



# Fine tuning JTB's core mission results in growth

In the past year the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation has gone from a regional organization to an organization known across the country for making grants to fire and rescue squads, parks, schools, camps, and youth sports leagues to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs).

The growing national stature of the Foundation is a result of the board's decision to fine tune its mission, which focuses on advocacy, research, and grants for AEDs and training professionals in AED use and CPR so that they can train others.

The AED grants have become tremendously important because of new laws in New Jersey and many other states requiring AEDs in public places. Agencies from as far away as Oregon, North Carolina, Louisiana, and Virginia are inundating the Foundation with requests for grants to purchase the defibrillators.

The Foundation just made a grant to Louisiana Special Olympics to purchase two portable AEDs, at a cost of around \$3,000, to take with officials to athletic contests.

Another grant went to The Servant Center, a Greensboro, North Carolina organization that was the area's first transitional housing program for homeless and disabled men, particularly veterans.

The Servant Center, which began in 1991 as an Episcopal outreach program helping low-income and disabled people apply for disability benefits, applied to the JTB Foundation for a grant to purchase an AED for the Center's residence. The grant was sought by one of the residents named Rick, who himself volunteered at the Center's Marketing and Development Office.

"Rick is very pleased that his work and research came to fruition," former Marketing and Development Director Nate Levin-Aspenson wrote to the JTB Board. "Our defibrillator arrived two weeks ago, and last week it was finally installed. Hopefully we will never have to use it, but everyone at Servant House can rest a little easier."

### JTB donates to Virginia running program for vets

In Richmond, Virginia, a new portable AED is on site at all events sponsored by Team Red, White & Blue, a veterans' running, cycling, and triathlon organization, following receipt of a \$2,200 grant from the JTB Foundation.

The group asked for the device after a series of medical emergencies occurred at events the Team entered, with one fatality *Continued on page 2.*



*HAPPINESS IS CAMPING in Hardwick, New Jersey reached out to the JTB Foundation this summer to donate two Automatic External Defibrillators. On a visit to the camp, JTB Foundation Vice President JoAnne Babbitt (second from left) and JTB Summer Intern Julian Greer (rear row left) met with camp staff members Dr. Rosanna Ricafort, Laura San Miguel, Hannah Ponce and Yvette Murillo. San Miguel, a volunteer nurse and member of the camp's Board of Directors, facilitated the AED donation.*

## Camp for kids with cancer receives latest AED donation

On a 150-acre property in Hardwick, New Jersey near Blirstown, 90 youngsters dealing with cancer and serious blood disorders can attend summer camp, swim, and play athletics while their counselors and nurses know that an Automated External Defibrillator is there in case of medical emergencies.

The JTB Foundation has just donated two AEDs to Happiness Is Camping, a group that takes youngsters 6 to 15 dealing with cancer and allows them to be "just kids" for four weeks every July. Campers can come for anywhere between one and four weeks and stay overnight, going home over weekends. The camp is free not only to children with cancer but their healthy siblings as well.

JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the JTB Foundation, traveled to the camp in late July to donate the devices and meet with Camp Director Richard Campbell and one of the camp's volunteer nurses, Laura San Miguel of Madison, who is also on the camp's board of directors. San Miguel is a Pingry School parent who knew about JTB's expanding AED donations through Pingry's support of the Foundation's annual Walk With Heart.

Bob Herzog, who works for medical supply house V.E. Ralph and Son of Kearny, a distributor of AEDs, came along to give staff an overview of the devices, recommend ideal locations, and instruct how to inspect and maintain the units.

"The camp is just an unbelievable place,"

stated Babbitt. "They already have one AED but the layout of the camp and the size of it are such that two other devices were really needed."

Having the AEDs, she explained, is part of the camp's commitment to constant medical supervision of the highest quality (there is a full-time doctor on staff). Emergencies can happen without warning among children getting chemotherapy, children at risk of bleeding and infection, and children with physical disabilities, Babbitt noted.

One AED is permanently in the nurses' office, and one is placed in the gymnasium. Babbitt said the medical staff was extremely grateful for the AED donations.

