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## Newsletter of the Brooke Jackman Foundation ♥ 2006

*Making a difference  
in the lives of children . . .*

[www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org)



*"Children are the world's  
most valuable resource and its  
best hope for the future."*

- John Fitzgerald Kennedy

*"Alone we can do so little,  
together we can do so much."* - Helen Keller

### The Brooke Jackman Foundation

Dear Friends,

*"Dreams come true. Without that possibility,  
Nature would not incite us to have them."*

- John Updike



How different would things have been if there had never been a September 11th? How many people who died that day had dreams and would have influenced our future? Would one have cured cancer or led us to world peace? Would one have written a play or composed an opera? We will never know. Brooke herself had a dream. She was planning to go back to school for a Masters Degree in Social Work to help children. So now our challenge is to make

these dreams become a reality.

The Foundation not only honors Brooke's memory but hopes to fulfill her dreams and carry on her legacy . . . a deep love of reading and a profound interest in helping children. We hope to nurture the seeds of a bright future for generations to come.

In our newsletter, we reflect on the year behind us. We are so proud of our growth and accomplishments, prouder still that we will meet future challenges. But we can't do it alone. Thank you, each of you, for demonstrating your shared belief by generously giving time and support to improve the lives of children in need.

Brooke's irrepressible spirit, contagious smile, and fearless determination to make the world a better place help us to go forward, and remind each of us that we are making a difference.

- With love, Barbara and Bob Jackman,  
Erin, Iris, Ross, Blake, and Elle Jackman, June 2006

### Making a Difference . . . The Children We Serve

#### OBHS Scholarship

Each year, the BJJF has awarded a scholarship to an OBHS student who is compassionate, kind, and involved in community service - qualities that embody Brooke's spirit. When Brooke graduated from high school one award that she received was



*"When you read to me . . ."*

from the Nassau County Executive for scholarship and service.

This year, we were proud to present the Brooke Jackman Scholarship to Danielle Gershon, a member of the school's Interact Club. Danielle, an enthusiastic

volunteer for the 5KRun, helped organize students for the event.



### Harlem Village Academy Library Grant

The Harlem Village Academy – with its mission to develop students of fine character who graduate from college and make a positive contribution to society – opened as a charter school in 2003. The BJJF was glad to make a \$10,000 grant to fund a library at the school, in conjunction with the Bear Stearns Fixed Income Women's Network.

We are grateful to Catherine Buss and Sara Bonsteel for making this grant possible.



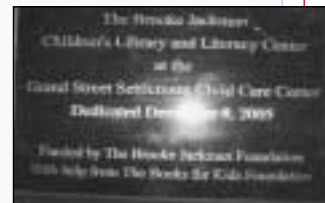
### Literacy in Inwood & Washington Heights

The BJJF funds a reading program at the Inwood McDonald's on Tuesdays – with guest readers, older children reading with young, and children playing thinking games. A social worker is present to meet with parents and conduct workshops on diverse topics. Young participants are ages 5-9, predomi-



## Spotlight Brooke Jackman Libraries – New for '05

**T**wo Brooke Jackman libraries were opened in November and December 2005 – the first at an after-school program in Manhattan and the second at the Grand Street Settlement House Child Care Center in lower Manhattan. Both were funded by the BJJF with help from the Books for Kids Foundation. We hope to dedicate more libraries in the coming year.



nately Dominican – an ethnic group with a poverty rate nearly double the City's average. Each child received a Brooke Pack to take home, with a mini-library available for parents' use on site or at home.



### Holiday Toys & Presents

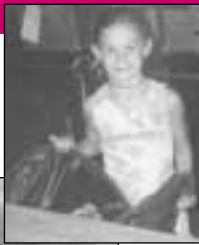
A BJJF donation was made to F.E.G.S. Health and Human Services System and to the Family and Children's Association in Nassau County, to buy holiday presents for older children. Toys and gifts have been donated to various agencies each year since 2001.



### Brooke Packs – 750 + 200!

In August '05, an amazing 750 Brooke Packs were distributed to children in shelters and otherwise in need in New York and Nassau and Rockland counties. Nearly 40 volunteers came to St. Jeanne Baptiste





School to assemble the Packs. Thanks to all, from the bottom of our hearts. School supplies, books, a Walkman, and books on tape are among each bag's treasures.

In the fall, 200 Brooke Packs were sent to children in the Gulf States affected by Hurricane Katrina. An Oyster Bay-East Norwich Soccer team, the Falcons, helped assemble the Packs for delivery to New Orleans. Special thanks to BJB Board member Steve Gourlay Jr for letting us use his Evolution Fitness space for assembly.



