

Inaugural Fire Island 5K Run & Benefit Raises \$67,000+ for Brain Tumor Research

Under a clear blue sky on a beautiful summer day, the conditions couldn't have been better for the first annual Fire Island 5K Run and Benefit, held on Sunday, August 12. Approximately 350 runners lined up at the race start to kick off this inaugural event, and hundreds more joined the post-race festival at the Fire Island Hotel in Ocean Bay Park.

The successful event was organized by John and Anthony DiGangi, with tremendous help from family and friends, to honor their mother, Rose, who continues to suffer from an aggressive brain tumor that was diagnosed in September of 2006. The festival provided an opportunity to demonstrate their support to their mother's fight, and increase awareness about this devastating disease and to raise funds to help find a cure.

After all is said and done, the DiGangi Family of East Islip is proud to announce that the Fire Island 5K Run and Benefit raised more than **\$67,000** to benefit the American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA). The DiGangi's selected the ABTA to receive 100 percent of the net proceeds from the fundraiser because the Association agreed to earmark the entire donation for brain tumor research.

With the cooperation of the local fire departments, the exciting 5K racecourse provided a scenic route through the towns of Ocean Bay Park, and Seaview. The post-race festival at the Fire Island Hotel offered hours of family-friendly entertainment, including live music, food, drinks, raffles and prizes.

"None of this would have been possible without the generosity of family, friends and local businesses, all of whom were willing to donate their time and talents for our cause," praised Anthony DiGangi. "We would like to thank each and every person from the bottom of our hearts."

This fundraiser was a complete success due to the consideration of the following event sponsors: Fire Island Hotel and Resort (which hosted the race registration and festival), Heineken, CMP Media, Fire Island Ferries, The Irish Coffee Pub, The Schooner Inn, The McNamara Group, Target Group Media, Mohring Appraisal Associates Inc., Drew Patrick Spa and TK New York. The DiGangi Family would also like to thank the numerous individuals, organizations, local businesses and corporations that contributed raffles and prizes for the event, as well as the donors and fundraisers who went above and beyond to raise money and awareness for the cause.

For more information about the American Brain Tumor Association visit www.abta.org or to make a donation to this cause visit www.active.com/donate/fi5k