"Everything about this camp is fantastic, which is why we wanted to give them the grant for the AEDs" Babbitt went on. "As you walk by and talk to the kids and the counselors, you are very moved." One counselor she met had been a camper there when he was 5 and dealing with cancer. "Now he's in his 20s, healthy, and comes back as a counselor because he can really relate to the campers and what they are going through," Babbitt said.

Volunteers are New York and New Jersey oncology nurses, medical students, and young people who like to work with children. A contingent of New York City firemen come regularly to honor one of their own who was a longtime volunteer at Happiness Is Camping and who died on 9/11. ♥

## A LETTER FROM THE BABBITT FAMILY

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As an organization we are constantly challenging ourselves and examining our goals and objectives. How effective are we? Are we doing the right things? Do we need to modify or change direction?

From the beginning, we strongly believed that Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) need to be in all places of public assembly. Thanks to our legislative efforts, we have seen a significant increase in Automated External Defibrillator grant requests this past year not only from organizations within the State of New Jersey but from entities throughout the United States.

The progress made in ensuring all public gathering places are "heart safe" is improving as many are starting to realize the value of learning CPR and having AEDs readily available for use in an emergency situation.

We also continue to support scientific studies targeted at identifying those at risk for genetic cardiac conditions. Enjoy reading about the exciting progress made by Dr. Abraham and her team at Johns Hopkins as they work on identification and treatment for those impacted by Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy.

Engaging our young adults continues to be critical to our success, and we are excited to continue to engage our high school and university-



*Babbitt Family (from left): Dave, JoAnne, and Andrew*

age populations as well as identifying ways to partner with those young adults who have started to launch their own professional careers.

It is hard to believe but next year marks the 10th anniversary of the foundation!! Looking back, we are amazed at the progress we have made, the partnerships we have formed, and the love and support we have received from so many friends and families. We are currently planning some new and exciting 10th anniversary events, so make sure you stay tuned for additional details.

*With much love  
and appreciation for all your support,  
Dave, JoAnne and Andrew ♥*

## John Taylor Babbitt Foundation goals and objectives

The John Taylor Babbitt Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization founded in John's memory and dedicated to preventing Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD). **The specific goals of the Foundation are to:**

- Install defibrillators in schools, athletic venues, and public gathering places.
- Establish JTB Heart Clubs in high schools and universities to raise awareness and save lives.
- Support research on genetic cardiac disorders that increase risk of Sudden Cardiac Death.

### Defibrillators:

- Proposing legislation and lobbying for state-level laws on defibrillators.
- Working on municipal policies and procedures to support the purchase and maintenance of defibrillators.
- Sponsoring local training programs in CPR/AED.

### JTB Heart Clubs:

- Establishing campus JTB Clubs at high schools and universities.
- Advising focus of club activities on Advocacy, Education, Defibrillators, and Fundraising.

### Research:

- Supporting research on genetic cardiac disorders, including Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy and other diseases that increase the risk of Sudden Cardiac Death.
- Improving the accuracy and cost effectiveness of screening programs and investigating promising treatments. ♥

*The John Taylor Babbitt Foundation newsletter is published annually. For more information about our efforts to prevent Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD), please visit our Facebook page or our website at: [www.jtbfoundation.org](http://www.jtbfoundation.org) or write: John Taylor Babbitt Foundation, P.O. Box 698, Chatham, NJ 07928.*

**JOHN'S STORY:** John was 16 years old when he collapsed and died from an undiagnosed heart condition while playing basketball with his friends. He was a 2003 graduate of St. Patrick's School in Chatham N.J. and a junior at The Pingry School in Martinsville. An avid sports fan, John played football, basketball, soccer and baseball. His knowledge of sports was legendary, and he loved nothing more than sharing that knowledge with his friends and family.

Born in New York City, John lived in the United Kingdom before moving to Chatham when he was 9 years old. He loved

to travel and especially enjoyed ski vacations with family and friends in France, Vermont and Utah. An active member in St. Patrick Youth Ministry, John was a team leader for the freshman retreats and immensely enjoyed participating in the annual Appalachia outreach trip to Preston County, West Virginia. He was also passionate about all types of music, Sting and The Police being among his favorites.

