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Celebrities and Volunteers Unite to Help Children with Serious Illnesses

October 8, 2009 (Sedona, AZ) Children with serious and life-threatening illnesses in the Southwest are \$375,000 closer to having their own medically-based camp here in Arizona thanks to the Oct. 3 and Oct. 4 fundraiser to benefit Camp Soaring Eagle.

The “Tee It Up For Children’s Laughter” weekend was hosted by Jane Seymour and her husband James Keach, with special appearances from NFL legend Steve Young, comedian Roy Firestone and LPGA professional Jan Stephenson. The event, held at the Club at Seven Canyons, reached maximum capacity with over 200 people in attendance for the gala and tournament. Actress Jane Seymour and her husband James Keach spent Saturday afternoon visiting with Camp Soaring Eagle campers and families, playing golf and having lunch. A Camper Golf Clinic was provided to the children by LPGA professional Jan Stephenson and Seven Canyons Golf Instructor, Dave Bisbee. Pink Jeep Tours graciously donated tours for the campers and families, and gave them a close up look at Sedona’s spectacular red rocks.

Golf guests were entertained on Saturday by Danny Luirette of Krank Golf, who gave a long drive clinic as part of the Golf Skills Challenge. Danny holds the record for the longest competitive drive at 454 yards and wowed the crowd with his amazing trick shots. A special thanks go out to all of the local volunteers who helped insure that all of the tournament details were taken care of.

A highlight of the weekend was when Camp Soaring Eagle Camper, Katie Doty age 11 spoke to the Gala audience about her personal battle with cancer and how important this camp is to her and other children with serious illnesses. Katie attended The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp this past summer as part of the “Flying with Camp Soaring Eagle Program.”

While undergoing treatment Katie was visited in the hospital by Steve Young. Katy introduced Steve to speak about his charitable organization, the Forever Young Foundation and thanked him for his generous support of Camp Soaring Eagle.

The Live Auction was a tremendous success, with the private dinner party at Jane Seymour’s home selling three times and last minute items were created on the spot by Jane Seymour and LPGA Professional Jan Stephenson. Over \$100,000 was raised during the live auction alone.

“I have been to many celebrity fundraiser events,” stated guest Rebecca Foster, “but I was blown away by how genuine the support is for Camp Soaring Eagle.”

“I couldn’t be happier about the outpouring of support we have received this weekend, said Max James, Founder of Camp Soaring Eagle. “Listening to our camper’s stories and talking with their parents, left every person at the event dedicated to working even harder to complete construction on Camp Soaring Eagle.”

Once it is completed, Camp Soaring Eagle will be the only year-round, medically-based camping facility in the state of Arizona. The free-of-charge, illness-specific camper sessions will give children and parents peace of mind. To learn more or to make a donation please visit www.campsoaringeagle.org or contact Jennifer W. Perry, Director of Marketing, Camp Soaring Eagle.

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Camp Soaring Eagle aspires to be a member of the Association of Hole in the Wall Camps. We are following a set of guidelines that we hope will lead to provisional membership and then full membership upon the opening of our camp. These requirements are designed to assure that each member camp provides the highest level of safety and programming for the children. They are also designed to assure that each member camp has sound financial support. At this time the Association of Hole in the Wall Camps is assisting Camp Soaring Eagle to meet the necessary requirements. Being a part of such a well-established and acclaimed network of camps will provide Camp Soaring Eagle with the experience, knowledge and support to operate at the highest level of excellence.