# **It's A 'Cancerversary'** Sisters kick off IO-week fundraising campaign



Sisters Melissa and Erin are taking part in a 10-week-long fundraising campaign to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

By Stephanie DeLuca sdeluca@longislandernews.com

Two sisters who graduated from Huntington High School are cancer survivors, and they want to give back to the organization that helped them overcome their diseases as well as celebrate their "cancerversaries."

To commemorate surviving after their cancer diagnoses, Erin Zammett Ruddy, who was diagnosed 10 years ago, and her sister Melissa Zammett Gonzalez, who was diagnosed a year after Ruddy, are taking part in a 10-week-long "The Man and Woman of the Year" fundraising competition to raise money for the Melville-based Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS). The organization's mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

"This is our first [cancerversary]. I would celebrate it each year... but 10 years felt like it was a big deal and we also wanted to do something that was major," Ruddy said.

Ruddy, who was a volleyball star at Huntington High School and is now a full-time freelance writer living in Centerport, was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia 10 years ago at 23 years old, while working at *Glamour*. After 18 months of treatments and taking a drug called Gleevec, she was in remission. Due to her type of cancer, she has to stay on the pill forever.

A year after Ruddy found out she had cancer, Gonzalez, who still lives in Huntington and works as a certified public accountant, was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. She was seven months pregnant with her first child.

"I had a lump on my neck for a while but it wasn't that big and then I woke up one morning and it was the size of a tennis ball," Gonzalez said.

While pregnant, she was undergoing chemotherapy – which was tested and found safe for the fetus. After the baby was born, Gonzalez continued with treatment. About nine months after she finished her treatment, she relapsed and had a stem-cell transplant. She has been cancer free for the last seven years.

Today, the women's lives are "full, hectic, fabulous and great."

To help other patients and family members, the sisters have planned various events and will be accepting donations through their website from March 8 through May 17. Ruddy and Gonzalez set their goal at \$100,000. If their goal is met, each of them can get their name on a research grant at a hospital in their honor.

Ruddy and Gonzalez' first event will be held at Rexer-Parkes clothing boutique in Huntington village on April 4. Ruddy said Elizabeth Rexer's father died of lymphoma a few years ago, and she wanted to get involved with the sisters' campaign.

Joanina wine shop and restaurant will be donating its services for the night, and Rexer-Parkes will be giving 15 percent of their sales from 6 to 9 p.m. to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Men can also shop, with offerings from Joseph Custom Clothier's menswear.

Their flagship event will be held at Honu in Huntington village on April 30.

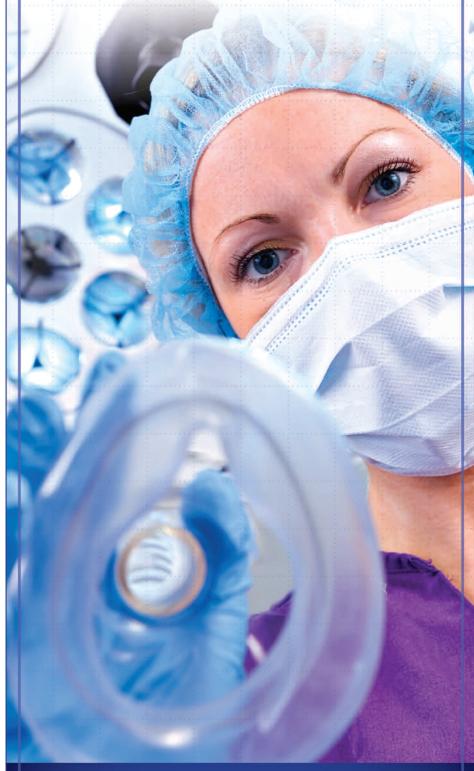
"Mark Zecher at Honu has been fantastic to work with. We wanted to do a local place that has a good vibe, good food, big bar and big space where we could fit a ton of people," Ruddy said.

For \$125, participants can enjoy an open bar from 7 to 10 p.m. as well as food, dancing and a performance by a 10-man a capella band, Straight No Chaser. There will also be a silent auction. A few of the items include packages from the Mets, Yankees, Giants, vacation packages, David Yurman jewelry and Michele watches.

The women are hoping to raise \$50,000 at the Honu event alone. All tickets must be purchased in advance on *(Continued on page A31)*  Preventing a heart attack begins by aligning yourself with a highly skilled team of cardiac experts. Huntington Hospital gives you direct access to renowned cardiologists and related specialists, while our status as a Magnet Hospital means you'll be cared for by some of the top nurses in the country. Preventing an emergency, however, is always better than surviving one. Call (855) 855-4448 to get connected with the team that's right for you.