Virtuous, decent, kind and caring, John was a great friend, brother, son and grandson. He always listened when people wanted to talk and had the ability to bring a smile to the faces of those he touched. ♥

## JTB acts to expand donations of devices

*Continued from page 1.* at the Virginia Beach Rock 'n' Roll Half-Marathon recently.

Two EMTs donated their time to provide basic CPR/AED training to Team volunteers and members.

Closer to home, a charitable camp near Blairstown, New Jersey for children with cancer, Happiness Is Camping, just received two portable AEDs (see story on page 1).



**ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS FIRST AID and Safety Squad has new AEDs gained through a grant from the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation.**

According to JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the JTB Foundation, growth has been exponential this year. From 2011 to 2014, she noted, the Foundation placed 51 AEDs and funded 29 CPR/AED training classes. In 2015, the organization placed 31 units, an increase of 40 percent. "And the numbers are growing," she said. "We have so many requests that we are now figuring out how we raise more money." Last year, the organization raised \$140,000.

There are so many needs when it comes to risks associated with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM), noted Babbitt. The organization could have easily gone into screening of young athletes for heart-related diseases. "But we did not want to deviate from our core objectives," she stated. "Our board decided this year to stick to our grass-roots success. Our focus was to get more of the AED units donated."

As part of the renewed focus, AEDs have gone to Cloverfield-Kingston House in York, Pennsylvania, a senior housing complex, the New Jersey Fireman's Home in Boonton Township, New Jersey, St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Morristown, and the Cornelia Connelly Center in Lower Manhattan, a middle school for young girls at risk.

A grant of \$1,600 to the Connelly Center paid for a second AED to keep on the fourth floor of the Center where the two youngest grades have their classes. According to Executive Director Heather L. Raftery, this is also *Continued on page 3.*



## JTB expands donations

Continued from page 2. where students, staff, and families gather regularly for assemblies, special events, and athletic classes that include yoga, physical education, and after-school sports.

The Center already has one AED in the cafeteria. This new device, noted Raftery, “will ensure rapid and effective response in the event of an emergency.” She added, “The Center is deeply committed to ensuring a safe space for our students and staff, and we believe this will only serve to increase the safety of all who enter our building.”

### New AEDs upgrade those damaged in Hurricane Sandy

In Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey, where the First Aid and Safety Squad’s equipment needed upgrading after Hurricane Sandy, life savers received four new AEDs and specialized training.

Squad Chief Jeffrey Pandolfo said, “Access to rapid defibrillators is critical to increasing the survival rates of sudden cardiac arrest. These units donated by the JTB Foundation replace equipment that was badly in need of updating. This donation places state-of-the-art lifesaving in the hands of our members.”

Since JTB made the strategic decision to do more CPR training for professionals, it gave a grant to Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark, New Jersey to have teachers and health care professionals on staff take a CPR Basic Life Support instructor course given by the American Heart Association.

“These instructors will, in turn, teach students CPR,” explained Babbitt. “The more teachers and health care professionals you get certified, the more students can be taught these skills. It’s good to know we are spending money to empower people to go out and be instructors.” ♥



*LADIES HOLIDAY LUNCHEON guests enjoying the December event were (from left) Mary Vohden, Tanya Shaloub, Peggy Wolf, and Kate Donovan, a JTB Foundation Board Member. All are from Chatham, New Jersey.*

## Christmas luncheon earns kudos

The John Taylor Babbitt Foundation brought back the popular Ladies Holiday Luncheon after three years away, and more than 320 supporters came to Fairmount Country Club in December to celebrate the event.

“I received more compliments about the luncheon,” said JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the organization. She spoke to guests about advances that had been made this year by the Foundation, as did her husband David and son Andrew. They also showed a video that updated the important work of the Foundation over the past few years.

There were vendors of holiday gifts and merchandise and a silent auction with a

Caribbean vacation home, golfing vacations, and two nights on the Queen Mary anchored in Long Beach, California. The Foundation also offered a chance auction with magnificent prizes that included sporting event tickets, restaurant packages, home gifts, and more.

The Chatham High School String Quartet welcomed guests at the club entrance and then played Christmas carols and holiday songs throughout the luncheon.

