

# Eagles host Quakertown cancer patient at training camp

The Philadelphia Eagles and Miami Dolphins started their season off by bringing light and hope to a local cancer patient, Harrison Willing, with the opportunity to attend training camp with both teams on Aug. 22 at the Nova Care Complex in Philadelphia.

Harrison's surprise is a part of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) larger national movement: Random Acts of Light. To foster awareness around its annual fall fundraising campaign "Light The Night," LLS launched Random Acts of Light in the summer of 2016 to bring light to the darkness of cancer, by surprising blood cancer patients and survivors with thoughtful moments, including some with favorite athletes and celebrities.

Harrison, of Quakertown, was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma in January 2016. The 13-year-old is undergoing chemotherapy, and is scheduled to have a bone marrow transplant this September. The memorable moment was made possible when The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society surprised him with a special video message from a Philadelphia Eagles player, Chris Maragos, inviting him to training camp at the Nova Care Complex.

At training camp, Harrison spent the day watching both teams have a friendly practice against each other in preparation for their exhibition game and getting to meet some of his favorite players including Jarvis Landry, Rodney McLeod and Cameron Wake.

When Harrison met the players, he was surprised to find that they were wearing the bracelets that he designed for "Team Harrison" through the LLS Light The Night initiative.

*The Willing family with Swoop, the Philadelphia Eagles mascot.*



Harrison Willing, diagnosed with T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma in January 2016, poses with Eagles safety Rodney McLeod.



Quakertown resident Harrison Willing with members of the Miami Dolphins.



## Co-parenting program started for divorced parents

Family Service Association of Bucks County recently launched Parenting Together, a co-parenting program for parents or caregivers experiencing problems with communication.

The co-parenting classes are designed to help parents work together effectively to promote the best interests of their children following separation, divorce or other conflicts.

Judge Jeffrey G. Trauger of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas identified the need to have co-parenting education available to Bucks County parents. In the courtroom, he regularly sees families dealing with high-conflict situations, and the children are suffering. In working with Trauger, Family Service heard about the need for co-parenting education and began developing Parenting Together.



Francis J. "Frank" Sullivan, managing partner of Hill Wallack LLP's Yardley office, and Judge Jeffrey G. Trauger of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas present to the Bucks County Bar Association about the need for and benefits of co-parenting programs.

Parenting Together instructors utilize an evidence-based curriculum to teach parents useful anger management, conflict res-

olution and communication skills to enhance their ability to parent cooperatively and effectively on behalf of their children's best interests.

Both group and private classes are available. Group classes are currently offered at Family Service's Langhorne office, though in time, the program will expand to Doylestown and Quakertown. Classes do not need to be attended as a couple. Parents, partners, grandparents, foster parents, and any other individuals who co-parent with another to provide direct care for a child can participate.

There is a fee for the service, and all participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

To enroll in the next series of classes, contact Parenting Together staff at 215-757-6916 x268 or parentingtogether@fsabc.org. For information, visit fsabc.org/parentingtogether.



JORDAN KOSESKI



BRENT REILLY

## Scouts chosen Good Citizens

Two Tamenend District Eagle Scouts were among the youth honored for setting high standards of behavior and leadership at the Union League's 2017 Good Citizen Day.

Jordan Koseski and Brent Reilly attended the day-long event, which included workshops, presentations, tours of Philadelphia City Hall and a banquet where they received a Good Citizenship Award.

Jordan is a member of Troop 99 in Newtown. His Eagle Scout Service Project was the procurement and placement of grave

markers at the resting place of three Civil War soldiers who were buried in unmarked graves at Laurel Hill Cemetery for more than 150 years. A senior at Council Rock North, Jordan is the son of Kris and Patrick Koseski of Upper Makefield.

Brent is a member of Troop 153. The son of Raymond and Susan Breza of Langhorne, Brent is a senior at Neshaminy. His Eagle Scout Service Project benefited the Autism Cares Foundation and included extensive renovations to its Southampton headquarters.



Jodi Kendall, author of "The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City."

## Del Val alumna's novel to be published by Harper Collins

The first novel by Delaware Valley High School alumna Jodi (Razgaitis) Kendall, "The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City," will be released by HarperCollins Children's Books on Oct. 3.

"I write because it's part of my DNA," said Kendall, "but also because it's how I want to positively impact the lives of young readers."

The book, written for kids in third through seventh grades, "is about love, acceptance, and the unconditional bond between a young girl and her pet pig. The main character, 11-year-old Josie Shilling, also faces struggles, both within herself and as a middle child in her big, chaotic, financially strapped family. Both Josie and her pig, Hamlet, deal with growing pains in their own secret ways."

Although the title acknowledges that the story is "unlikely," and although it starts out with a scene strongly reminiscent of E.B. White's opening for "Charlotte's Web," Kendall's story is based on her own childhood in Columbus, Ohio.

"My college-aged brother saved a runt piglet from slaughter and brought it home with him for the holidays. The pig ended up living with us for about six months, in our house. This wasn't a teacup pig or a pot-bellied pig breed, either. She was one of the 'bacon breeds' and grew about a pound a day. Needless to say, we had our share of pig adventures."

Although Kendall's book contains no literate spider, she does give E.B. White an admiring shout-out in the text.

Kendall moved to Alexandria Township, near Little York, just in time begin sophomore year at Del Val with the Class of 1998.

"Dom Forker's Creative Writing class my senior year helped me grow in my craft and believe that I could really make this wild author dream happen one day. My high school guidance counselor, Christine Tomalin (formerly Suozzo), was a wonderful support system

for me during a difficult time in my life. She always encouraged me to work hard towards my goals by focusing on my passions," she recalls.

"To be honest, I had a love/hate relationship with the high school experience. I was average in sports and school, and everything from the drama of social life, to the pressure of getting good grades, to figuring out what I wanted to do, with my life I felt overwhelmed."

"If I could talk to my teen self, I'd tell her to be more gentle and compassionate with herself and others, and to focus more on who you want to be in life, not what you want to be. Pursue things and places you're curious about, discover what brings you joy, always be willing to learn, work hard with a positive attitude, and the rest will work itself out."

She went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in English from Florida State University and a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing from the University of Arizona.

Now she is a full-time writer with two children. She has written for the National Geographic Channel, Nat Geo Wild, and Pregnancy & Newborn Magazine.

Kendall lives in New York City, but she comes back to Hunterdon frequently to visit her high school friends and their growing families.

Kendall's new novel is the first book of a two-book deal, and the sequel will be published in the autumn of 2018.

## Ohev Shalom to host Pet Expo

Ohev Shalom of Bucks County will host a Pet Expo to benefit Inclusion B'Kavod on Sept. 10.

Do you have a prize rabbit, a cat that can sing Sinatra, or a dog that can do awesome tricks? Bring them to Ohev Shalom for the 2017 Pet Expo, which runs 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The schedule will include a blessing of the pets with Rabbi Perlstein at 11:30 a.m., a Pets on Parade to showcase pets at 12:15 p.m., and raffle drawings at 12:45 p.m.

The Pet Expo will include food, music and crafts. A veterinarian will be present to answer questions. Participants can have photographs taken with their pets, children can have their faces painted, and attendees can purchase tickets to win raffle baskets. The Pet Expo will also include games, exhibits and more.

Pet owners are responsible for their pets and must clean up after their pets. For safety, all pets must be on a leash or otherwise contained.

Visit [ohcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Pet-Show-IBK-2017.pdf](http://ohcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Pet-Show-IBK-2017.pdf).

Ohev Shalom of Bucks County is located at 944 Second Street Pike, Richboro.

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