

## Wanted: Hippie hooters

### Titz 'n Glitz event returns tonight

By LOIS LEGGE Features Writer

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Budge Wilson and Linda Hodgins opt for patriotic and seasonal attire at a previous Titz 'n Glitz. (Christian Laforce / Staff)

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Halifax's boob ball is back.

And once again fake breasts or bawdy bodies will rule.

Otherwise known as Titz 'n Glitz, the breast cancer fundraiser took a break last year after more than a decade of outrageous outfits and revelry.

But tonight, starting 7 p.m. at Alderney Landing in Dartmouth, the costume ball returns. And organizers hope the funds roll in with the fun.

The event has already raised about \$1 million over the years, says this year's chairwoman Jennifer Nicholson, a long-time volunteer whose grandmother and mother-in-law had breast cancer.

But she says the fundraiser that started 15 years ago in founder Margo Kerr's house grew into a more costly extravaganza held in hotels.

"It was time for a break," she says of last year's hiatus. "It became . . . quite expensive; it didn't raise as much money as we had hoped and so we decided to take a year off and re-evaluate."

This year the women's-only event, which usually attracts between 300 and 500 partiers, is set for the less expensive Alderney Landing and ticket prices are up by \$10, to \$60 each. They can be purchased at the door tonight or in advance (for details go to [titznglitz.com](http://titznglitz.com)).

The money raised goes directly to patients having financial difficulties while receiving treatment.

That can include everything from losing work income because of lost time, to travel costs associated with getting to and from appointments.

"We had a woman who was skipping chemo because she couldn't afford a babysitter," says Nicholson. "It's really quite heartbreaking."

But on the night of the ball, women who've had the disease, or know someone with the disease, or want to help someone with the disease, just try to tuck their troubles away.

"I love the event, I love dressing up, I love costumes," says Nicholson, who's previously dressed up as Sleeping Booby and one of the Femmebots (from Austin Powers fame).

This year's theme is Retro Dance Party. And organizers will hand out best-costume

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prizes in such categories as Hippie Hooters, Retro Racks and Material Girlz.

"I have a disco theme, we'll just say," Nicholson says with a laugh, leaving the rest to the imagination.

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