The event raised \$62,000 for the Foundation. “I am overwhelmed by the incredible support our organization received,” stated JoAnne Babbitt. She said she hopes to do the luncheon again in 2016. ♥



*VENDORS OF holiday gifts, jewelry, and merchandise for the home like Kristin Koop of KK's (right) enchanted guests such as Jacquie Wheat of Fairmount Country Club. Foundation Board Member LeeAnne Lan of Chatham arranged for the boutiques.*



*ANDREW BABBITT of the JTB Foundation, the younger brother of the late John Taylor Babbitt, addresses guests at the holiday luncheon. This is the first time the younger Babbitt had spoken at a fundraising event.*

KK's  
Kristin Koop  
75 Dyckman Place, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
908-531-5577  
kko07920@yahoo.com

December 7, 2014

Dear John Taylor Babbitt Foundation Board Members:

I want to thank you very much for selecting KK's as a vendor for your holiday luncheon fundraiser held at Fairmount Country Club. I was very pleased with my sales and am happy to contribute back to the JTB Foundation.

While I was setting up before the luncheon, I had the opportunity to meet Mrs. Babbitt and I asked her about John and the foundation. I was touched by her story. I have a 25 year old daughter and a 23 year old son and I can't imagine the pain of losing a child. I am inspired that the Babbitt Family took their personal tragedy and used it to create the JTB Foundation.

Before I mailed in my donation check, I wanted to learn more about JTB. I thought I would need a quick synopsis of how the foundation started but I just couldn't put myself away from my computer. I read all about John's life through the words of his friends and his teacher in the Pingry Review. I read about your legislative efforts and your accomplishments, your educational awareness programs and your defibrillator project. You are truly making a difference for many people and saving lives with your programs.

After learning more about your wonderful foundation, I want to increase my donation to JTB from the required \$395.15 to \$600.00. In addition, I hope you will remember KK's when you are seeking donations in the future. I have a great selection of clothing and accessories for women and girls and I will be happy to donate items for your silent auctions or be a vendor for any other fund raisers you may have. Part of my mission as a small business owner is giving back to my community and I would be honored to give back to JTB and support all your programs and the amazing work you are doing in John's memory.

Thanks again for the opportunity to be a vendor and thanks for all the great work you do in our community.

Sincerely,

Kristin Koop  
Proprietor of KK's



# News updates from JTB Heart Clubs — empowering

## Walk With Heart, held at Pingry School, involves senior citizens to toddlers

From toddlers on their parents' shoulders to octogenarians, they came out in droves for the ninth JTB Foundation Walk With Heart that takes place every May at The Pingry School in Bernards Township, New Jersey.

Students, their friends, parents, neighbors, and people who just wanted to help raised more than \$55,000 for the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation. Walkers from as far away as Michigan, Oklahoma, and Florida donned sneakers and the Walk's official t-shirt to keep the pace in this 2-mile event.

The event honors the memory of John Taylor Babbitt of Chatham, who was 16 years old and a junior at Pingry when he collapsed and died from an undiagnosed heart condition while playing basketball.

In addition to the myriads of John's friends who walk, dozens of relatives, high school and college friends of JTB Foundation members make a huge effort to arrive in numbers. State legislators such as State Sen. Joseph Vitale from Middlesex County, long involved with efforts to get mandatory Automated External Defibrillators in schools and parks and get schools to require more extensive physicals for student-athletes, also show up.

There is a large Chatham contingent that makes an effort to come. Many of John's Pingry classmates, now living in NYC, also attend the event.



**STUDENT LEADERS** of the Walk With Heart, held at The Pingry School in May, are (from left): Rachel Jacob and Doug Lachenauer, here with JoAnne, David, and Andrew Babbitt of the JTB Foundation. The event raised \$55,000.



**SHE HELPED SAVE TWO LIVES.** Mary Ellen Urbanowicz (left), a school nurse at Eisenhower Intermediate School in Bridgewater, New Jersey, tells walkers about the day she used an AED to revive pregnant gym teacher Erin Durborow after a cardiac incident in a gym class in 2013. That's Durborow with healthy baby Sean.



**TODDLER** Cecily Philips sat atop the broad shoulders of her dad, JTB Foundation supporter Paul Philips, as the two participated in the Walk with Heart at Pingry School.

