# Sarah Arras

From: Sent: To: Subject: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County [gballard@bbbsofrc.com] Monday, March 31, 2014 10:26 AM sarras@bbbsofrc.com Spring 2014 Newsletter~ Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County www.bbbsofrc.com

Spring Newsletter April, 2014

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info@bbbsofrc.com

2014 marks an incredible milestone for our agency, as we will be celebrating our 30th anniversary! We are 30 years strong because each of you, our Bigs, Board of Directors, staff, corporate and private donors have invested in our mission and made our local youth a priority. It takes a village to change how our kids are growing up in our communities and we are proud to be a part of that village with you. Like our matches, our mission is timeless. And that is the theme we are carrying with us this year, timeless !



Please take a look at our 2014 Birthday Golf Outing Fundraiser flyer below and see if you can support us by wishing BBBS of RC a very Happy 30th Birthday.

The greatest gift we could give a child is a chance to succeed. With sincere appreciation of your friendship, we extend best wishes to all our generous supporters, donors and friends.

Warm Regards,

Gillian Ballard,CEO Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County

# 2014 Golf Classic Celebrating BBBS of RC 30th Birthday Bash!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland is excited to announce its 4th Annual Golf Outing on Thursday, May 15th, 2014. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast. Dinner will be served at 3:30 p.m. Raffles, fun, great company and a tremendous program will be supported by all wishing to golf or enjoy celebrating our 30th birthday dinner.

Call today for details: 845 634 2199 x 5

Register at our Online Event Spot!

Click Here for Full Flyer and to Register by Mail

#### Click Here to Pay through PayPal

(Click Donate Online Tab & Select One Time Gift- Include in comments for Golf Outing)

# How to be a True Big Brother Written by Big Brother Jim Bieber

On November 17, 2013, and for many days afterwards, a little brother in our program, Davyon Edmundson, demonstrated his strength, courage, maturity and how to be a true 'big brother'. It was on this date that his younger brother, Donovan, was struck by a hit-and-run van near his after-school program and seriously injured. Davyon was

close by, as was his mother Martine and they were rushed with Donovan to the Westchester Medical Center Intensive Care Unit where doctors worked to save his life.

Donovan, after a lengthy stay in the hospital and at home, is now doing better and back in school.

While there are many accomplishments I could list for Davyon, who has been with me for almost six years, the one his family and I are most proud of will always be how he handled himself during this extremely traumatic and difficult time.

Davyon gave up all of his activities and free time that a typical 12 ½ year old has, so he could spend time with his mother at the hospital, keeping Donovan's spirits high. That continued once Donovan was brought home for a lengthy stay, rushing home after school to make sure Donovan was okay and keeping up with his schoolwork as he recovered. This also included helping his mom out around the house in other ways as well allowing her to focus her attention and care on Donovan while still going to work. He continues to keep watch over Donovan today, reminding him of any limitations still in place that will help ensure a full recovery.

He was and remains, even months later, always there for Donovan (and his mom) and is looking forward to when Donovan is 100% again!

| 5              | Thursday,<br>New York | wal Golf Outing<br>May 15th, 2014<br>k Country Club<br>d New Pergeneral, NY 10077<br>5-362-5810  |
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# **Little Brother Receives Track Medals**

#### Written by Big Sister Margie Goldstein

Joseph and I have been matched since April 2nd 2008. We enjoy going to baseball games, seeing movies and going to the City. This past fall/winter Joseph played wide receiver for the Spring Valley High School football team. He ran winter track and received medals for placing in the 600 meter run and the 4X400 relays. Joseph will be pitching for the baseball team this spring. He is a 3 season athlete at the High School. Joseph is also doing well academically and is well liked by all of his teachers. I am so proud of his many accomplishments.

# An Inspired Young Woman

#### Written by Big Sister Veronica Campanelli

I've been a big sister to Alexa for quite some time now and she has certainly grown from an inquisitive little girl to an inspired young woman who is looking forward to her future. During this time we have done various activities, from viewing museum exhibitions, yoga classes, and movies to visiting animal shelters. However, sometimes the most interesting moments are times spent just "being together." More recently, as this is her junior year of high school, we go for brunch, and she'll order her favorite meal (shrimp) and then we go over SAT and vocabulary exercises. "Lexi" as she is affectionately known, recently celebrated a major achievement; she received a 93



average for her overall GPA! The everyday challenges of school have historically been stressful for Lexi however, she has truly evolved and matured both emotionally and academically and I'm so very proud of her! I eagerly wait to witness all her future accomplishments.

# New Match Spotlight

# Written by Big Sister Dustin Edwards

Since our first outing in January, Carlos has completely opened up to me. As soon as he got in the car, he began talking to me as if he had known me for years! Carlos is a typical nine year old boy, who loves to be active!



Carlos is such an adorable child! On our second outing, we went to breakfast and then he went and ran errands with me. As I was shopping, anything that was slightly heavy, he wanted to handle because "he is the man."

He is always a delightful, helpful, and always has a story to tell.

Recently, we went ice skating at the Palisades Mall. Carlos could not stop talking about how much fun he was having, even by himself. He tried and tried to get me to get on the ice with him, but I refused. Maybe next time!

# 2014 Rockland County Mentoring Collaborative

#### Written by Program Director Carleen Hobbs

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rockland County along with Dominican College and the Mental Health Association of Rockland County

"Success Team", provides an after-school mentoring program, which aspires to establish a positive mentoring relationship between college students and high school students. The program enables youth from Spring Valley High School and mentors from Dominican College to interact in an informal atmosphere. The emphasis is geared to promoting self-esteem and providing career guidance for the high school students through interaction with the mentors. The students have fun while learning and become comfortable in sharing thoughts and goals with their mentors and with the group as a whole.

The group met each Tuesday from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM for seven weeks, starting in February and ending April, 2014.

# Little's School Project

Written by Big Sister Rosemarie Dobbs

Abdielz did a project on President Carter and received an A. She needed to do research, do a poster and dress the part. Abdieliz and I worked on printing out the pictures together and doing research for the part and the collage. I am really proud of all the hard work she is doing in school and what a lovely young lady she is becoming.





845 634 2199

Give us a call today!

<u>Click Here to Register</u> your Golf Team Today! Stay in the know: #Celebrating30years







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