

A Day Of Service And Remembrance For Casey Feldman



Rachael Kemmey, Amber Staska and Jackie Cahill take a break from cleaning up the Springfield Parks, July 17.



Lori Gibson and Casey's mother, Dianne Anderson, of Springfield, at Francisvale on Saturday, July 17.

July 17, 2010 marked the one year anniversary of the death of Casey Feldman, a 2006 graduate of Springfield High School and Fordham University senior who was struck and killed in a cross-walk last summer in Ocean City, N.J.

In keeping with the spirit of honoring their daughter's memory in a positive way, the Feldman family dedicated the day to service. On her first "Angelversary," many of Casey's family members and friends, as well as those who never even knew Casey but were inspired by her story, volunteered their time and service in different cities to remember and honor Casey's

life.

On the morning after the dedication of another pink tree to Casey's memory in Cumberland County, N.J., over 40 volunteers travelled to the Francisvale Home for Smaller Animals in Radnor, including Casey's parents, Dianne and Joel, and her brother Brett. After the Day of Service, the whole interior of the two story no-kill animal shelter was painted.

"This is a genuinely invaluable gift to Francisvale," commented Executive Director Jodi Button. "The opportunity to put a new face on an over 100-year-old establishment will pay substantial dividends to the animals, vol-

unteers, donors, community partners and staff alike -- to say nothing of what a marvelous lift it is to morale."

At lunch everyone gathered to acknowledge Casey's contributions to the world, in her life and in her passing, and to dedicate the collaborative act of goodwill to her memory via a plaque that will hang in a prominent place at Francisvale.

Casey's cousin Jamie and aunt Janice Gallagher remembered Casey by volunteering their time at the Beacon Animal Rescue in Ocean View, N.J. They walked dogs and donated food to the animals, a cause which was close to Casey's heart.

In Chicago, Casey's cousins, Drs. Ted and Marie Feldman, and their daughters, Tess, Katie, and Julia, cooked dinner for 18 families at the Ronald McDonald house. "We proudly wore our pink Casey T-shirts as we cooked and served the meal and we told Casey's story to the director at the Ronald McDonald house," the Feldmans said.

In Springfield, Casey's friends Amber Staska, Rachel Kemmey and Jackie Cahill organized a more intimate clean-up of three parks in

town. The girls recalled fond memories of cleaning up the beaches in Sea Isle City during high school with Casey, and beautified Elson Glenn, Walsh Park, and Library Park.

The Ceffaratti family, family friends, fed the homeless in Philadelphia and the entire staff at Bob's Grill in Ocean City, N.J. wore the pink "I Brake For Pedestrians" T-shirts in Casey's memory. Casey had been walking to her job at Bob's Grill last summer at the time of her accident.

Following the day of service, more friends and family gathered at the Feldman's home in Springfield for dinner and to release some 60 pink balloons into the sky. Casey's spirit was visible as everyone donned their pink T-shirts and released a balloon into the heavens with a loving message for Casey.

To read more about Casey Feldman, the efforts of her family and family this past year and the foundation which has been established in her memory, visit www.CaseyFeldman.com.





Melissa Zirolli, Annette Newlin, Emily Hobson and Matt Thornton join Casey's father, Joel Feldman, in painting the second-floor hallway at Francisvale in honor of Casey's first "Angelversary."

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