

## Relay For Life of Franklin County



Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.®

JUNE, 2016

# WALK TALK

Volume 21, #9

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

6/5/16-Bank Night Set-up

#### 6/6/16-BANK NIGHT #2

6/9/15—Relay/Luminaria Set-up

6/10-11/2016- 21ST ANNUAL RELAY FOR LIFE WEEKEND

\*Committee Meetings at Greenfield Savings Bank—282 Avenue A, Turners Falls

\*\*Teams Meetings are at Greenfield Savings Bank Corporate Center, Munson Street, Greenfield (near Wisdom Way intersection)—please invite anyone you know who wants to learn about Relay and/or forming a team!

\*\*\*Bank Nights are at Fairgrounds

**Do you want to lend a helping hand at Relay? It's not too late to volunteer.**

Contact RENEE TELA, Volunteer Chair, at:

bettis2280@yahoo.com. Renee will let you know where we need the extra hands and you decide where you will be most helpful.

It's not too late, even at Relay. If you and/or any teammates have any free time, please find Renee (just contact any Red Shirt Wearer to locate her) and she will find a place for you to help.

If you have any requests or suggestions, please contact Lisa and Sue at:  
Committee email:

relayforlifefranklincounty@gmail.com

### READY, SET, GO!

Relay Check list:

1. Do you have all your site paraphernalia ready? Tent, food, water, SUNSCREEN, extra socks, first aid kits for blisters...
2. Are your theme lap costumes ready for picture-posterity?
3. Is your tent decoration committee armed and decorative?
4. Most importantly: is your fire pit ready to go with DRY wood and some way to keep it at least 12" off the grass? The fairgrounds are very generous in their allowance of our use of firepits, but they do ask that we not burn the grass.
5. Don't forget to dump out your fire pit coals directly on the edge of the track, not on the grass and definitely NOT in the dumpster.
6. Did you bring enough clickers to light the luminaria near your tent site?
7. HAVE FUN!



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### CHAIR CHAT

If it's June, it must be time for Relay!

We can't wait to see you all enjoying the event. Of course, what makes it even better is the knowledge that your efforts all year long are making a difference in so many lives.

Follow your campsite checklist, making sure you have all your essentials for a great camping event and an even greater Relay event. Got your costumes for the theme laps? Sunscreen? Firewood (dry) and fire pit ?

You could maybe bring an umbrella and boots, just on the off chance it might rain.

See you soon!

Lisa and Sue, Co-Chairs



## NEWS BITS

We need sponsors! Do you know of any businesses we could approach for donations of cash, food, services? Please contact any of the Planning Committee members and let us know if you have a lead.

**TEAM CAPTAINS**— Toll Free Hotline for any Registration Problems: 1-877-957-7848, Or you can log in at [www.RelayforLife.org/FrankincountyMA](http://www.RelayforLife.org/FrankincountyMA), click on “My Society Account” at top of page, scroll down to “My Contact Preferences” and click “Edit”. Be sure the box next to “Please email me the event-related information...” is checked. You can also update your email address here. Or you can contact Andrew Paterno, our ACS wizard, who will gladly help you in any way needed. [Andrew.Paterno@cancer.org](mailto:Andrew.Paterno@cancer.org) or 413-493-2110.



JUNE 5th is  
**NATIONAL SURVIVOR DAY.**

The overall cancer death rate has declined. The most recent Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer, published March, 2016, shows that from 2003 to 2012, cancer death rates decreased by:

- 1.8% per year among men
- 1.4% per year among women
- 2.0% per year among children ages 0-19

The Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer is jointly authored by experts from the National Cancer Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Cancer Society and the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries.

## *Memory Lane - Rain, Rain, Rain*



2008



2013



2014



2015

**Urgent Transportation Need:****BE A ROAD TO RECOVERY DRIVER.****What is the Road To Recovery program?**

The American Cancer Society Road To Recovery program is a curbside-to-curbside transportation service that provides free rides to cancer patients to and from their cancer-related treatments. Trained volunteer drivers donate their time and the use of their personal vehicles to help patients get to the treatments they need.

The program is offered to people with cancer who have no means of transportation and/or who are unable to drive themselves. Access to transportation is a major factor in cancer treatment, and this American Cancer Society service offers assistance to people who otherwise might not be able to follow their treatment plan as prescribed by their health care team.

**Why is the Road To Recovery program important?**

Cancer patients cite transportation to and from medical treatment as a critical need, second only to direct financial assistance. Many people need daily or weekly treatment, often over the course of several months. Increasingly, these treatments are provided on an outpatient basis, which means that the person must have a way to get to the appointment. Many people do not have a ride or are unable to drive themselves. Family and friends may help, but they may not have the time or financial means to assume the total burden of frequent trips to treatment centers.

