

# THE GOOD CAUSE

## Fight against Cancer Strengthens

### Relay for Life goes for record numbers

Last year Fountain Hills' resident Peggy Vazzano walked the survivor lap of the Relay for Life with her brother-in-law Joel Saar.

This year that won't be possible.

Diagnosed with lung cancer in February of 2006, Saar died in May, less than a few months after the Fountain Hills Relay for Life.

"Everyone has been touched (by cancer) in some way," says Vazzano. "It had already gone to his brain at that time and we knew it was only a matter of time."

Vazzano and many other locals will take to the Fountain Hills Middle School track April 20, to show their support for cancer survivors and to help in the fight against the disease.

Vazzano's been cancer free for five years, but continues to be a top fund raiser locally in the fight against cancer.

In addition, she's been the chair the last three years for the local Relay for Life.

"It's my way of fighting back," says Vazzano. "It's my way of getting power back from cancer."

Last year she raised around \$4,000 and is already over that mark this year.

The Relay for Life begins at 6:30 p.m. with the lap for survivors of cancer.

This is the sixth year for the Fountain Hills Relay for Life and with 20 teams and almost 400 members; it will be the biggest year for support and fund raising.

Last year \$23,000 was raised. This year the goal is \$40,000.

People can purchase luminaries right up to the event to honor a cancer survivor or to remember a loved one who has died from the disease.



People walk around the track lined with luminarias at last year's Relay for Life in Fountain Hills.

For more information, to donate or to register for the survivor walk call Vazzano at (480) 816-9552.

#### Jazzercise

More than 50 Jazzercise students are expected to participate in the fund raiser for Relay for Life.

JoAnne Lowe is Jazzercise's chairperson along with owner, Ruth Chmelik.

Each participant has contributed through Jazzercise in various ways, whether it be by collecting pledges, submitting luminaries or by donating items for the Rummage Sale; it has all gone forth in winning Jazzercise the "Golden Shoe" award for the recent quarter.

Fountain Hills Jazzercise is continuing the fund raiser efforts, which include silent auction items, gift certificates and exercising in a group presentation at the Relay for Life.

"The Jazzercise presentation event is open to the public and we encourage both Jazzercisers and non-Jazzercisers to participate," said Chmelik.







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