

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 6, 2010

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## **MAYOR TO HONOR 19 YEAR OLD HERO** *Glendalee Arvelo Who is Afflicted with Hodgkin's Lymphoma* *Will be Honored During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Copa Maribel Softball Tournament*

**JERSEY CITY** – On **Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010**, Mayor **Jerramiah T. Healy** will honor **Glendalee Arvelo** at the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Copa Maribel Softball Tournament**, which will be held from **8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.** at **Mary Benson Park**, 355 Fifth Street. The ceremony will be held at **12:00 noon**.

The **Copa Maribel Softball Tournament**, established and organized in 2008, is held in support of friends and family of the Jersey City Softball Leagues afflicted with cancer.

The event, which is organized by Jersey City residents German and Jeanette Fernandez, is held in October as that is national Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The first tournament was held in honor of Maribel Rodriguez, who is battling breast cancer, and each year a different person who is suffering with cancer is honored.

Last year, the tournament honored Gilberto Sanchez, a long time Jersey City resident, who passed shortly after the tournament from esophageal Cancer.

This year, the **Copa Maribel Softball Tournament** is held in honor of **Glendalee Arvelo**, who has Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Glendalee excelled both academically and athletically at McNair Academic High School, where she was a stellar athlete on the track team. She has proven to be a fighter as she successfully fought through injuries throughout her athletic career, and she faces cancer with the same determination. Those who know her have said that "she is a bright young woman who has always faced challenges head on." With the support of her friends, family, and community, Glendalee remains resilient during this difficult journey.

A donation box will be set-up for Glendalee Arvelo to help offset her medical expenses. Checks may be made directly to her name and dropped off at Mary Benson Park the day of the tournament.

Organizers of the event are expecting thousands of spectators. The event features: competitive games including a Home Run Derby; baseball ceremony; a live DJ; performances; food and beverages.

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Participating teams are: Los Cyclones, New York Westlanders, La Mezcla, Los Amigos, Mud Dawgs, Wild Dogs, Los Macheteros, and Los Menores.

“Cancer, as we all know, is a horrible disease,” said **German and Jeanette Fernandez**, founder of Copa Maribel. “We could only imagine the pain and suffering that an individual goes through to fight it. I’m proud of those who are taking a day to participate in this tournament and it was all for a good cause. We may have lost in the chip, but in my book...on this day...WE WERE ALL WINNERS!!! We are thankful to all individuals who have made a commitment to stand with us in the fight against cancer.”

The Copa Maribel Softball Tournament is sponsored by: Plastic Surgery Center of New Jersey, CrownImports, PACO, Robert Nunez, Coolline, LLC, Pena Sports, The Shooting Stars, Latin Lounge, Los Abre Latas, Los Tres Amigos, Santa Fe Grocery, Lerner, Piermont and Riverol- Attorneys at Law, Mix Master DJ Serge, Sammy Santana, Angel Zayas - "Cholo," Benny's Construction, Juan - Mudd Dawgs, Orlando Pena - "Chuppy," Salinas Social Club, Puerto Rico Antique Bicyclers, NCH Corporation, Maria and Johnny, Michelle Reisner, M.D.- Community Housecall Physicians, LLC, Carlos Lugo - "Little Man", and Events to Perfection.

The rain date for this event is on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. For the first time, organizers of the Copa Maribel will hold the all-women softball tournament on Saturday, October 16, 2010.

**For more information, please call German Fernandez at 201-888-1589 or visit [copamaribel.com](http://copamaribel.com).**

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///**