

News Release

For Immediate Release
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18th Annual Snowball Softball Tournament Returns to Veteran's Memorial Park on February 11th

The 18th Annual Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Snowball Softball Mike Kmetz Memorial Tournament will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2012. 32 adult teams, men's and co-ed, from across the tri-state area will compete in this single-elimination softball tournament in an effort to raise \$40,000 to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

This event is set to take place on Saturday, February 11, 2012 from 8am until 5pm in Harrison, NY at Veteran's Memorial Park behind Louis M. Klein Middle School. This fun filled event includes all day food, beverages, prizes, live auction, and a raffle.

In addition to remembering Mike Kmetz, this year's tournament will be in memory of Dawn Re of Chappaqua, NY. Dawn was diagnosed with cancer in August of 2006, and lost her battle on February 11, 2011, exactly one year prior to the 2012 tournament.

Dawn Re was a long time supporter of LLS, even before her own cancer diagnosis. Dawn began her involvement with LLS when she raised money for it by riding with Team In Training in the 100 mile Tour de Tucson bike ride. She repeated the feat in 2002. After that, she continued to actively support the organization by entering a team in the Snowball Softball Tournament every year.

Partly inspired by her work with LLS, but mostly due to her natural positive energy and desire to help, Dawn returned to nursing school. She continued her schooling, earned her degree and started her work as a nurse even after her diagnosis. In addition to her career, Dawn was happily married to her husband John Re, and they had three children, Samantha, Matthew and Jason, all of whom now share her strong spirit and active nature.

They all continue to participate in and organize fundraising events in the fight against cancer.

Dawn will always be remembered for her endless and warm smile, her courage and her strength. She had unconditional love for her family and friends, and her charitable spirit lives on today. Dawn's family and friends actively support LLS as well as many other charitable organizations including "Dawn's Ray of Hope" which was set up in her memory. John Re will speak on her behalf at the tournament and will also have a team playing in the men's division.

For more information about the 18th Annual Snowball Softball Mike Kmetz Memorial Tournament, please contact Emily Genzlinger at 914-949-8997 or Emily.Genzlinger@lls.org.

The mission of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and to improve the quality of life of the patients and their families. **Although the cure rates for these diseases has increased, leukemia remains the number one killer of children under the age of 20, and during the last quarter century, lymphoma was the fastest growing cancer, with new cases increasing by more than 70%.** The money raised through our fundraising events supports research, public education, patient aid, community service and professional education. More than 78 cents of every dollar raised is used to fulfill this mission.