

THANK YOU!

Words cannot express how grateful we are for your support of the Ben Martin Fundraiser that took place on Saturday, 11/7. The event was a huge success and we want to thank you for participating in the festivities and/or your generous donations, all to help Ben. This really was an excellent example of how a community can work together to support one another in a time of need, even with our damaged economy. As Nanse a.k.a. "Pooky the Clown," the face painter at the event put it, "This economy doesn't stop the hearts of those who care." We hope you enjoyed yourselves and experienced as much joy as we did, as this was truly an experience to remember.

On behalf of Renita we especially want to express her sincere thanks. She has been through so much and to come back home the night before, after several weeks in Houston, to an event like this, gave her so much hope in being able to conquer the expenses of Ben's medical treatment. Ben has a long journey ahead of him, but hopefully one day he will look back as an adult and this time in his life will all be a distant memory.

Please note, in case you missed this at the event, Alan Anderson and his son, Matthew, both from the metro Detroit area, stopped by the fundraiser because they wanted to share Matthew's story. Alan heard about the event on the morning of 11/7, and he immediately called his son at work and told him that he had to leave work to go with him to a fundraiser! You see, Matthew was diagnosed with the same type of cancer that Ben has when he was just 5 years old. They, too, went to Dr. Burzynski for treatment. In fact, Matthew was on the cover of *Newsweek* in the 1990's. He is now a 22 year old man, cancer-free for six years! He is healthy, has a good job and a girlfriend. During the event, Alan got up on stage and spoke emotionally about Matthew's journey. For Renita and those of us who planned the event, this surprise really made our day - we saw a man who had "terminal cancer" when he was a boy and now, at 22 years old, he was standing right before our eyes!! UNBELIEVABLE!

The fundraising efforts will continue as Ben's treatment goes on. If you know of anyone who may be interested in Ben's story, please share the message by directing them to the website www.bensfight.org. We will continue to update it with upcoming fundraising events, news stories and more about Ben.

With sincere thanks and our deepest gratitude,

Jodi Galperin
Linda Ishbia
Tracy & Allan Weitzman