



Cancer relay scheduled for Saturday

Early in the day on Saturday, tents will spring up, food vendors will set up and benches will be placed around Sawhill Park in St. Francis, as people get ready for the Cancer Relay for Life Walk.

Starting at about 6 p.m. a free-will barbecue will be served. The cancer survivors will be guests of the Relay Committee, and should register starting at 5:30 p.m. The meal will be served by Pam and Jim Bolin from their Hobo Snack Shack. The Cheyenne Shriners will be set up beside them, selling cold drinks, popcorn, snow cones and cotton candy. All proceeds from both vendors will be given to the Relay For Life.

The opening ceremonies will begin at 6:45 p.m. with the national anthem sung by Chad Miller. The Survivor's Lap will start at 7 p.m., followed by the Caregivers Lap, then the relay teams will be introduced and begin their walk for the cure.

The symbolism of the relay teams is that each team member walks through the night, as the cancer patient first faces their cancer, and the walker goes through the darkness of midnight and early morning, but ultimately, emerges toward the dawn and victory over cancer. These funds earned by all the teams and the community go toward that ultimate cure.

Activities will begin in the bandshell including, speeches,

games, entertainment and the annual auction of donated items by merchants and teams and individuals. Western Auction will hold the auction which is always a lively, fun event, with hundreds of dollars being earned for the Cancer Relay. Look at the west window of the St. Francis United Methodist Thrift Store to see the early donations to be auctioned Saturday evening.

At sundown the luminaria service will be held in the bandshell. Each name will be read in honor of those cancer patients who are survivors and in memory of those who did not survive. This year, a special group of luminaria will honor the caregivers of the cancer patients, be it family or friends, for those who helped the cancer patients in their fight with cancer.

It is a wonderful sight to see and a touching tribute, said Betty Loudon, one of the coordinators. There are 500 to 600 luminaria all around the bandshell and park, and the names of all those who have fought this dreaded disease are read.

On Wednesday, the survivors were guests of the Relay Committee at a reception at the United Methodist Church. They received their survivor shirts, which they will proudly wear at the Relay Saturday night.

Music all night in the park will See RELAY on Page 9A



STORM CLOUDS LOOKED WICKED over St. Francis for about 25 minutes, Kathy Woodcox, weather observer, Wednesday evening. However, while there was heavy rain reported a little less than .50 inch. Herald staff photo by Tim Burr

Equity celebrates with noon lunch

The St. Francis Mercantile Equity is celebrating 100 years. And, in honor of the event, is having a 100th birthday lunch in the Equity meeting room from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday. There will be door prizes given away to a number of lucky people.

In the Sept. 18, 1913, issue of The St. Francis Herald, it tells about the Farmers Equity Union was organized with 57 members. The courtroom was filled with farmers and their families to hear the address of C.O. Drayton of Greenfield, Ill., on National

Cooperation. The union was organizing elevator companies in nine states and combining them under one national board for the purpose of buying and selling cooperatively on a national scale.

At the close of the meeting, all 57 farmers gave three secretaries all they could do to enroll them and credit their dues for one year in the St. Francis Equity Union.

C.E. Burnham was elected president; W.F. Slagle, vice president; and C.R. Henry secretary-treasurer.



AMBER EYE PASS THROUGH sculpture by Glenn Zwegardt, was purchased by Eddy and Sherry Schultz.



NEW ST. FRANCIS SIGN is up and working. Located on U.S. 36 by the museum, the council is hoping the sign will attract travelers to stop in St. Francis and see what the town has to offer. Herald staff photo by Doug Sloper

Several growing beards for contest

From the number of guys walking around with hair on their face, it is obvious that there is interest in the beard contest at the 125th St. Francis Birthday Celebration.

During the two-day celebration, men without a beard can buy a sticker for \$5. The beard patrol will be out checking and, if a man is caught without the sticker, he will be fined double the sticker price, or \$10. Stickers can be purchased at the park or at Cowgirl Creations and Design next to Stuarts Jewelry on Main Street.

I've already seen some pretty bad beards, said Travis Jensen, organizer of the contest.

The beard contest will start at 8 p.m. on Friday on the trailer parked at the park basketball courts. There are four main categories: 1) the Duck Dynasty beard (full, long, unkempt beard); 2) The Sam Elliott mustache award; 3) the worst beard; and 4) the next-to-worst beard. There will also be a hairy-fuzzy chest award.

We talked about having a category, "my wife hates it," but we're not sure just how we would judge that, Mr. Jensen said.

While the contest is just for fun, there will be some prizes awarded. Men entering need to sign up at the barbecue before the contest.

Firework display, games set again

By Karen Krien
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After the July Fourth fireworks were canceled last year because of extremely dry conditions and a burn ban had been put in place, the committee is ready to go.

We are looking forward to giving one of the best fireworks display again, said Rodney Netzel, referring to the show held two years ago.

The committee has many activities scheduled including the kid's parade in the park followed by games, the hot dog

eating contest, a sing-a-long at the Old Country Church by the museum which will be followed by an open house at the museum, and swimming pool games. At 7 p.m., the music will begin at the businesses of Roger Neitzel Heating and Air Conditioning and Parkhill Restaurant parking lots. Vendors will be set up and selling food and drinks.

The youth chorus will entertain starting at 8:30 p.m. The fireworks, set to patriotic music, will start at 9:45 p.m. and last 45 to 50 minutes.

Watch more information.