Since John's death, a community service club formed at the school to keep his memory alive and raise money to help to support the goals of the Foundation. There are now 70 members in the club from all four high school grades, each doing his or her part to encourage participation from many quarters and raise funds, including bake sales.

The Walk With Heart is the group's largest effort. Some of Pingry's seniors take on leadership of the Walk as part of the school's required Independent Senior Project. This year's leaders were Rachel Jacob and Doug Lachenauer.

Following the walk were refreshments and remarks by speakers. Guests this year were Mary Ellen Urbanowicz, a school nurse in Bridgewater,



**MEMORIAL** to the late John Taylor Babbitt of Pingry's Class of 2007 stands on school grounds.

ter, and the pregnant teacher, Erin Durborow, whose life she saved last year by using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

Walkers and supporters listened spellbound as the two told how Durborow, 27, was teaching fifth and sixth grade gym class when she suddenly fell to the floor unresponsive.

Students ran to get Urbanowicz, who immediately sized up the situation and instituted CPR and the school's AED to revive the teacher, whose heart had stopped.

"She became responsive after the third shock was delivered," reported Urbanowicz. The AED not only saved Durborow's life but it saved the life of her son, Sean, now a healthy 1-year old and living happily with his family in Lambertville.

JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the Foundation, said many of the walkers were so touched by the presence of Sean, a "living example" why AEDs belong in every school, company, and public area where people gather.

She asked that walkers save the date of May 22, 2016 for the next Walk With Heart, which will be the organization's 10th anniversary of the popular event. ♥



**WALKERS** included (from left) Sara Boisvert, former director of admissions at The Pingry School, and JTB Foundation Board Member LeeAnne Lan of Chatham.

## JTB Heart Clubs in New Jersey

**S**udden Cardiac Arrest has touched the lives of many high school and college students in the Northeast, and some of them have flocked to the JTB Heart Clubs on their campuses to create awareness.

The high schools and college clubs are founded, organized and run by students. They contribute to the Foundation mission by focusing on three goals: **Advocacy, Education and Defibrillators** (AED).

**Advocacy** is the promotion of laws, regulations and policies designed to prevent Sudden Cardiac Death. **Education** involves raising public awareness regarding Sudden Cardiac Death. **Defibrillators** are essential to decrease the risk of death due to sudden cardiac arrest, and clubs work to ensure their campuses have defibrillators and emergency response plans.



# Empowering our youth to make a difference and save lives

## Walk With Heart brings out 100 at Fairfield University

With a gorgeous sunny day in the 70s as the backdrop, more than 100 people participated in the Walk With Heart on Sept. 27 at Fairfield University in Connecticut. Wearing complimentary T-shirts, walkers wound 2.3 miles around the campus and enjoyed the lunch served after the walk.

It was the fourth year for the event. Funds raised last year enabled the JTB Heart Club at Fairfield, sponsors of the walk, to donate a new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to the university.

The club, which has more than 112 members, organized the event in conjunction with the university's Office of Student Activities, and the university's Department of Public Safety. Chair of the club and coordinator of the walk is Carolyn Scaglione, Fairfield Class of 2016. She was assisted by Club Co-Vice Chairs Megan Conners and Elise Corasaniti.

Scaglione said, "Our goal is to create awareness for sudden cardiac arrest and raise money for more AEDs on campus, so in the event of an emergency a life can be saved. The JTB Heart Walk showcases all the locations of AEDs on campus."

According to Scaglione, the club is working with the Department of Public Safety to determine the best placement of the new AED being donated this year.

JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the Foundation, spoke to students and reinforced the importance of immediate response or action on their part should they suspect a fellow student needs assistance. "Time is of the essence," said Babbitt, "and students need to contact Campus Public Safety and start CPR immediately in an emergency situation. For each minute treatment is delayed, the chances of survival decrease by 10 percent."