### "Unfortunately, too many people meet me like this."

- Kristyn Hickey, RN





SERVICES

CARDIAC

# 'Blackout' event won't repeat at The Paramount

(Continued from page A1)

Barstool Blackout parties employ live DJs, black lights and lasers, and attract large crowds - often college students on college campuses. Saturday's party at The Paramount was scheduled to begin at 9:30 p.m. According to Ticketmaster, ticketholders must be at least 18 years old.

Employees and owners of multiple New York Avenue businesses couldn't say when the chaos started, but complained about scantily-clad crowds of minors - some who appeared as young as 14 - clearly drunk and/or on drugs. Some griped about public urination, others about having to break up fights. Some said they were forced to close early.

A source who attended the party said he saw intoxicated people who he knew were well under the drinking age.

A Suffolk County police spokeswoman confirmed they normally do routine checks during Paramount events, although it quickly became obvious a greater police presence was necessary.

The first 911 calls came in around 7:30 p.m. at the Huntington LIRR station about intoxicated people walking towards The Paramount Theater. Calls continued to come in as the night wore on, with COPE officers on hand alerting supervisors about a growing crowd.

Huntington Community First Aid Squad (HCFAS) spokeswoman Andrea Golinsky said they didn't even have a chance to get the police-requested standby ambulance ready before the first of five calls came in at 9:30 p.m.

By the time police released the first aid squad from duty at 1:30 a.m., HCFAS had taken two unconscious males and an unconscious female to Huntington Hospital, as well as a young man who was punched in the mouth and a young man who lacerated a finger when his hand was caught in a closing door.

Suffolk police were aware of nine aided cases, five from The Paramount and four along New York Avenue in the vicinity of the bar.

DUBLIC NOTICE

They ordered the theater to stop selling alcohol around 11 p.m., the police spokeswoman said, and to shut the music off at 11:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Huntington Fire Department was called to the theater around 11:50 p.m. after the party triggered fire alarms. Chief Ken Cochrane said they found a large crowd packed inside with the lights off and fog building.

"They had used a fog machine, which they're not supposed to have. It set off the smoke detectors. At that point, they had a problem where they couldn't get rid of the smoke and couldn't get the system restarted," Cochrane said.

While firefighters looked into the theater's system, the chief said the crowd began to get "rambunctious." A YouTube video of the party shows party-goers chanting to turn on the music again.

Cochrane ordered Paramount staff to evacuate the venue around 12:45 a.m., which occurred with no problems.

"It got crazy. That's why we decided to evacuate," he said.

By then, approximately 35 police officers from the Second Precinct, Emergency Services, K-9, SAFE-T team and neighboring precincts were also on the scene. Law enforcement made seven arrests.

Jimmy Rodridguez, 27, of Huntington Station, was charged with criminal possession of marijuana. Kyle Guarini, 18, of Oyster Bay, was charged with harassment for allegedly pushing someone. Christopher Hughes, 17, of Holtsville, was charged with obstructing governmental administration for allegedly interfering with police trying to do crowd control.

Four of the defendants were arrested at nearby Elm Street and New York Avenue.

Ronald Lagdan, 25, of Richmond Hill; Conrad Chang, 25, of Syosset; and Michael Shean, 24, of Syosset were all charged with criminal possession of marijuana. Lagdan was also charged with criminal possession of a weapon for being in possession of a metal expandable baton. Erin Bergan, 19, of Glen Cove, was

DUBLIC NOTICE

charged with disorderly conduct and false personation, the latter stemming from when she allegedly identified herself as someone else when being arrested for the first charge.

The police spokeswoman added that there was a brief fight across the street in front of Honu, although it was broken up quickly by police.

A spokesman for the New York State Liquor Authority said The Paramount currently has its liquor license, but the authority was waiting for referrals from Suffolk County police about Saturday night's activities. If deemed appropriate, he said, charges could be brought. Paramount would even be liable, the spokesman added, if teens and underage guests on their property were drinking alcohol not sold by the theater.

Paramount officials did not return messages for comment. When asked to address the public's complaints, Barstool Sports President David Portnoy offered a snide response. Refunds are being offered and he encouraged party-goers to attend Blackout Foam party at Roseland.

"We wish we could do better but that's

just the way the cookie crumbles. We'll make it up by being twice as awesome at Roseland," Pornot wrote on his website.