### S.C.O.P.E. – Self Esteem & Skills for Campers

*"I have learned many things at camp. This summer I learned how to speak sign language, how to knit, and how to swim a little. My very best experience was hiking, because it was exhausting and fun."*

-Caroline, age 11



## Family Literacy In Williamsburg

The Brooke Jackman Family Literacy Workshop Series, presented with the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation, has expanded now to four sites in the Williamsburg area of Brooklyn. In each workshop session, parents and children read together and receive take-home literacy packages of books and shared strategies for learning. The program began in January '04 with 100 families, and has since expanded to include more than 750 families.



Every summer, too many of NYC's children splash in rain puddles instead of lakes, play ball in deserted alleys, and fall asleep to the sounds of honking horns and shrill police sirens instead of chirping crickets and rustling leaves. But with help from the BJB another 15 children will go to summer camp for an extended four-week program through S.C.O.P.E. – Summer Camp Opportunities Provide an Edge. Thus far we have sent 75 children to camp through this

remarkable program. Each has been chosen on the basis of demonstrated leadership, respect, enthusiasm, compassion, and kindness.



### Teen Tutors In Literacy, Inc.

*"My really shy kids opened up to their reading buddies. . . . My students began to have patience toward others and they wanted to read constantly."*

- Faculty responses to the Literacy Program.

The Foundation has given a grant to Literacy Inc. for their teen mentoring program, in which middle and high school teens read to younger children in neighboring schools, to help them improve their literacy skills. L.I.N.C. coordinates community resources to ensure that children read well by third grade.



## The Benefit – Gotham Hall '05 & the Brookster Award

**W**hat a memorable time! Our Fourth Annual Benefit was held at New York's chic Gotham Hall, with more than 500 guests and over \$250,000 raised for literacy programs and Brooke Packs for kids.

Honored Brookster Award recipient was Jeffrey Selden, for his continued friendship and support of the Foundation. A special award was presented to BJF board members Gayle and Charles Steinberg, for their compassion, generosity, and tireless efforts touching the lives of children.

Guests were overwhelmed by the delicious food prepared by some of the City's hottest chefs – Town, The Lenox Room, NAM, BICE, Bouley Bakery, Aureole, Four Seasons Hotel, and LaGrenouille among them. Chef Ron Ben-Israel coordinated all desserts and prepared his own delectable ones as well! The evening's able MC was Sal Marchiano, sports anchor for WB11 News at Ten and TV sports reporter for nearly 40 years. Wonderful!

Live auction items proved irresistible, including an Honorary Ball Kid Package for the NY Knicks, a customized cocktail reception for 25 in your home complete with delicious desserts, golfing in Ireland, trips to CuisineArt Resort in Anguilla and LaSamana Luxe Hotel in St. Marten, trips to Wyoming and Napa Valley, and the chance to watch an American Idol broadcast.

Silent auction items were many – with golf, travel, and sports packages, fantastic jewelry, theater tickets, and hard-to-get tickets to

*continued*



*"I hope you get worldwide  
and everyone loves you."*

- Shakira

*Special moments at Gotham Hall  
(clockwise from above): Erin Jackman . . .  
Erin, Willow Mindich, Barbara, award  
recipient Gayle Steinberg, and Sandra  
Hoffman . . . Ross and Iris Jackman . . .  
Gayle and Charles Steinberg . . . the  
evening's generous sponsors acknowledged  
in a poster welcoming all . . .  
bidding at the silent auction . . .*



*"I give you thanks for  
making the other kids feel  
happy like you made me."*

- Jokeyni

*. . . Bob Jackman with Brookster  
Award recipient Jeffrey Selden . . .  
More than 500 guests, \$250,000  
raised, thank you to everyone who  
helped in so many ways.*

*“A book is the most delightful companion . . .  
There is in the world no friend more faithful and attentive,  
no teacher more proficient . . . It will do you good  
and ask no favor in return. It gives and does not take.”*

- Moses ibn Ezra, 12th century Hebrew poet

## Literacy Facts -

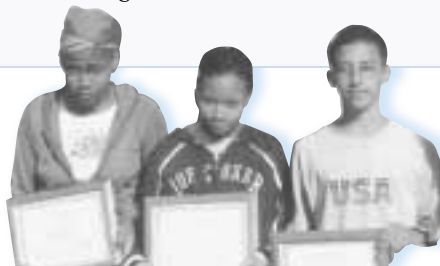
- ★ Immigrant parents very often don't speak or read English even if they were very well educated in their own country. Parents learn the best when they learn with their children. It gives them more dignity, more control and more incentive to stay with it. Reading to your child is the single most important thing parents can do for their child's success in school.”