The Fairfield JTB Heart Club was founded by Sean Donovan '11, who was a friend of John Taylor Babbitt's, Patrick McCahill, Jr. '12, and Cathleen Keating '13. In 2016, when the Foundation celebrates its 10th year in operation, Fairfield's JTB Heart Club is also planning a very special anniversary Walk With Heart. ♥



*BALLOONS BUOYED Fairfield University students as they participated in the fourth annual Walk With Heart Sept. 27.*



*JTB FOUNDATION OFFICIALS JoAnne and Dave Babbitt walk alongside students from Fairfield University in Connecticut.*



*WALK ORGANIZERS held signs and handed out literature on Sudden Cardiac Arrest and the benefits of Automatic External Defibrillators. From left are: Elise Corasaniti, Megan Conners, Caitlyn Dye, and Carolyn Scaglione, president of Fairfield's JTB Heart Club and principal walk coordinator.*

## Pingry high schools sponsor training, fundraisers, and heart awareness events

### Chatham High School

With students, faculty and staff participating, Chatham High School held a CPR and AED training session during February, National Heart Month. The session was organized by the JTB Heart Club at the school.

The Chatham Emergency Squad provided the instructors without charge, and JTB paid for the American Heart Association AED certification cards that went to all participants.

### The Pingry School

To honor February Heart Month, the JTB Club held a successful bake sale. Students lined up for mouth-watering goodies baked by club members. ♥



*SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST awareness booth at the Chatham Farmers Market this fall was staffed by Erin Healy (left) and Olivia Morris from the Chatham High School JTB Club. Members of the club at Chatham High School also ran a booth at Chatham's Fishawack Festival back in June.*



*APPETIZING BAKE SALE at The Pingry School was held in February for National Heart Month. From left are seniors Rachel Jacob, Jamie Finnegan, and Diana Masch.*



## JTB-backed research cited in national medical journals

The John Taylor Babbitt Foundation is mentioned in two national medical journals as sponsor of important research being conducted at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore into cures for Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM), a disease of the heart that can cause Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the JTB Foundation, and Board Member Diane Duffy announced that scientific papers describing the work of Dr. M. Roselle Abraham at Hopkins' Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Center of Excellence were published in the *American Journal of Cardiology* and *Frontiers in Physiology*.

"For us to get this kind of acknowledgment is very energizing," said Babbitt.

The Foundation has just renewed Dr. Abraham's \$75,000 grant for the second year in an

effort to find cures for and ways to detect HCM.

HCM is the most common inherited cardiac disease and is estimated to affect up to 1 in 500 individuals. While most cases of HCM are benign, due to its high prevalence HCM is also the most common heart-related cause of sudden death in young athletes.

Current medical therapies — beta-blocking drugs and calcium channel blockers — decrease symptoms of heart failure from HCM but do not prevent it or alter the natural history of the disease. Past research suggests that abnormal use of energy by the heart — burning too much energy for the same amount of work — is what results in the symptoms and serious health problems in some patients with HCM.

Grant funds are used to pay for personnel in the lab and the lab infrastructure as well as for collaborative efforts of Dr. Abraham both nationally and internationally.

According to Duffy, the goal of Dr. Abraham's work is to understand HCM as a heterogeneous disease — that is, where different mutations cause different cardiac pathophysiology and different disease progression over time; hence treatments may need to differ.

Duffy said Dr. Abraham and her team hope to use this understanding to improve risk assessment and to identify imaging and other ways for pre-clinical detection of HCM. Her research at this stage involves studies on mice and non-invasive PET scans on human HCM patients as they exercise.

The study described in the *American Journal of Cardiology* looked at exercise heart rates in patients with HCM, noted Duffy.

In the coming year, Dr. Abraham will conduct studies on a drug, Ranolazine, which has been observed to be beneficial in some HCM patients. She has told Foundation officials that she will also use its grant to expand analysis of how HCM patients perform doing exercise. ♥



Dr. Roselle Abraham

## Dance-a-thon at Cornell supports JTB Foundation

For the second year in a row, Cornell University men and women in Ithaca, NY danced for hours, many in wild costumes, to honor the memory of a Cornell student, Mili Mandic, who died last year of sudden cardiac arrest.

The dance-a-thon in April raised money to support the work of the JTB Foundation to place Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in public places.

The Omega Chi chapter of Kappa Delta sorority at Cornell presented a check to the Foundation for \$1,213, double the amount of money raised last year, said Foundation Vice President JoAnne Babbitt.

