

Kortney Rose Gillette playground dedicated in her memory

By Walter J. O'Neill, Jr.
Oceanport — The playground was decorated with pink balloons and purple ribbons. It was a tribute and testimony to a young girl, Kortney Rose Gillette, who passed away last year.

Four months after learning that Kortney had brainstem glioma, she passed away from the disease on April 27, 2006. She was described as a vivacious nine-year-old with a winning smile and contagious spirit for life.

Kristen Gillette, her mother, decided after her daughter passed away she would start a foundation in memory of Kortney. This foundation is dedicated to raising funds for treatment and cure of pediatric brain tumors.

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Some of the people who helped the playground become a reality, from l-r, are Oceanport Mayor Lucille Chaump, Police Chief Harry Sutton, Superintendent James DiGiovanno, Principal Renee Bonin, B.O.E. member Melissa Parker-Combes, and Kortney's family, Rich, Kristen and Kasey Gillette.



Kortney Rose
 Several pieces of new playground equipment were dedicated in Kortney's honor at the Wolf Hill School, in Oceanport.



Shown left, above and below, kids enjoying the new equipment for all age groups.

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