone on the US Women's Para National Team (WPNT)? We do, and it's our hometown fave Joey Martin. The Women's PNT made it's international debut in Salou, Spain following initial training camps held back in January and April. Joey, a Defender, was among the 10 players slated to play. In addition to the United States, Australia, Japan, Netherlands, and Spain competed at the Women's World Cup, the first-ever world championship event for Women's Para Soccer.

Their May 17th game against Australia resulted in a come from behind OT victory. The team scored twice in the second half and twice in overtime to win the inaugural 2022 IFCPF World Cup for women.

Well done Joey & Felicidades!









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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Twenty-seven years. Let that sink in a bit. A quarter of a century of supporting the brain tumor community. Imagine all the families who have faced a brain tumor diagnosis and found the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation as a place for resources, support groups or help during treatment. I am so proud of all that has been accomplished by the supporters of and Board of the SBTF.

But that brings us to the next twenty-five years. Will we celebrate with improved outcomes or better treatments? Will we get emotional when the nightly news' lead story is the discovery of a cure? So much possibility awaits as long as research continues.

Until that day, the Foundation will continue to support the brain tumor community with educational resources, support groups for patients and caregivers, and scholarships to enable students to continue to dream. Who knows? One of our Voices of Hope Scholarship winners could be the one to find that cure.

Your loyal support, both financially and through volunteer hours, make this possible. Without you there are no support groups, no scholarships and no research grants. We would be unable to provide acts of kindness to the patients currently undergoing treatment. We can't express our appreciation enough but hope that you know you are the foundation of the Foundation.

Thank you for 27 years, and looking forward with hope to 27 more,



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

2022

July 20: GBM Awareness Day
Aug 27: Summer Concert
Sept 24: Race for Research
Oct 23: Alive in Roswell

Oct 29: Intl Brain Tumor Awareness

Nov 29: Giving Tuesday

Want to find out more about our Events?

Visit our website events page!

https://sbtf.org/brain-tumor-events/

**LEARN MORE AT SBTF.ORG** 



### **EVENTS BENEFITING THE SBTF:**

### **SUMMER CONCERT FUN:**

**Date:** August 27, 2022 3:00 - 7:00 pm

**Location:** Meadowgrove Club

2850 Meadow Grove Way Marietta, GA 30067

Music by: Moody Hollow Band & Citizen Gold

More Info: visit sbtf.org Events page

### **ALIVE IN ROSWELL:**

Date: Oct 23, 2022
Location: Downtown Roswell
Website: aliveinRoswell.com

**To participate:** No tickets necessary, open to public. visit Councilman Mike Palermo's beverage tent and purchase a beverage; proceeds benefit the SBTF