The sorority found out about the JTB Foundation mission and wanted to raise money as a tribute to Mandic, a sorority sister, computer science major, and a track and field athlete at Cornell who died from a cardiac incident early in 2014 when she was visiting Serbia, her native country.

Before Cornell Mandic had attended The Peddie School in Hightstown.

The dance-a-thon is named "Makin' Moves for Mili," in order to celebrate Mandic and her fun-loving spirit. ♥

## Gift wrap at Barnes and Noble



*A WELL WRAPPED CHRISTMAS will be insured when you stop by Barnes and Noble in the Livingston Mall on Thursday, Dec. 3 from 4 to 10 p.m. to have your holiday books, cards, and reading devices wrapped expertly by the Chatham High School and Pingry School JTB Heart Clubs and members of the JTB Foundation. Last year, members of the JTB Heart Club at Chatham High School offered their services to raise funds for the Foundation. From left are: Tori Rasmussen, Colin Ness, and David Vivona.*

## Using AmazonSmile benefits Foundation

Do you know how to make a non-profit organization smile? Order anything you regularly order on Amazon, only through the company's AmazonSmile website, and Amazon will donate half a percent of your purchase to a charity you select.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the JTB Foundation every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you log on to smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com.

On your first visit to the website, you will need to search charitable organizations in the Smile list and select the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation as the charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases. AmazonSmile always will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make will result in a donation.

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on Amazon product detail pages.

The donation works out to \$5 for every \$1,000 JTB supporters spend. "Anyone who wants to help JTB can do this," said organization Vice President JoAnne Babbitt. "It doesn't cost you a cent."

If you are ordering on Amazon anyway, remember us on smile.amazon.com. ♥

## John Taylor Babbitt Foundation Trustees and Board of Directors

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Sean Donovan	Chatham, NJ		

## Honoring a loved one

When a loved one dies, one of the ways you can honor them is by having donations in their memory go to the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation. Donations ensure that Babbitt-funded research is done into causes of sudden cardiac arrest and that Automated External Defibrillators get placed in more and more public areas in New Jersey, where they can save lives.

Please direct all donations to the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation, P.O. Box 698, Chatham, NJ 07928. All donors will receive tax acknowledgements. ♥



*JOANNE BABBITT (center), vice president of the JTB Foundation, received a special honor this year when she was nominated for the prestigious Russell Berrie Award for Making A Difference. This award celebrates New Jersey's "unsung heroes." She was nominated by Chatham Mayor Kevin Sullivan (right) and Councilwoman Karen Swartz (left).*

## Pingry pop-up eateries benefit JTB Foundation

"Come and get it" echoed through the halls of The Pingry School in Bernards Township in May as two sets of seniors raised money for the JTB Foundation in their independent senior projects.

A breakfast griddle and a "J and Sol's Slammin' Burger



*A SLAMMIN' BURGER SHACK fundraising event for JTB was held at The Pingry School during lunchtime. Head burger flippers were (from left) seniors Justin Friedman and Ryan Salamon.*

Shack" were the "pop-up" ideas of four seniors, who were among 125 members of the Class of 2015 who had to come up with an inventive idea for their independent study projects. JTB Club members Clayton Wright and Rob Diaz, who are members of the Pingry JTB Club, ran "Big Mac's Dirty Country Griddle" for before-school morning treats.

Ryan Salamon and Justin Friedman were the chefs behind the lunchtime burger shack.

Pingry requires all seniors to do an independent study project. Members of the class can do almost anything creative, but they cannot earn money for themselves. They can only raise money for charitable institutions.

Among the projects have been Habitat for Humanity, internships in Vietnam, cross-country journeys to research Major League stadiums, and

raising money for numerous non-profit organizations

"These young men could have picked any charity, but they decided to pick us, which is really great," noted JTB Vice President JoAnne Babbitt.



*HEARTY SANDWICHES of eggs and bacon were the offerings at a breakfast fundraiser at The Pingry School that benefited the work of the JTB Foundation. Griddle masters were (from left) Clayton Wright and Rob Diaz, both seniors.*

Hundreds of Pingry students enthusiastically patronized the dining events.

