

On Saturday, November 13, the Capital Region American Cancer Society hosted their annual Gala of Hope at Rivers Casino located in Schenectady, NY.

The Gala of Hope takes place in many communities across the country, raising money for the American Cancer Society and honoring those who have made a commitment to the fight against cancer. This year, not only did the Capital Region's Gala raise **\$628,000** at the event, they also presented the Jeanne E. Walsh Beacon of Hope award to **C.J. DeCrescente**, President of DeCrescente Distributing Co.

The award 'Jeanne E. Walsh Beacon of Hope' is named in honor of C.J.'s close friend. Before Jeanne passed away, she selected a few individuals that she wanted to see accept the award, and C.J.'s name was at the top of the list.

Jeanne defined a Beacon of Hope recipient as a person who has been designated as someone who wants to help people and who genuinely feels that they are going to be a better person if they give of themselves. The recipient is a person who is committed to the fight against cancer, has spent time with the organization and is in the community connecting people in need to the American Cancer Society. And finally, the recipient is someone who walks the walk, open doors & and someone who opens their heart.

The American Cancer Society whole heartedly agreed with Jeanne in that C.J. was more than deserving of this award based on the above criteria. With the help of his family, friends, colleagues and every individual that attended the Gala of Hope on November 13, C.J. and the Capital Region came together and were able to raise an all-time record high for this event and the highest amount raised in a single American Cancer Society gala across the entire Northeast this year.

Congratulations to C.J. and the Capital Region for their commitment to the fight against cancer!