

# Taking the initiative to make a difference

Jake Angradi and Kevin Hughes of Saylorsburg recently raised \$1,495 through a full-day fundraiser featuring raffle prizes, gift baskets, food and activities.

The catch: Jake and Kevin are just 12 years old.

Yet they're among dozens of people in the Greater Delaware Valley who take fundraising into their own hands by organizing community events to benefit the Society and local people living with MS.

Jake, a sixth grader at Stroudsburg Middle School, cut his teeth by raising more than \$2,000 as a top fundraiser for the MS READaTHON at his elementary school.

"I wanted to do a fundraiser again but something with my own twist on it," said Jake, whose mother was diagnosed with MS before he was born. Kevin was eager to learn more

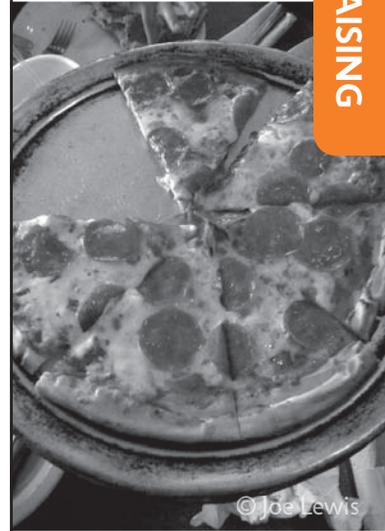
about the disease while also helping his mom, who has MS.

During the fundraiser, 60 students spent the day in the school library as a reward for good grades and good behavior. Each was asked to raise \$20 to participate.

A chapter staff member engaged the students in an MS demonstration, then the kids ate pizza and won prizes and finished the day with a movie – all while wearing their pajamas.

"My mom was really proud of me for what we did and how much we raised," Jake said.

Kevin was proud of himself, as well. "I felt like I had accomplished something I hadn't accomplished before," he said.



## RAISING THE BAR

Many thanks to others who have recently organized their own fundraisers:

- Michael Bair and friends, Bobblepalooza 2009, \$2,728
- Taylor Hughes & Jenn Carter, sales of handmade coasters and origami, \$100
- Fay & David Teal and Wayne Hickman, Laps to Conquer MS, \$5,000
- Whitemarsh Rugby Football Club, golf event in memory of Sandra Woolford, \$1,200
- John McGeary, Chips for Charity in honor of Chris Wakely, \$686.35

To organize or publicize a community fundraiser, contact Kristin Marnie at **1-800-548-4611** or [kristin.marnie@pae.nmss.org](mailto:kristin.marnie@pae.nmss.org).

## FUNDRAISER SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers at the Pocono Raceway raised \$5,100 for the Society and took in some great NASCAR action in 2009. Ellena Kirschbaum is looking for more volunteers to help man the raceway's gates on Sunday, June 6 for the Pocono 500. After volunteering, participants can watch the race.

The raceway will donate \$75 per volunteer to the National MS Society. To learn more, contact Ellena or Emil Kirschbaum at **1-570-857-0161** or [ellenakirschbaum@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenakirschbaum@yahoo.com). The deadline to sign up is April 16.