## Major Donors' List 2014-2015

We would like to thank all our donors for their generous support and recognize the following major contributors, all of whom gave the JTB Foundation \$1,000 or more. Without generous donations from individuals, families, foundations, and corporations, our organization would not be able to continue making a difference in the health advocacy field.

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Innisbrook Golf and Spa Resort  
The Queen Mary Hotel  
Denihan Hospitality Group ♥

## Youth sports leagues may soon need AEDs during games and practices

The John Taylor Babbitt Foundation had a role in the passage of a new bill that requires municipal or county recreation departments as well as nonprofit youth-serving organizations such as Little League baseball, Pop Warner football, Police Athletic League basketball, and youth soccer to have available on site an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at each game and practice.

The bill is awaiting signing by Gov. Chris Christie. The legislation strengthens Janet's Law, passed by the state in 2013, whereby all schools must have an AED on campus.

In addition to requiring AEDs on premises, the bill requires all youth leagues to designate a coach or umpire to be trained in AED use and CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) if emergency services are not able to attend games.

Youth camps must also have AEDs but not necessarily on premises during games — the devices just have to be nearby. The proposal would not apply to camp trips, travel camps or other off-site programs.

"I spoke with many state legislators about this bill," said JTB Foundation Vice President JoAnne Babbitt. "We think it's a very important bill to get passed."

The New Jersey Recreation and Park Association supports the bill but says the cost could be prohibitive, almost \$19 million statewide the first year. However, many legislators believe the bill has to be passed in order to save lives.

"We've seen far too many tragic cardiac incidents among students in recent years," said Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, a Democrat from Middlesex County. "In most of these cases, the student was completely unaware of any pre-existing cardiac condition. This bill will help increase detection and prevent future tragedies." ♥

## Inventive ways to give

Corporate matching and designating JTB for your United Way Donation are two great ways to support the mission and activities of the JTB Foundation.

Most corporate United Way programs allow you to direct your donation to any registered tax-exempt nonprofit organization in the U.S., including the JTB Foundation.

If your company has a United Way program or a corporate matching program, please consider leveraging them to help us stop sudden cardiac arrest.

Contact the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation at:

973 722-1212 or  
email: [info@jtbfoundation.org](mailto:info@jtbfoundation.org) ♥





# JOHN TAYLOR BABBITT FOUNDATION

*Dedicated to preventing Sudden Cardiac Death*

NEWSLETTER 2015

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## Rock 'n' Bowl event was a score for JTB!

As the end of a long, icy winter neared, JTB Foundation got supporters out for a riotously fun Rock 'n' Bowl party at Plaza Lanes in Madison, New Jersey.

More than 125 people attended, some of them young people just starting Spring Breaks.

"This was a fundraiser, really," said JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the JTB Foundation. "We wanted to get people out on a dreary winter's night."

It was an evening of bowling — for many who hadn't bowled in years — and pizza, snacks, and drinks.

Everybody had a great time. Some couples even came in matching bowling shirts with their names emblazoned on the pockets! ♥



***BOWLING BLAST** was enjoyed by more than 125 supporters of the John Taylor Babbitt Foundation at an event in early March at Plaza Lanes in Madison, New Jersey. From left are guests Liz Landy and Ellen Whiteman.*

## 10 YEARS OF JTB

**In 2016 we will be in operation 10 years!**

*Look ahead to some special 10th Anniversary events.*

**Save the date for the 10th Walk With Heart Sunday, May 22**



## Night Out on the Town attracts young supporters

The third annual Night Out on the Town for JTB Foundation's younger supporters took place last October at Hurley's Saloon in Manhattan.

Board members moved it from Hoboken to Manhattan at the request of many of the organization's supporters and their friends. More than 130 young adults attended.

JoAnne Babbitt, vice president of the Foundation, said although Night Out on the Town included a



***AMONG THE 130 young adults who attended the JTB Foundation's third annual Night Out on the Town were John Chestnut and June Granowitz. The organization moved the event to Manhattan from Hoboken at the request of supporters.***

silent auction, the principal purpose is really a "friend raiser" since JTB uses the occasion to increase awareness about sudden cardiac arrest. ♥