

Local 5K Memorial Race to Benefit New Cancer Treatment Center

NEEDHAM, MA – (October 14, 2015)

The Sean D. Biggs Memorial Foundation will host their third annual “BIGGSteps Toward Cancer Prevention” 5K road race. The 5K and one-mile fun run/walk will both be held on Sunday, November 15, 2015, at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Needham. The one-mile fun run/walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by the 5K at 10 a.m. Kids dashes for ages up to 12 will be run after the completion of the 5K. The 2015 BIGGSteps event will support Beth Israel Deaconess Cancer Center and Surgical Pavilion, Needham.

Sean Biggs was a Needham resident who lost his battle with cancer in 2012. A devoted husband, father, brother, and son, his many accomplishments included qualifying for and running six Boston Marathons, traveling to four different continents, and a successful career focused on the environment and clean energy; all while remaining the most grounded and genuine person that most had ever met. In late September of 2011, Sean was diagnosed with cancer and received treatment at the BID Cancer Center. He fought cancer with the same amazing spirit that he lived his life.

The BID Cancer Center brings comprehensive cancer care and advanced surgery into the community and close to home. The 30,000 square foot facility delivers state-of-the-art care in a warm, supportive and convenient environment, with specialized resources readily available. The team of world-class specialists are members of Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC). Thoughtfully designed with input from patients, families, physicians, surgeons and nurses, the BID Cancer Center features all cancer care services on the first floor, including radiation treatment; plenty of natural light in every clinical area; and team-based, highly attentive, personalized care.

“As we celebrate the first anniversary of the BID Cancer Center and Surgical Pavilion, we are thankful for the Sean D. Biggs Memorial Foundation’s help in carrying on our mission to deliver high-quality cancer care in a community setting,” said Robb Friedman, MD, Medical Director for the BID Cancer Center. “Sean’s dedication to the Needham community and his family are an inspiration and we aim to provide that same warmth and commitment to our patients. We are truly honored to receive the support of the ‘BIGGSteps Toward Cancer Prevention’ 5K road race.”

Sean’s friends and family members have organized the BIGGSteps 5K, Family Fun Run/Walk, and Kids’ Dash. The 5K route starts at Broadmeadow Elementary School and covers many of the roads Sean ran frequently during his marathon training. The run is a USA Track & Field sanctioned event and will be chip-timed so serious runners can compete for personal bests and new runners can gauge their progress. This year we are pleased to be the final race of the First Annual Needham Bank 5K Grand Prix, where the top three male and female runners of the 5K series are eligible to win prize money and all participants earn a unique fleece blanket. Visit <http://runneedham.com> for more information. “We’ve enjoyed a long-standing relationship with the good folks at the BID Needham who first introduced us to The Sean D. Biggs Memorial Foundation. Since partnering with them we’ve learned of the incredible

legacy Sean left behind. As the final race of this year's Needham Bank 5K Grand Prix series, we hope runners of all abilities will come out and participate next month" commented Mark Whalen, CEO of Needham Bank.

The Sean D Biggs Memorial Foundation also hosts a BIGGSteps event in the Kansas City area, near Sean's undergraduate alma mater, The University of Kansas. To date, these family friendly events have generated more than \$250,000 to further the foundation's mission. Race information including a detailed schedule of events and accompanying attractions and sponsors can be found at <http://biggsteps.org/needham.html>. Runners can register online now at <http://biggsteps.racewire.com> or complete a paper registration the day of the race.

The Sean D Biggs Memorial Foundation raises awareness of the causes and prevention of cancer; assists those affected by cancer; and supports cancer research. Consistent with the vision of Sean Biggs, we also fund collegiate scholarships for study abroad and in the fields of alternative energy and energy efficiency.

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