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FOR CITY OF PLANTATION
MAYOR

FEATURE ON PAGE 18

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Our City Media of Florida, LLC publishes FREE monthly, local community news magazines throughout South Florida. Total circulation is 20,000+ per edition or a total of more than 190,000 copies per month. Our City Magazines are mailed monthly to affluent single-family homes, condos and businesses in their respective communities. Monthly mailings are verifiable by USPS statements. Additional free copies are available at selected locations throughout the communities served and upon request by contacting the publisher. Opinions expressed by the writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Publisher. Our City Media of Florida, LLC reserves the right to edit and/or reject any editorial or advertising content. Our City Media of Florida, LLC is not responsible for errors in advertising beyond the cost of the space or for the validity of claims made by advertisers. Entire contents copyrighted 2018 by Our City Media of Florida, LLC. Reproduction in whole or in part is forbidden in any media without prior written permission from the publisher.

The Legacy Continues – Debbie’s Dream Foundation Hosts its 4th Annual Dream BIG Luncheon

BY BEVERLY PERKINS



Although this year’s event will be bittersweet with its leader and founder no longer with us, her memory and legacy will forever be kept alive. Debbie Zelman’s spirit and ambition to cure stomach cancer and to bring awareness

to the cause will continue with the Debbie’s Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) 4th annual “Dream BIG Legacy Luncheon”.

The event will be held on November 7th at the Jacaranda Country Club in Plantation, Florida, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This year’s luncheon will honor the lifetime achievements of late DDF Founder, Debbie Zelman, who dedicated her life to finding a cure for stomach cancer while battling the disease for nearly a decade.

Luncheon Co-Chairs Linda Gendler and Sabrina Kurzman look forward to leading their committee in hosting another successful luncheon for the 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

“Debbie may be gone, but her mission to find a cure for stomach cancer will live on,” said Gendler. “It is truly my honor to co-chair the luncheon for the fourth year in a row, even more so this year, as we celebrate Debbie’s amazing legacy.”

The luncheon will feature a fabulous silent auction and amazing raffles followed by lunch and dessert. Auction items include priceless experiences, sports memorabilia, jewelry, fine dining, vacations, and more. Guests will also enjoy a celebrity guest emcee as well as a festive experience curated by Tito’s Handmade Vodka throughout the event.

“Co-chairing the Legacy Luncheon with Linda, our wonderful committee, DDF staff and the community is a great privilege. Together, we will make Debbie’s dream of finding a cure come true,” added Kurzman.

DDF was founded in 2009 by Debbie Zelman after she was diagnosed with stage IV incurable gastric cancer in 2008 and given only weeks to live. Debbie is considered a pioneer by many for bringing awareness to the plight of stomach cancer patients worldwide and the lack of federal funding for stomach cancer research. She achieved all of this while receiving hundreds of rounds of chemotherapy, in addition to



Luncheon Co-Chair Sabrina Kurzman, 2017 Mistress of Ceremonies Kristi Krueger of WPLG Local 10, and Luncheon Co-Chair Linda Gendler at the 3rd annual Dream BIG Luncheon last year.

daily oral treatments.

Debbie passed away on December 23, 2017 at the age of 50, almost a decade later. As a result of her leadership, DDF now has a Scientific and Medical Advisory Board, comprised of world-renowned physicians, and chapters throughout the United States and in Canada and Germany. DDF strives to continue Debbie’s mission and make her dream come true.

Tickets are \$100 each or \$1,000 for a table of 10 guests. Several sponsorship levels are available and do include seating.

■ For more information about how to purchase tickets, place an ad or tribute in the program book, join the committee, donate, or become a sponsor, please contact Events@DebbiesDream.org or call (954) 475-1200.

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