

SPORTS

The Richards family of Exfair Road hosts Big Train Baseball player



Jack Richards, Mary Beth Richards, Bryan Thomas and Cal Richards at Shirley Povich Field.

Chevy Chase locals Jack and Mary Beth Richards have been supporters of Bethesda Big Train Baseball from its beginning in 1997. They're still contributing; the family has hosted players in their home for the past four summers. "Big Train is a wonderful jewel in Bethesda," Mary Beth says. "It's a great way to spend a summer evening."

Baseball always had a place in the couple's heart; both their fathers played ball and are immortalized through name plates on the family's regular seats at Shirley Povich Field. Growing up, Jack also played as a catcher and is still in touch with some of his old teammates. Their 14 year-old son, Cal, started playing baseball in kindergarten and is now on Landon School's team.

For the second summer, the Richards family is hosting Bryan Thomas, Bethesda Big Train's third baseman. Bryan plays at Virginia Tech during the school year; according to Mary Beth, he's a great student and big brother figure for Cal.

Mary Beth says hosting isn't the only way to volunteer, and recommends everyone to "come out and see a game!"