

American Cancer Society
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cancer.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Cancer Society Relay for Life hosts local run

News Facts

- Topeka citizen Janae Winnow planned run in honor of her sister Joyce Ryan, who lost her battle to pancreatic cancer in March
- Winnow wishes to help people who are still fighting this disease and wants to raise more money for research to win the fight against cancer.
- 6 p.m. on Friday, May 29 at Hayden High School
- Participants run from Hayden to Capitol Building and back to Hayden
- Opening ceremony at 7 p.m. with speakers, including Ryan's daughter Mikaela, who will share the story of her mother's illness
- Survivors carry a flag and lead the run to Capitol building
- Lighting ceremony at 10 p.m. at Capitol building, started by Winnow and Mikaela.
- Candles placed all around the Capitol building, in honor and memory of those affected by cancer
- Closing ceremony at 1 a.m. at Hayden

Quotes

- "My sister fought a hard battle and ultimately she lost, but we're doing this for all those that still have a chance," said Janae Winnow.
- "She told me to keep up the fight, for others, so young children won't lose their parents too soon. If she had lived, she'd be out here running because she loved being outdoors and being active," Mikaela Ryan said.
- "I'm going to be running with the survivors. We'll be holding hands as we start out because we're strong," Jim Smith, cancer survivor, said.
- "We are honored to support those affected by cancer through this Relay for Life event," Carney Ziegler, American Cancer Society Public Relations Specialist said.

Multimedia

- Photo of Janae Winnow and Mikaela Ryan wearing "Fight Cancer" shirts
- Photo of Topeka's last year's American Cancer Society Relay for Life run participants (with banner, walking, etc.)
- Map of run's route
- Video of American Cancer Society "Why I Relay for Life TV commercial"
- Link to traditional news release (PDF)

Links

- Cancer.org

- Link to this specific event (http://relay.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY15PL?fr_id=65048&pg=entry)
- Link to American Cancer Society online donation to a participant (Janae Winnow)
- Link to American Cancer Society online donation for this specific event
- Link to story about Joyce Ryan written by Janae Winnow

About

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem. The Relay for Life movement symbolizes hope and our shared goal to end a disease that threatens the lives of so many people we love.