A successful transportation assistance program can be a tremendous asset to the community. The Road To Recovery program is the very essence of the Society's mission – people helping people get well.

**How does the Road To Recovery program work?**

The American Cancer Society uses a simple screening process to help ensure that the right volunteers are recruited for the program.

**Volunteer drivers must have:**

- A current, valid driver's license
- Access to a safe and reliable vehicle
- A good driving record
- Proof of adequate automobile insurance

They also must complete a training to help prepare them for their new role. The Society maintains specific standards for driver responsibility. These standards help both the patient and the driver be comfortable with the program.

**Call 1-800-227-2345 or visit CANCER.ORG/DRIVE to learn more about how you can help patients get to the treatments they need.**

**Sue Pennison, Event Co-Chair**  
[love2relay@yahoo.com](mailto:love2relay@yahoo.com)  
413-279-4417

**Lisa McKenna, Event Co-Chair**  
[lmckenna@greenfieldsavings.com](mailto:lmckenna@greenfieldsavings.com)  
413-636-6485

**FACEBOOK -**  
Relay For Life of Franklin County MA



**We're on the web:**  
**[Www.RelayForLife.org  
/franklincountyma](http://Www.RelayForLife.org/franklincountyma)**

## 2016 Planning Committee

**Event Co-Chair:** Sue Pennison

**Event Co-Chair:** Lisa McKenna

**ACS Staff Partner:** Andrew Paterno

**Accounting/Registration:** Matt Hall,  
Chair; Chris Luippold

**Advocacy Chair:** Joanne Newton

**Baskets:** Sharon Kemp, Chair; Kris-  
tin Pearce

**Children's Activities Chair:** open

**Electrical Chair:** Todd Sessions

**Community Champion-** Jeff Hamp-  
ton

**Entertainment Chair:** Tracy Miner

**First Aid & Security:** Kyle Walker,  
Chair; Colleen Walker

**Gate Greeting Chair:** Terry Adams,  
Chair, and Team #77 The Electics

**Lap Counting Chair:** Jennifer Wall

**Logistics:** open

**Luminaria:** Patti Hall, Chair;  
Melanie Johnson

**Meeting Admin:** Liz Landry

**Newsletter/Historian:** Kathleen Carr

Relay for Life of Franklin County is celebrating its **21st Anniversary** this year. We thank our many sponsors and donors for their gifts of time, products and money. Without them, we would not be making the progress we are in the fight against cancer. Please visit as many of these businesses as you can to purchase their wares and to thank them for their generosity.

**Newsletter Notices:** Send your articles, fundraising notices, pictures of teams or fundraisers to: KATHLEEN CARR, at [logpalace@msn.com](mailto:logpalace@msn.com) We look forward to sharing your favorite photos and stories.

**Online Notices:** Send your announcements and fundraisers to HELEN VAN RIEL @ [helen\\_vanriel@gmail.com](mailto:helen_vanriel@gmail.com)

**Volunteers:** if you would like to volunteer to help, either at Relay or any time prior, please email RENEE TELA, Volunteer Chair, at [Bettis2280@yahoo.com](mailto:Bettis2280@yahoo.com). We always need volunteers for set-up the night before Relay, in the Survivor Tent at Relay, Gate Greeters, Parking, etc.

If you want even more of the Relay experience, please consider joining the **Planning Committee**. Contact SUE PENNISON at [love2relay@gmail.com](mailto:love2relay@gmail.com). Or LISA MCKENNA @ [lmckenna@greenfieldsavings.com](mailto:lmckenna@greenfieldsavings.com)

Many of the most important decisions about cancer are made outside of your doctor's office. Instead, they are made by your state legislature, in Congress and in the White House. ACS CAN empowers regular people to be part of the growing national movement that is fighting back against cancer.

ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, is holding lawmakers accountable for their words and their actions. We demand that our leaders not only talk about fighting cancer but take real steps toward decreasing the number of people suffering and dying from cancer.

Become a member of ACS CAN for only \$10! Your membership helps to support:

- **Grassroots campaigns** that persuade lawmakers to support laws and policies proven to help people fight cancer;
- **Training** for volunteers to make them effective advocates;
- **Voter guides** to hold officials and candidates accountable for their positions on cancer-related issues.

ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer! Go to [www.acscan.org/donatecenter](http://www.acscan.org/donatecenter), and click on "Join ACS CAN through Relay For life" (purple button, lower left). Be sure to put in our Relay name when you join: Relay For Life of Franklin County MA.



## ACS CAN

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization that is working every day to make cancer issues a national policy.