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4th ANNUAL PURPLE FOR PAPPAS 5K RAISES FUNDS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

North Brunswick – Over 400 runners and walkers are stretching their muscles and lacing up their running and walking shoes for the 4th Annual “Purple for Pappas 5K” to be held on Sunday, October 21st beginning at 8:30 AM. For the second year, the race is being held at Community Park in North Brunswick, a USATF certified course, allowing for a festive atmosphere and room to accommodate the many participants and vendors that are expected. Rain date is Saturday, October 27th. In the spirit of the mission of The Aubrey Foundation, the race will celebrate the life and legacy of long-time North Brunswick teacher Aubrey Pappas, who was killed with her unborn son in a tragic automobile accident in October 2014.

The mission of the Foundation is to foster a strong North Brunswick Township community and to empower local students to achieve their goals. Over the past three years, revenue from the “Purple for Pappas 5K” and other fundraising endeavors have allowed The Aubrey Foundation to donate over \$30,000 in local scholarships, including \$21,000.00 to graduating seniors at North Brunswick Township High School, as well as local first responders and *Make-A-Wish® New Jersey*.

During the 2018-19 school year, the Foundation, in cooperation with the North Brunswick Board of Education, is establishing a new club at Linwood Middle School, where Aubrey served as a teacher for 13 years. The club will help to perpetuate Aubrey’s memory by fulfilling goals that align with the #LiveLikeAubrey mission, including community service, and other activities that inspire good in the community

This year’s event will begin with Opening Ceremonies at 8:30 AM, and will feature music from **Elite Entertainment**, videography by **Hurricane Productions**, professional photography from **Kristy Ann Photography** and special performances from local student groups. For the fourth year in a row, the Aubrey Foundation would like to thank **Chartwells Food Service**, **Thomas Sweets Ice Cream**, and **High Grade Beverage** for providing free refreshments for all attendees. **Showstoppers Plus** will decorate the race course and park with festive balloons and various vendor tables will be set up to provide entertainment, food, kids activities and giveaways to racers, volunteers and spectators of all ages including: **Magic 98.3**, **Trader Joe’s**, **Bagel Bazaar**, **UFC Gym**, **Rt. 1 Dental**, **Saint Paul’s of Milltown**, **Point Community Church** and **CKO of North Brunswick**. New this year, we welcome **Caribbean Touch Spa** who will provided free massages. An Awards Ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the

race, followed by **The 4th Annual Purple for Pappas After Party**, hosted by **TGI Fridays**, located on Route 1 in North Brunswick.

Who was Aubrey Pappas?

Aubrey was a 6th grade Language Arts teacher at Linwood Middle School for 13 years, touching the hearts and minds of thousands of students. She enriched many lives by living her own life centered on being genuine, honest, kind, & always helping others. Her positive energy was the driving force that led to the creation of The Aubrey Foundation, which continues her legacy by hosting community service events inspired by her ideas, dreams & missions. Shortly after her death, Aubrey's "bucket list" was discovered, listing many things that she hoped to achieve in her lifetime. One of those was to complete a 5K race, and the Foundation hopes to inspire others to *#LiveLikeAubrey* with the sponsorship of this race.

Supportive Sponsors

A sizable number of new and returning sponsors are supporting this year's initiative. Diamond Level Sponsors for the 2018 race are **Magyar Bank, Raceway Petroleum, The Setroc Group Inc., TGI Fridays of North Brunswick and Lamar New York**. Additional generous support has been received this year from: **Lee Newman, C3 Technologies, Gallas Surveying Group, Raspa Jewelers, The North Brunswick Pub, UFC Gym, Selover Funeral Home, Remax Realty, Rt. 1 Dental, CKO of North Brunswick, The Greene Turtle, Modern Art Solutions of Highland Park and Picture It Awards of Edison**.

To learn more about The Aubrey Foundation, and to register for the *Purple for Pappas 5K*, please visit the Foundation's website at www.TheAubreyFoundation.org. The Aubrey Foundation is a New Jersey 501©(3) non-profit corporation.

Our Mission Statement: To foster a strong North Brunswick Township community and to empower local students to achieve their goals.

Sidebar - Scholarship Winners

The Aubrey Pappas Memorial Scholarship was created to support the educational goals of North Brunswick students who exhibit a strong initiative to succeed in a variety of fields, and who illustrate examples of how they will continue to fulfill Aubrey's legacy. Proceeds from the 2017 *Purple for Pappas 5K* were given back to the community through scholarships to the following members of the NBTHS Class of 2018:

Naomi Gobena (Charity/Community Service) is extremely compassionate toward others and open-minded, especially when it comes to learning about different cultures and lifestyles across the globe. Naomi's appetite to explore and take risks is refreshing. loves to learn and is committed to continue her education in college and pursue a career to help children in some capacity.

Deanna Graulich (Charity/Community Service) has a heart for service – her undeniable selflessness is truly humbling. Deanna understands the value of helping others and her to support North Brunswick students & children with special needs are significant.

Sarah Keller (Health/Nutrition) realizes the importance of physical health and its impact on the body and mind. She plans to major in nutrition in college so she can help others who struggle with weight and body image. Being brave enough to talk about these sensitive topics is inspiring. Sarah makes others feel comfortable and confident in their own skin in their efforts to be physically fit and healthy.

Karine Lozewski (The Arts) is a student who is passionate about the Arts. In her essay, Karine used colorful language to express her love for drawing, painting, and designing. Karine has clear future plans to attend Pratt Institute next fall where she will pursue a career in Arts Education and 2D Animation in hopes to teach and positively influence others to express themselves creatively.

Kayla McCargo (Overcoming Obstacles) is an inspiring individual whose perseverance has led her to overcome some very challenging obstacles, particularly in her personal life. Her openness, optimism, determination to stay focused on academics, and clear vision for her future are admirable.