

Benefit for Tess and RSD research

April 20, 2008, 3pm-7pm, featuring *Blackthorn@*
Knights of Columbus, 18 Baltimore Pike, Springfield, PA 19064



Donations may be made to:

“Benefit for Tess & RSD Research”
PO Box 76
Montgomeryville, PA 18936-9998

For tickets or information:

BenefitForTess@comcast.net
Pat (215) 368-6830
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Connie (845) 855-9087
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Theresa Galvano is 23 years old and living with a neurological disease called *Reflex Sympathetic Disorder* (RSD). She was diagnosed 7 years ago, in high school, when she hurt her right pinky finger. Since then, the disease has spread throughout her whole right arm and now is in parts of her face and right leg. It is a debilitating disorder and has slowed down her once active lifestyle. She used to be a very promising athlete, but the RSD has brought so much physical pain into her life that everyday tasks are difficult.

The symptoms of RSD usually manifest near the site of an injury, either major or minor, and usually spread beyond the original area. Symptoms may spread to involve the entire limb and, other parts of the body. The most common symptom is burning pain. The affected individual may also experience muscle spasms, local swelling, increased sweating, softening of bones, joint tenderness or stiffness, restricted or painful movement, and changes in the nails and skin. Minor injuries that would not affect most people become issues of intense pain for individuals with RSD. RSD can strike at any age, but is more common between the ages of 40 and 60. However, it is becoming increasingly prevalent in children. It affects both men and women, but is more frequently seen in women.

The pain of RSD is continuous and relentless. Theresa has been to Germany and France for unsuccessful experimental medical treatments, and has had to undergo 5 separate brain surgeries in the past year alone. RSD is not an easy disorder to live with, because the pain is very intense, but Theresa handles it so well. She is in constant pain but continues to smile and laugh, and is truly a beautiful person. Please donate what you can to support Tess and the research to find a cure for this terrible disorder.

For additional information visit www.irishthing.com/benefitfortess