

Darienite

News for Darien

<http://darienite.com>

'For Michael' Day of Fun at Weed Beach This Saturday Raises Money for Shatterproof

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Categories : [Community Organizations](#), [Outdoors](#), [Weekend Events](#)

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The family of Michael Taylor, a 2008 Darien High School graduate who [died last year](#) at the age of 26, after a struggle with opioid addiction, is holding a day of recreation and fundraising this Saturday, May 20 at Weed Beach.

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From 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., the day will include boat racing, a band, a silent auction, lawn and beach games, dunk tanks and food trucks. Cash and credit cards will be accepted at the fundraising event for [Shatterproof](#). So far, the event has already raised more than \$172,000.

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* A **“build your own boat” relay race**: 20+ teams of 4 people will test their ingenuity and boat racing skills at Weed Beach.

* **‘Tramps Like Us’** — a Bruce Springsteen Tribute band, will perform at the beach following the boat race

* A **silent auction** with 30+ donations from the Darien YMCA, local artists, businesses, and more

Here's Why

In the spring of 2016 the world became a significantly lesser place with the passing of Michael Taylor. Mike was a son, brother, friend but mostly he was simply a terrific human being. He lit up every room he walked into with his enormous smile and deep, infectious laugh. He is missed every day, and will continue to be missed indefinitely.

Mike's life was cut tragically short due to his struggle with opioid addiction. Addiction is a disease that needs to be stripped of any stigma and dealt with proactively.

Shatterproof is attempting to combat opioid addiction from many angles, specifically prevention, with the hope that no one ever has to say "I wish" when discussing a loved one again. It is for this reason that we are raising money in Michael's name through Shatterproof.

Michael's family and friends continue to grieve. However, we have also taken his passing as a call to action. All who knew Mike, who now know the depth of this loss, have taken it upon themselves to shatter the stigma of addiction and to aid in the fight against the opioid epidemic. By partnering with Shatterproof, we know we can make a difference in this fight.

By engaging in some of the activities that Mike enjoyed, we honor his memory. By donating to a fundraising team of your choosing and participating in our event, you will help increase awareness and funding for the prevention, treatment, and recovery of this disease. Addiction needs to be battled with empathy and love. Michael was full of both.

[Event web pages](#)

[Facebook event page](#)

[Shatterproof](#)

More Details

Event times:

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- 1 to 2 p.m.: Welcome and Race Set Up
- 2 to 4 p.m.: Boat Race and Awards Ceremony
- 2 to 5 p.m.: Silent Auction
- 4 to 7 p.m.: Concert, food trucks, and beach games

Parking:

- Limited parking is available at Weed Beach
- We will provide shuttle bus service from Noroton Presbyterian Church and St. John's Church parking lots on the Post Road at the top of Nearwater Lane.