- *NY Times, January 12, 2005*



- ★ Early reading achievement is vital to academic and life success. Students who fail to master reading by the third grade do not develop the foundation of skills necessary to succeed in subsequent grades and across subjects. - *National Institute of Child Health & Development, 1998*

- ★ Adolescents entering the adult world in the 21st century will read and write more than at any other time in human history. . . . In a complex and sometimes even dangerous world, their ability to read will be crucial.”
- *the International Reading Association*



## Foundation Receives Literacy Award

**A**t an event in May celebrating Family Literacy Connections, Barbara Jackman received a citation for the efforts of the Brooke Jackman Foundation on behalf of children – in particular the Teen Tutor program. The event was sponsored by the New York City Department of Education Region 10 and Literacy Inc., and the citation states that “in Barbara Jackman we have an outstanding citizen, one who is worthy of the esteem of both the community and The Great City of New York.”

## The Benefit – Gotham Hall '05 & the Brookster Award

*continued*

Fashion Week among them. Bidding was fast and furious.

We here give warmest thanks to our Journal Sponsors, and to our truly generous in-kind donors – DirectPro for STD cards and invitations, Harold Heckler for photography, Hank Lane for music, Lanco Promotions for Goodie Bag souvenirs, Floralties Inc. for flowers, Cloth Connection for tablecloths, Unimac Financial for programs, and Merch Direct for wonderful t-shirts. And, special thanks to BJJF friends Mike Deutsch, William Dimotta, and Marisa Corrado!

## Thank You . . . We Welcome Your Help

Thank you . . . to each and every person who contributed to the Foundation's success in its first four and a half years. Our tremendous progress would be impossible without you and your caring efforts throughout the years since our founding in October of 2001. □ If you would like to celebrate a joyous occasion or honor the memory of someone you love, we would welcome your donation – the Brooke Jackman Foundation, PO Box 354, Mill Neck, NY 11765. Please visit our website for details – [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org).



## Featured Contributions – Weddings, Volunteers, & Childhood Friends

■ *Memorial Day wedding* – Melisa Mindich and Alan Geller, married in Sea Cliff on May 28th, asked that in lieu of gifts, donations be made to the BJF. Melisa was central to our 5K Run on 5/20, and Alan was one of our Sponsors.

■ *Joy* – The off-Broadway production of Joy gave 50 percent of September 11, 2005, box office receipts to the BJF.

■ *Childhood friends* – Brooke's childhood friend Mandy Styles was married to Ty Cirelli last July, and in lieu of favors gave a donation to an organization that held a special place in their hearts: BJF.

■ *Morgan Stanley volunteer* – In honor of the volunteer efforts of employee Joseph Kasper, Morgan Stanley made a generous contribution to BJF. Joe has helped us greatly in planning the October benefit.

■ *Miracle Day* – Special thanks to Mike Deutsch for nominating BJF for Miracle Day. CIBC World Markets donates funds to 350 children's charities nationally, to enhance the lives of children in need. BJF has been chosen three years in a row.

■ *Nassau County's "We Care"* – The Nassau County Bar Association's charitable "We Care" fund has made a grant to help underwrite the Brooke Pack project for children in Nassau County.

■ *Allstate Helping Hands* – A Helping Hands grant has been



## Remembering Brooke Tobay Beach Memorial, Glamour, & Family Circle Magazine

★ In September, the Town of Oyster Bay dedicated a memorial honoring those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. The Tobay Beach site was selected because it has a direct line of sight to where the Twin Towers stood, and is a peaceful place and thus a fitting backdrop for remembrance. Rabbi David Nesenoff gave the benediction, dedicating the memorial to Brooke: "Brooke was a one-of-a-kind person who loved life, laughter, and literature."

