

WaterStone

LIVING

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BAYHILL BROOKFIELD STONEWICK WINDPOINTE



Meet Your Neighbors,
**The
Finbloom
Family**

Check out pg. 3 for
information on our
community
BACK 2 SCHOOL
BASH event!



YOUR STORIES. YOUR PHOTOS. YOUR COMMUNITY.

Meet Your Neighbors

The Finbloom Family



Norm and Dawn Finbloom originally moved to Bayhill in 1996. They loved Waterstone so much that in 2006 they then moved across the lake to Windpointe. They have two children, Brett (11/8/1993-8/5/2012) and Jenna who is starting her junior year at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where she is majoring in business. They also reside with their two dogs, Gidget (5), who is a miniature Goldendoodle, and Monte (9), who is a King Charles cavalier spaniel. Norm is originally from St. Louis, while Dawn lived in Oklahoma for her teenage and young adult years. There in Oklahoma, they met and married, then lived in Ohio for nine years prior to moving to Waterstone. Norm is the Senior Vice President of Lease Services Management, and now both he and Dawn have devoted their lives to educating teens about the Lifeline Law and how to "Make Good Decisions."

Brett Finbloom was a young man with a bright future. He was preparing to start college in just a matter of days. One night he decided to hang out with some friends and about 3½ hours after he left home, his parents received a phone call from a police officer

saying that he had been drinking. They were then advised that Brett's heart had stopped, paramedics were working on him, and they needed to get to the hospital right away. After 2½ days on life support, Brett did not survive and he became an organ donor saving and enhancing lives.

Just like many others his age, Brett made the bad decision to drink alcohol with his other underage friends, drinking too much, too fast, and then he passed out. His friends, fearing that they and Brett would get in trouble, were afraid to call for help. They didn't realize the severity of Brett's situation nor did they know about The Indiana Lifeline Law, which provides "immunity for the crimes of public intoxication, minor in possession, minor in consumption, and similar laws to persons who identify themselves to law enforcement while seeking medical assistance for a person suffering from an alcohol-related health emergency." Had they known, they may have saved Brett's life. Call/Text 911-StayCooperate.

Less than one month after Brett had passed away, the Finblooms were asked to come to an area high school to speak of their experience. Social media outlets also contacted them, as their tragic story was exactly what the Lifeline Law was meant to prevent – an underage person dying from simply drinking too much, too fast.

Not wanting other families to endure what they had, The Finblooms then decided to empower other

teens and their families with this life-saving knowledge. They have presented their story and awareness in more than a hundred presentations ranging from large venues to small groups. These venues include middle schools, high schools, colleges, universities, civic organizations, businesses, and religious organizations. The Finblooms will present anywhere in this state and even beyond if they feel that Brett's message can help. To date, they know of at least 52 teens or young adults who have been helped by The Make Good Decision's Initiative (MGD) that is part of The Indiana Youth Services Association. You can request their presentation and other MGD speakers at www.makegooddecisions.info.

Each year MGD has two fundraising events to help spread this important life-saving message to teens and young adults. One is the MGD golf outing, this year again at Hillcrest Country Club on September 9, the other being "The Blind Pig" event, which just occurred in June for the sixth consecutive year ("Blind Pig" is a term used for an establishment in the 19th century that sold alcohol during prohibition unlawfully.). This year's well-attended Blind Pig event was again held at The Columbia Club, which is a great venue and has the perfect ambiance as it was established in the '20s! The evening consisted of both a silent and live auction with unique and sought after items, fun entertainment, as well as a brief, educational, life-saving program to educate and help prevent others from going through this tragedy and assist them in spreading the word so that everyone can learn about the Lifeline Law. This tragedy is 100 percent preventable with simply "Knowing Enough," say Norm and Dawn.

MGD has an extensive social media campaign designed to blast the message out at crucial times such as the beginning of the school year for college freshmen, and prom/graduation for high school students.

MGD scholarships are awarded annually at several Indiana schools. At Carmel High School this scholarship is named for CHS alum "The Brett Ryan Finbloom Memorial Scholarship." The number of scholarships awarded continues to grow because of the community of support. To date, 18 scholarships have been awarded in our state.

If Brett were here today, he would want to tell others to be careful and "Make Good Decisions." For friends who witness someone overindulging, he would advise them to make the 911 call or text 911 for their friend (Now you can also text 911 any emergency and MGD has partnered with The Indiana 911 Board to educate our citizens.).

As Brett's family says, "Brett was everything and then some to us. Now Brett is Everyone's Lifeline."

Simply "Know Enough" at www.makegooddecisions.info.



P.J. Gibson, "Brett Ryan Finbloom Memorial Scholarship" recipient



Jason Schellenberger



Chris Denari



David Westenberg