Holiday Greetings from

The Directors, Staff and Many Friends of Fighting Chance

And please consider a gift to our Holiday Appeal. It will mean so much to those we care for.

December 2012
CHAIRMAN’S LETTER

From Duncan N. Darrow, Founder & Chairman

This is the one time each year when I personally ask all our friends for a donation, and include a donation envelope as part of our newsletter. If you need a reason to give to Fighting Chance, you might find it by reflecting on the two messages of appreciation that we received this year about our patient counseling. Here are excerpts:

Thank You

“Dear Fighting Chance... I don’t know whether or not you have been told that my son died in August... I spent the last days of his life with him and he told me he had been to Fighting Chance Center a couple of times and found comfort in talking to the people here... thank you for being there when you were needed and lifting my son’s spirits.”

“Dear Fighting Chance... I would like you to know that my daughter has requested that her friends make donations to Fighting Chance in lieu of presents for her birthday party... I was diagnosed with cancer earlier this year and came in to talk to you. We think you provide a great service to the East End.”

WHAT FIGHTING CHANCE MEANS TO ME

Perry “Chip” Duryea III, is featured on the back page hosting a fund raiser for Fighting Chance at his Montauk restaurant. We were very appreciative of his generosity and also touched by what he said about “What Fighting Chance Means to Me.” Here is an excerpt:

“Fighting Chance is a unique venue for members of the cancer community, combining professional staff with a warm and private setting. Whether the issue is patient navigation, individual or group counseling, or informative written materials, the support system available at Fighting Chance is extremely helpful and most gratifying.”
“Mystery Man” on the Radio

WLNG Spots Feature Voice of Actor Brian Dennehy
Two-Time Tony Award Winner and Actor in Over 30 Hollywood Films

If you listen to WLNG during “drive time” or on Saturday mornings, you may have noticed a 60-second spot that publicizes the free cancer counseling services of Fighting Chance. It has been running since last summer:

One of the reasons people tell us the spot is so memorable is the voice – they say “I know I’ve heard it somewhere … it’s very familiar.” But the only clue is at the end of the ad, when the narrator says … “tell them Brian sent you.”

Well, we can’t keep a secret forever. The voice you hear belongs to Brian Dennehy, one of the most respected actors of stage and screen today and, we might add, a graduate of a terrific high school, Chaminade Academy on Long Island.

The Farmers’ Market and Fighting Chance

For many residents of the East End, the Farmers’ Market, based on the Historic Wharf area in Sag Harbor, is a frequent stop most Saturday mornings from May through the end of October. Entering its 5th year, the Market now has over 20 vendors. They include several purveyors of organic vegetables; the “Mushroom Man,” a booth dedicated exclusively to pickles of all sorts, Mecox Bay cheese and so much more.

A few of the vendors act as the Market’s governing board and they have retained the services of a part-time manager. This group approached Fighting Chance in April and asked if we would set up an information table about our free services. We were delighted to do so, since this sort of grass roots effort helps improve “word of mouth.”

Customers visiting the Farmers’ Market – and there are hundreds of them each Saturday – would stop by the Fighting Chance information table, pick up a brochure and learn a bit more about our free-of-charge cancer counseling services.

Seen in this photo are the Chairman of Fighting Chance, his wife, Wendy Moonan, and Nancy Greenberg, the organization’s Cancer Patient Navigator. Wendy’s golden retriever “Lili” also managed to get into the picture, which dates back to the opening day of the Market this past summer.

If you would like to be part of one of our volunteer activities, please call Maureen McAdam, our volunteer coordinator, who can be reached through our Sag Harbor office at 631 725 4646.
Duryea Fundraiser in Montauk

Perry “Chip” Duryea III – a Fighting Chance Director – Hosts “Lobster Bash” at his Montauk Waterside Restaurant

The Duryea Dock in Montauk has catered to the wholesale and retail fishing industry since the 1920s, and is now in the hands of the 3rd generation of the family – Perry Duryea III. In 1991, Duryea’s Lobster Deck, one of the top outdoor dining spots on the East End, was added to the commercial facility, and it was the site of a Friday afternoon luncheon this September, which raised over $5,000 for Fighting Chance.

Lunch featured a large steamed lobster with melted butter, corn on the cob, clam chowder and more. Over 100 guests thoroughly enjoyed their meals, seaside on a beautiful day.

Perry personally greeted each and every guest and “worked the deck” with the distinctive Duryea charm, ensuring a good time was had by all.

The idea for the event began with talks among several women who had participated in a Caregivers’ Support Group at Fighting Chance, led by Karrie Robinson, Director of Clinical Services. The group wanted to find a way to “give back”, and worked with Maureen McAdam, our Volunteer Coordinator to make the day a great success. Special thanks to all these volunteers... a group that included Pj Bigelow, Nancy Calvert, Hilary Collins, and Rosalie Rusak.

Photos: C.B. Grubb