

# The Community Page



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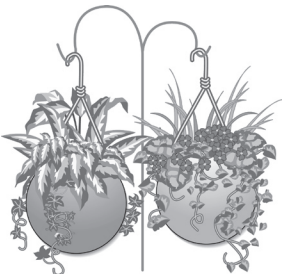
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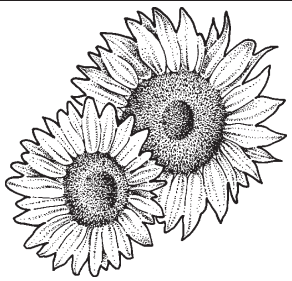
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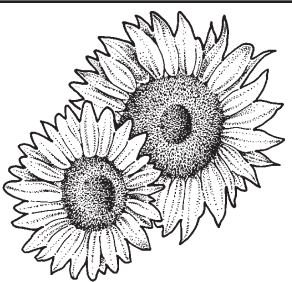
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## May is Paint the Town Purple for Relay for Life



Ron Barkley helped served homemade ice cream and cake at the survivors appreciation event held on Tuesday, May 2, at the United Methodist Fellowship Hall. The group of around 50 included cancer survivors from Sherman County and their spouses. The Goodland High School X-Pressos provided musical entertainment for the group.

Photos by Pat Schiefen and Sheila Smith/The Goodland Star-News

## Where does the money raised go?

By Ron Barkley

*American Cancer Society Hero of Hope 2010*

*Team Captain Teachers for Life*

On Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, the Sherman County Relay for Life will once again be a part of the single most successful volunteer fund raising effort in the world. All the money you spent on the chances you bought, pizza you consumed, pj's you've bought, purses you thought you would win and luminaries you contributed to will all be donated to the American Cancer Society to be used in some way to battle cancer and help provide a world with less cancer and a world with more birthdays.

As I have helped in this fund raising effort for seven years I am often asked "what does the money do?" I thought you would like to see just what the money you contributed goes for. Below is a list provided by the American Cancer Society showing how your money is used in just one day.

On the average each day, the American Cancer Society reduces the impact of cancer by providing the following services and programs in the High Plains Division of which Sherman County is a part:

- Approximately \$128,000 is spent conducting life-saving research by 86 scientists at 21 institutions.
- Each day, 198 individual cancer patients receive services from the society.
- 59 patients receive a personal health manager packet with information specific to their cancer type
- Road to Recovery drivers make 41 trips transporting cancer patients.
- 55 other transportation services are provided (such as cab vouchers, bus passes,

flights, gas cards, etc.)

- Nineteen wigs are provided free of charge to cancer patients
- Twelve patients attend a Look Good Feel Better® session
- Fifteen guest room nights provide free lodging to cancer patients and caregivers traveling from out of town for treatment
- Eight breast cancer patients are visited by our Reach to Recovery volunteers
- Each day, 237 people contact our 24-hour information line at (800) 227-2345
- Our website, cancer.org, is visited 5,226 times each day by people in the division
- 366 children with cancer attended our summer camps
- 201 childhood cancer survivors were awarded scholarships
- 86 cancer research grants in place totaling more than \$46.8 million (as of September 2010)

I think that list is pretty impressive, but lets take a look at how that money is used in a portion of northwest Kansas. Below is a list of the American Cancer Society services that were provided to residents of Cheyenne, Sherman and Wallace Counties during the Relay Season of 2010.

- One book
- Five gift items
- 29 information services
- One Look Good Feel Better®
- 21 nutritional supplements
- One patient package
- Five personal health managers
- Two Reach to Recover
- 30 Transportation gas card
- Three wigs

These 97 patient related services were provided to 52 residents of Cheyenne, Sher-

man and Wallace Counties. The data was provided by the American Cancer Society Kansas Region in Topeka.

When we question why we should donate to an international organization like the American Cancer Society we may overlook the fact that the society has been fighting cancer since 1913 and over the years has developed an infrastructure that is diverse and linked to fighting all types of cancer. It is easy to overlook 45 Nobel Prize winners that have contributed to discoveries leading to diagnosis and treatment for all types of cancer while working with society funds and not notice that over \$3 million of society grant money is funding research at Kansas institutions.

Perhaps we just didn't know that a resident in Sharon Spring received a transportation gas card to travel to Hays for radiation treatment or that a local high school student is attending college on a scholarship from the society, we were not aware that a patient from Goodland was staying in a Hope Lodge while having treatment, or that a 10-year-old had the the chance to have fun at Camp Hope.

Cancer is no respecter of age, nationality or social status. Please remember this as you attend the Sherman County Relay for Life Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, at the Goodland High School track. This is more than enough reason for me to continue to form a team, work at bake sales, sell luminaries and be a small part of this fund raising effort for the American Cancer Society.

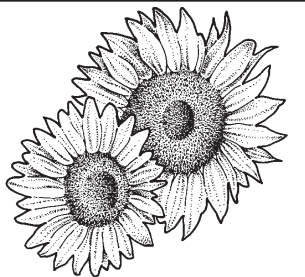
Won't you please join me in this cancer fighting event? For information call Ginger and Dusti Chadwick at (899) 2525.



Mayor John Garcia signed a proclamation at the City meeting on Monday, May 2, making May Paint the Town Purple month. In the back row are members of the organizing committee for Sherman County Relay for Life Ron Barkley (far left), Shelly Thompson, Dusti Chadwick, Sheila Smith and Ginger Chadwick. In the front from the left are City Commissioner Chris Zimmerman, City Clerk Mary Volk, Mayor Garcia, City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks and City Manager Doug Gerber.



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