



# Judi's House Newsletter

HOPE AND HEALING FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN :: August 2008

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## Relay Extends Hope & Healing

Judi's House staff, volunteers and Directors will be lacing up their sneakers to take on the Colorado Century Relay September 12<sup>th</sup> through September 13<sup>th</sup>. This 2 day, 10-person, 100+-mile relay begins in Frisco, CO with participants running throughout the night and into the morning, navigating two mountain passes and finishing the race in Carbondale, CO. The Colorado Relay benefits Outward Bound and this year all donations in support of any participating team will go directly to scholarships for youth from Judi's House who want to participate in the Heroic Journey. Please consider supporting the Judi's House team or one of the other 150 teams that will run this year. Learn more about the Judi's House team and other ways to get involved by visiting our website at [www.JudisHouse.org](http://www.JudisHouse.org) or contacting us by email at [events@JudisHouse.org](mailto:events@JudisHouse.org).

## Rockies Hit One Out of the Park!

On Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> friends, family, Board of Directors, staff and volunteers took in a night at the National League Champion's Coors Field with nearly 50,000 other fans. The game began with the first pitch being tossed out by Brian Griese, with relief ready from Aspen Betts (12), Ryan Kelter (10) and Keith Romero (10)! Each of the kids were greeted with cheers from the fans as their pictures flashed on the Jumbotron and each left with a Rockies keepsake to remember the evening.

In the stands that evening were Aspen's mom and dad and family who had come to support her as they all remembered her brother and sister, Michael and Cora Betts, who died in a car accident in late January. Mike Betts, father to Aspen, Michael, Cora and PJ, commented on the importance of the night as some of his most cherished memories of his son are from the times he spent with him watching the Colorado Rockies on their amazing run to the World Series. Michael had a particular deep connection to the Rockies since he was himself an accomplished young player, modeling his play on that of shortstop Troy Tulowitzki, with whom he shares a birthday.

Days after the Rockies game, the family celebrated what would have been Cora's fifth birthday with a trip to the Denver Zoo, which was one of her favorite places to go.

Since the death of their two children, the Betts family has received an outpouring of support from their Jefferson County community. They have been so touched by this generosity that they have created two events to raise funds to help other grieving children in honor of their Michael and Cora. On Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> Deer Creek Golf Course

in Littleton, will be the site of the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Michael Betts Golf Tournament.



Brian Griese, Aspen Betts, Ryan Kelter & Keith Romero throw out the opening pitch at the Colorado Rockies game

This scramble-style, best ball tournament will have a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start.

On Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Cora Betts Royal Ball – A Family Affair will come to the 1770 Sherman Event Center in Denver. The Royal Ball is a family friendly black-tie affair that will include carriage rides for the prince and princesses and a silent auction of family friendly packages.

Information for both events can be found on The Michael & Cora Betts Legacy Foundation website at [www.BettsLegacy.org](http://www.BettsLegacy.org) or by contacting us at [events@JudisHouse.org](mailto:events@JudisHouse.org). The Betts' family has selected Judi's House as beneficiary for both of these events.

## Middles Debut on the Silver Screen

Five middle school-aged Judi's House participants enrolled in this year's Film Camp from June 23<sup>rd</sup> – June 27<sup>th</sup> at Judi's House. With the expert guidance of Scott Kinnamon of EMO Productions the youth wrote, directed, filmed and edited their own short film with guest appearances by Judi's House staff! View this masterpiece online at [www.JudisHouse.org](http://www.JudisHouse.org).



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## Volunteer

**Monica Shanley** originally got involved thinking she could use her experiences from losing both her parents when she was 11 years old to help other grieving children. She found the perfect way when she signed on to be a nourishment provider. And since last August, she has provided meals once a month for the children and families. Monica says she hears a lot of adults say, "I wish there had been a Judi's House when I was young".

There is always a need for more individuals, pairs or groups to come in and nourish themselves by helping others by providing a meal. If you would like to learn more, call or email Candace at 720-941-0331 or by email at [Candace@JudisHouse.org](mailto:Candace@JudisHouse.org).

## Dodgeball Tournament

Scheduled for Nov. 8th, the event is sure to be a hit as plans are underway to increase the sought after buy-a-ball prizes, auction items, team prizes, and much more! Register your team online at [www.JudisHouse.org](http://www.JudisHouse.org).

## Thank You

Two years ago, **Dave and Sherry Mowatt** decided to give their annual **Mowatt Financial, Inc.** Business Appreciation Golf Tournament a deeper meaning by finding a way to support grieving children. By playing on the competitive spirit of its golfers, who are their business' clients and associates, they sold participation in the skins portion of the tournament and mulligans as ways to generate support for Judi's House.

This year the **Country Club at Castle Pines** hosted more than 128 golfers for 18 holes and an awards reception and dinner with **Brian Griese**. Those with the hands, and heart, were given the chance to support Judi's House by making a \$1,200 donation to support a child for one year. In return for their generosity, they received a Brian Griese autographed football. Every completion brought into focus our vision of a community where no child has to grieve alone. The tournament has raised nearly \$14,000 – and the donations are still rolling in!

## Garden Party

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, supporters and friends hosted a Garden Party at Judi's House. With hopes of planting seeds of connection, the 200 guests shared fine food, conversation and heard stories of healing from participants and volunteers in the groups. As a result, attendees made donations that night of more than \$21,000 and ongoing commitments for more than \$17,000.

This year's event was chaired by **Kate Ferguson** and **Trisha Lee**. And hosted by **Cinnie Auer, Bill Avery, Sara Avery, Ann Bayles, Galen and Sarah Bellamy, Lisa and Ted Bellamy, JR and Jean Bitzer, Beth Boettcher, Wendy Dressel and Jeff Todd, Linda Efird, Nan and Shawn Hinton, Becky Karlin, Janet Meredith and Ian Alexander, Ana-Alicia Padia, Dean Prina, M.D., Maryanna and Will Seccombe, Monica Shanley, Susan Spencer Vick, Larah Thomson, Ann and Dave Torgerson, Greg and Jessica Weaver, and Heather Young**.