Petrone said theater officials also agreed to re-examine changes to protocol - including hiring additional security and changing how guests are screened.

"There are some people who come in that are not in the state of mind you and I are. They come in with drugs and alcohol; these are the people they want to have leave," he said.

However, the supervisor added that Paramount leadership has continued to be active in solving issues.

"Whenever there's a problem, they do not hide from it. They sit down and look to resolve it," Petrone said.

Councilwoman Susan Berland, another Paramount advocate, said Wednesday she had spoken with ownership since Saturday. She described the Barstool Blackout Tour experience as part of a "learning curve" as to what events can be held without negatively affecting the community, Paramount or its guests.

"I don't think they'll be having events like this again," she said.

# 'Cancerversary' events

(Continued from page A17)

their website, erinzammettruddy.com. "We wanted to do so many things locally in Huntington because it's not just about raising money but it's about celebrating that Melissa and I are doing so well and inviting people who have been a big part of a journey to celebrate with us," Ruddy said.

Ruddy and Gonzalez also have two other big events. One is a kids' soccer clinic on April 18 in Larchmont in Westchester County, with special guests Ethan Zohn from "Survivor" and also a lymphoma survivor and patient. The sisters are also working with

DUBLIC NOTICE

Body and Soul in Huntington for a day of yoga, Bottles and Cases to plan a promotional day, and Pump It Up - a bouncy-house facility - for a kids event. Dates have not been confirmed but will be listed on their website soon.

The winners of the Man and Woman of the Year competition will be announced May 17 at the grand finale gala at Capitale in Manhattan.

"I hope people come out and support LLS because it's such a great organization that did so much for Erin and me when we had cancer, for my family, and still continues to do that for people today," Gonzalez said.

DUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
addition attached to a two-story frame dwelling	two-story addition, legalize front roofed over	Location of Property: n/s of (#47) Penataquit	add one new antenna to each sector on the
on a lot that has more than two dwelling struc-	porch, rear roofed over patio & shed.	Place, approx. 10' w/o Clinton Avenue,	property.
tures.	SCTM# 0400-181.00-01.00-078.000	Huntington	SCTM# 0400-203.00-01.00-013.000
SCTM# 0400-024.00-02.00-035.001	Christopher Modelewski,	Subject: Request to waive merger clause to cre-	Public Hearing #: 20461
<b>SCTM# 0400-024.00-02.00-034.000</b> Public Hearing #: 20449	Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals 3-8-1-2T-2732	ate 2 buildable lots SCTM# 0400-070.00-02.00-021.000	Applicant: Larkfield East Northport LLC 2417 Jericho Tpke. Ste 325
Applicant: Harold Moore	5-6-1-21-2752	Public Hearing #: 20458	Garden City, NY 11040
76 East 12th St.	The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town	Applicant: Vaishali Shetty	Owner:
Huntington Station, NY 11746	of Huntington will hold a public	14 Old Bridge Court	Location of Property: s/e/c (#353, 355 & 357)
Owner: Harold & Doreen Moore	hearing at Town Hall, Huntington, N.Y. on	Melville, NY 11747	Larkfield & Allerton Avenue, East Northport
Location of Property: n/s (#76) East 12th Street	Thursday, April 19, 2012	Owner:	Subject: Request to modify prior ZBA decision #
100' w/o Homewood Avenue, Huntington Station	Results at:	Location of Property: w/s (#14) Old Bridge	20312 in order to increase the proposed 3,000 sq
Subject: Request frontage and lot area for an	http:/town.huntington.ny.us/agenda.cfm -	Court, 938.71' s/o Old Country Road Melville	bank to a 3,500 sq ft bank on lot 96.3 requiring
accessory apartment.	Official decisions will be filed with the	Subject: Request accessory structure variance to	parking variance and parking buffer relief.
SCTM# 0400-145.00-02.00-054.000	Town Clerk.	request relief for a 10 foot fence around the ten-	SCTM# 0400-118.00-02.00-096.001
Public Hearing #: 20453	6:00 PM Public Hearing #: 20381	nis court.	SCTM# 0400-118.00-02.00-097.000 SCTM# 0400-118.00-02.00-096.003
Applicant: Jerry Cioffi 7 Darien Place	Applicant: Scott Kahn, Oyster Bay Drafting	SCTM# 0400-253.00-01.00-005.015	SCTM# 0400-118.00-02.00-096.003 SCTM# 0400-118.00-02.00-096.002
East Northport, NY 11731	68 W. Main Street	Public Hearing #: 20459	Public Hearing #: 20479
Owner: Jerry & Francesca Cioffi	Oyster Bay, NY 11771	Applicant: East Northport Project LLC	Applicant: Huntington Creek Road Corp.
Location of Property: s/s (#7) Darien Place,	Owner: Candice & John Barry	One Station Place	1180 Spring Center South Blvd. Ste. 102
263.11' w/o Mander Lane, East Northport	81 Cornflower Lane	Stamford, CT 06092	Altamonte Springs, Fla. 32714
Subject: Request side yard variance to legalize	East Northport, NY 11731	Owner:	Owner: Huntington Creek Road Corp.
roofed over slate porch.	Location of Property: n/s (#81) Cornflower	Location of Property: n/s of Jericho Tpke.,	Location of Property: s/w/c (#25) New York Ave.
SCTM# 0400-172.00-01.00-032.000	Lane, 153.27' w/o Town Line Road East	996.14' w/o Larkfield Road, East Northport	& Creek Road, Huntington
Public Hearing #: 20454	Northport	Subject: Req. SUP to landbank 47 pkg sp.allow	Subject: Request Special Use Permit & Parking
Applicant: New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC 1444 East Jericho Turnpike	Subject: Request front and side yard variances	self service storage in zone, red.of Indscpe buffer	Variance n order to utilize the existing gas sta-
Huntington, NY 11743	to erect an attached garage addition. SCTM# 0400-185.00-02.00-011.000	to 7', reduced max. flr area ratio, allow 3 stories 35' where 1 story 14' allow, to comply with C-5:	tion & auto facility as well as legalize the con- venience market
Owner: AT & T Communications of New York Inc	Public Hearing #: 20456	sy of 19.8' where 35' reqd, combined sy 58.8'	& body shop on the same premises.
Location of Property: s/s of (#1444) Jericho	Applicant: Julia Fazio	where 70 read	SCTM# 0400-027.00-02.00-001.000
Tpke. Approx. 13,500' e/o Old Country Road,	47 Penataquit Place	SCTM# 0400-217.00-03.00-083.000	Christopher Modelewski, Chairman
Huntington	Huntington, NY 11743	SCTM# 0400-217.00-03.00-084.000	Zoning Board of Appeals
Subject: Request for Special Use Permit in order	Owner:	SCTM# 0400-217.00-03.00-082.000	3-15-8-2T-27327
to add new accessory communications equipment	Location of Property: n/s of (#47) Penataquit	Public Hearing #: 20460	
and add one new antenna to each sector.	Place, approx.10' w/o Clinton Avenue,	Applicant: New Cingular Wireless PCS	NOTICE OF MEETING
SCTM# 0400-209.00-02.00-007.000	Huntington	1444 E. Jericho Tpke	The Huntington Planning Board will meet next
Public Hearing #: 20455	Subject: Request to waive the merger clause to	Huntington, NY 11743 Owner: Suffolk Archers	Wednesday at 7:30 PM in the Town Board Room,
Applicant: Nicholas & Camille Angrisano 6 Magenta Lane	create 2 conforming buildable lots SCTM# 0400-070.00-02.00-021.000	PO Box 8087	Huntington Town Hall, 100 Main Street, Huntington, New York.
East Northport, NY 11731	Public Hearing #: 20457	Hicksville, NY 11803	Huntington, New York. Huntington Town Planning Board
Owner:	Applicant: Julia Fazio	Location of Property: e/s Pidgeon Hill Rd.s/o	Paul Mandelik, Chairman
Location of Property: s/s (36) Magenta Lane,	47 Penataquit Place	Woodstone Ct, South Huntington	3-8-1T-27341
202.56' e/o Revona Lane, East Northport	Huntington, NY 11743	Subject: Request Special Use Permit to add	
Subject: Request side yard variance to erect a	Owner:	new accessory communications equipment &	

# **Cops: Teen Is A Major Graffiti Player On Ll**

Harbor.

By Danny Schrafel dschrafel@longislandernews.com

A Commack teen described by police as a "major graffiti player on Long Island" has been accused of tagging properties in Lloyd Harbor and Huntington village.

Kevin Wegner, 19, of Commack, was charged Monday with two counts of second-degree criminal mischief and two counts of making graffiti. The arrests are part of an ongoing investigation by First and Third Precinct Crime Section officers.

