

Organization aims to keep cancer money local

BY ALAN RUSCH

ELLSWORTH COUNTY I-R

Since its inception this past year with the sole purpose of supporting local residents affected by cancer and their families, the Ellsworth County Cancer Fund continues to grow. According to spokesperson Deb Mog, the fund is committed to keeping 100 percent of the money it raises here in Ellsworth County.



Mog

"So far, we have \$4,700 in our account which we have raised, and corporate sponsorship money is coming in," said Mog.

The Ellsworth County Cancer Fund is affiliated with the Smoky Hill Charitable Trust, a local not-for-profit organization, and not in any way with the American Cancer Society.

"I want to be able to help people," Mog, a cancer survivor herself, said. "Ellsworth County has always been good at coming through for the people here at home. I'm pretty excited for what we're going to do. I know Ellsworth County will come through because that is the kind of people we are — we're here to help each other."

Mog said ECCF is planning a Walk for Life from 6 p.m. Friday, June 5, to 12:30 a.m. Saturday, June 6, at Ellsworth High School's Shanelec Field.

"We're not going all night," Mog said. "We won't be trying to duplicate Relay for Life. We're going to be doing our own thing."

Mog said luminaries will be part of the event, along with food,

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games and entertainment.

"It will be a night of fun and recognizing the survivors," she said, adding cancer survivors will be served a free meal.

Due to a lack of volunteers, Heather West, local represen-

tative for the American Red Cross, said there will not be a Relay for Life in Ellsworth this year.

"Without enough volunteers, it's hard to put one on," she said.

In preparation for the Walk for Life, however, Mog said the Ellsworth County Cancer Fund

is searching for teams to participate in the event.

"We have seven or eight teams so far," she said.

Those interested in donating to the Ellsworth County Cancer Fund, forming a team and participating in the Walk for Life, can call Mog at (785) 658-3615.

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