

# 12th Annual Relay for Life held Friday



Boy Scouts presented the colors for the opening ceremony at the Relay for Life held Friday night at the high school track. Those gathered, cancer survivors, caregivers, family, friends and volunteers saluted the flag as Peggy Berls sang the national anthem and Rev. Shelly Petz gave the opening prayer. The event raised nearly \$25,000 to help those who are fighting cancer, and to continue the fight to find a cure.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



Kinsey Volk and Nicole Gerber sang for the survivor and caregiver lap.

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will have cancer at some point and one of two men.

Winter said the goal of the American Cancer Society is to have everyone survive their battle with cancer.

The cancer survivors and those battling cancer in their purple shirts gathered to take the first lap or the survivor lap around the track. Several rode in golf carts. About halfway around the track they were joined by their caretakers and family. The caretakers were given a purple carnation and finished out the lap with the survivors. Music was sung by Kinsey Volk and Nicole Gerber.

The teams next introduced themselves and made the team lap. The 10 teams were Bankwest with co-captains Aaron Thompson and Kameron Snyder; Goodland Regional Medical Center with captain Sarah Linton; Kennedy and Coe,

LLC with captain Barb Abbott; Northwest Tech with captain Sherri Knitig; The Goodland Star-News with co-captains Sheila Smith and Pat Schiefen; Pi Eta Sorority with captain Nicki Glassman; Skybox Ladies with captain Lori Titus; Teachers for Life with captain Ron Barkley; Walmart with co-captains Heather Thiem and Jennifer Shandrick and Wilda's Walkers with co-captains Jennifer Crofts and Dusti Chadwick.

The co-chairs for the 2011 Relay for Life were Ginger and Dusti Chadwick. The committee members were the chairs, Jessica Kannady, Darren Kannady, Barkely, Sherida Shoff, Shelley Brown, Amy Thompson, Shiefen, Smith, Aaron Thompson, Krysta Smestad, Gordon Pettibone, Caroline Pettibone, Chandler Pettibone and Shelly Thompsen.

Walkers continued on the track until the sky grew dark enough

for the Luminaria Ceremony. The Kiwanis served hot dogs and hamburgers to hungry walkers until 10 p.m.

At the Luminaria Ceremony the lights were turned off at the track and the families of people who have had cancer and survived or lost the battle got the turn on the lights for some of the luminaries. Next the caretakers were invited to turn on luminaries and everyone helped to turn on the luminaries that lined the track. Music was sung by Jordan Knitig and Katie Purvis.

Activities were planned throughout the night including a cup cake walk, scavenger hunt and other activities.

The Knight of Columbus served breakfast starting at 4:30 a.m.

The closing ceremony was held at 6 a.m. Then everyone pitched in, cleaned up and went home for some rest. Planning for the 13th Relay will begin again within weeks.



Hero of Hope Debbie Winter of Medicine Lodge



Demi Mitchek



Elizabeth Fulcher



Peggy Berls



Rev. Shelly Petz



Kennedy and Coe special lanyards to keep track of the laps the walkers made. The walker added a purple bead for each lap and a silver one for each mile.



Skybox Ladies set up team area before the opening of the Relay for Life on Friday.