The charges in this case, First Precinct Crime Section Sgt. David O'Brien said, are related to buildings in

Huntington village Wegner allegedly tagged, as well as a mural he sprayed on a seawall on private property in Lloyd

HUNTINGTON

**Kevin Wegner** 

We suspect him in other incidents throughout Suffolk County. There's a continuing investigation regarding him," O'Brien said.

Wegner was also arrested in Brooklyn in December 2011, accused of making graffiti, possessing a graffiti instrument, criminal trespassing and intent to damage property - all misdemeanors - and fourth-degree criminal trespassing, a violation.

Wegner was scheduled to be arraigned in Central Islip on Tuesday.

The investigation is ongoing. Anybody with information can confidentially call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-220-TIPS (8477).

## **Cancerversary In Swing** Sisters raising money at upcoming events

#### **By Stephanie DeLuca** sdeluca@longislandernews.com

Cancer survivors Erin Zammett Ruddy and Melissa Zammet Gonzalez' 10-weeklong "The Man and Woman of the Year" fundraising event is in full swing.

The Huntington graduates' first event will be at Rexer-Parkes at 35 Gerard Street in Huntington village on April 4. Fifteen percent of sales from 6 to 10 p.m. will be donated to the Melville-based Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. There will also be raffles, cocktails and hor d'oeuvres. Joanina wine shop and restaurant partnered for the event along with Joseph Custom Clothier's menswear, Ilegal Mezcal and Crew Kitchen and Bar. Ruddy said the father of Elizabeth Rexer died of lymphoma a few years ago, prompting the store owner to get involved with the campaign.

Ruddy was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia 10 years ago at 23 years old. A year after Ruddy found out she had cancer, Gonzalez was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma; she was seven months pregnant with her first child. The sisters are both free of cancer today.



Melissa Zammet Gonzalez and Erin Zammett Ruddy's cancerversary fundraiser continues April 4 at Rexer-Parkes.

To celebrate their "cancerveraries," as they are calling it, their goal is to raise \$100,000 through May 17. They are accepting donations through their website erinzammettruddy.com.

The sisters' next local event will be held at Honu at 363 New York Ave. in Huntington village on April 30. For \$125, participants can enjoy an open bar from 7 to 10 p.m. as well as food, dancing and a performance by a 10-man a capella band, Straight No Chaser. There will also be a silent auction.



Dix Hills Performing Arts Center Rock - Theatre - Great Music & Vocals - Comedy - Magic - Jazz			
Sat 3/31, 7:30рм • \$35, \$30	MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL – with Captain Jack		
Sun 4/15, 2:00рм • \$10	GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK		
Sat 4/28, 11ам & 2рм Sun 4/29, 12рм & 3рм • \$10	WIZARD OF OZ – Children's Theatre		
Tues 5/1, 7:30рм • \$10	MOSTLY BARBERSHOP		
Wed 5/2, 7:30рм • \$10	SPRING CONCERT I FTC Concert Pops & Chorus		
Thurs 5/3, 7:30рм • \$10	GUITAR EXTRAVAGANZA		
Sat 5/5, 7:30рм • \$10	FTC CABARET FAVORITES		
Tues 5/8, 7:30рм • \$10	AN EVENING OF JAZZ		
Wed 5/9, 7:30рм • \$10	SPRING CONCERT II – FTC Chamber Orchestra, Choir & Vocal Jazz Ensemble		
Sat 6/2, 7:30рм • \$30	RIBBONS OF HOPE BENEFIT CONCERT with Carine & Soul Dr. G's All Star Veteran Band		
Sat 6/16, 7:30рм \$35, \$30, \$25	JOHNNY CASH 80 <sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY with Tom Cavanagh		
Sat 7/7, 7:30 <sub>РМ</sub> \$50, \$45, \$40, \$35	MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS - with the Jetsetters		
Sat 7/14, 7:30 <sub>РМ</sub> \$50, \$45, \$40, \$35	THE SENSATIONAL JULIE BUDD IN A TRIBUTE TO GERSHWIN		
Fri 7/20, 7:30рм \$35, \$30, \$25	ERIC CLAPTON & SANTANA TRIBUTES - with The Clapton Chronicles & Milagro		
Sat 7/21, 7:30 <sub>РМ</sub> \$50, \$45, \$40, \$35	TOM LAGRAVINESE -IMPERSONATOR		
MORE SHOWS, TICKETS & TIMES: www.dhpac.org 631-656-2148			



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95 East Shore Road Huntington, NY 11743 Office: 631.427.4949 / Restaurant: 631.427.4961

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**Business Member:** Have meetings and business dinners overlooking the extraordinary Huntington Harbor!