★ *Glamour Magazine's* September issue will include a tribute to the memory of the victims of 9/11. Among stories selected is Erin's writing of her special relationship with her sister. ■ It begins this way: "*Hi. My name is Erin Jackman and I am a sister who lost her sister. My little sister Brooke Jackman was 23 years old and worked for Cantor Fitzgerald. Every day I miss her and every day I know how much I've lost. We had 'IT' – that special sister relationship that sisters all over know about – they either have it or they want it. We had it. She was six years younger than me and she was the little girl who chased after me when we were children, calling, 'wait for me!' Then, she grew up to become my best friend. . . .*"

★ *Family Circle Magazine* has chosen three foundations created after September 11 for a forthcoming article, and the BJF is among them. A photographer attended the new 5K Run (see page 7) to interview family members and take pictures of the brand new event held in Brooke's honor.



received from Allstate, thanks to the wonderful efforts of October benefit and 5K Run volunteer Jeannine Izzo.

■ *Bi-County mailings* – Our mailings of pamphlets, invitations, and more are helped immeasurably and generously by BJF friend Greg Demetriou of Bi-County Mailing in Farmingdale.

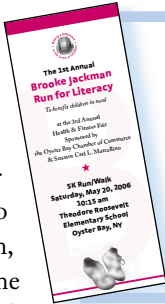
■ *Bloomington's Charity Day* – We received a generous check from

Bloomington's, with thanks to all our friends who shopped there on October 27, 2005. We are grateful!

■ *Stars of Tomorrow* – BJF friend and supporter Wendy Taubman, producer and director of Stars of Tomorrow's Annie, gave us a generous check from their November 5 and 6 performances to help in our work. Kudos and thanks to the entire cast, especially to Wendy, who played the part of Miss Hannigan.

## New for May '06 - Brooke Jackman Run for Literacy

The BJF was honored to be asked to organize the 1st annual 5K Run/Walk at the 3rd annual Health & Fitness Fair, sponsored by Senator Carl Marcellino and the Oyster Bay Chamber of Commerce. Erin Jackman and Steve Gourlay Jr served as race chairs. After almost two weeks of rain, the sun came out and provided a beautiful day for the 300 participants! Funds raised for our programs exceeded our expectations. ■ Trophies, prizes, refreshments, t-shirts, water bottles, music, photographs – all and more were part of this wonderful day.



*“Example is not  
the main thing in  
influencing others.  
It is the only thing.”*

- Albert Schweitzer



Special thanks to Steve Gourlay of Evolution Fitness, the OBHS Interact Club, the 2nd Precinct, local fire departments, OBEN schools, Mike Polansky of the LI Running Club, and all our hard-working volunteers! ■ Our generous 5K Run/Walk Sponsors and Award Recipients are listed prominently on our website, with thanks to all for this amazing first-ever day.



*Jackman family members with  
Sen. Carl Marcellino.*



CREATIVE COMPOSITIONS, OYSTER BAY



## The First Annual Family Literacy Event

A new family literacy event took place in June at PS 250, Williamsburg, the site of the original Brooke Jackman Family Literacy Series. Counselors led workshops modeling the techniques taught in Project Brooke.

As a special treat, one workshop was led by former parents in the series - and entitled “This Is How We Do It!” Parents shared actual strategies they have used at home since participating in the workshop. The new event is another example of the growing legacy of the Brooke Jackman Family Literacy Series.

The Brooke Jackman  
Foundation



## The Brooke Jackman Foundation

The Brooke Jackman Foundation is a not-for-profit organization created in October 2001 in response to the World Trade Center attack that claimed the life of Brooke Jackman, age 23. Its mission is to honor Brooke's legacy - a deep love of reading and a profound interest in helping children - by helping to create and support programs enhancing the literacy and self esteem of children in and around New York City. Project Brooke, Brooke Pack, and Brooke's Books are among the projects offered to children in diverse city, agency, and school programs. Inquiries and offers of help are welcome - The Brooke Jackman Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 354, Mill Neck, NY 11765, [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org).

### Board of Directors 2006

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*“How wonderful it is  
that nobody need wait a  
single moment before starting  
to improve the world.”*

- Anne Frank

# The Brooke Jackman Foundation



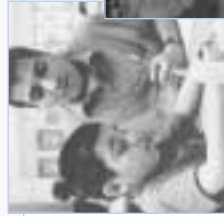
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## Upcoming Events '06 October Benefit – New York Palace Hotel

Please save the date for the fall reception – our Fifth Annual Benefit on Thursday, October 12, 2006, at the New York Palace Hotel. ★ This year we will have something new – a “Wine Experience,” featuring wines from around the world. Enjoy the cheese and wine and bid at the silent and live auctions. Everyone attending will receive a chance to win a special bonus gift raffle.

★ Summertime reminders will reach each of you, with invitations to follow. Updates meanwhile – [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org).



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