

RELAY: Hundreds walk to fight cancer



Photo by W.L. Bill Allen Jr.

James Caldwell High School ninth graders, from left, Emily Ordon, Rachael Borrows, Allison Kelly, Loyse Burki and Bevin Winter, members of Team Girls Giving Back, take a part in Relay for Life, held Friday, May 10, in their spacious camping tent.

'It's just so much nicer outdoors than it is in the gym and we figured that we would, at least, get all the important ceremonies and speeches in before the bad weather got here.'

CHRISTINA ASTORINO

Interim adviser

FROM PAGE 1

we chose to go ahead and hold the event outdoors away," recounted Astorino. "It's just so much nicer outdoors than it is in the gym and we figured that we would, at least, get all the important ceremonies and speeches in before the bad weather got here.

"We did get everything done, except for the closing ceremonies and those will be held in the (JCHS) cafeteria on Tuesday, May 21, at 6:30 p.m.," she added.

Astorino would not divulge the facts concerning the money raised and which teams and individuals topped the money lists, preferring to keep that information a closely held secret until the weather-delayed closing ceremonies.

Despite the disappointment of the early ending, most participants seemed to feel very good about the event and about their efforts, either in memory of those who have been lost to cancer or in support of those fighting that disease.

"Jose was my oldest friend, we were good friends for 34 years, said longtime West Caldwell resident Cathleen Guerriero of Jose Braga, who was born in Rio and who grew up in Millburn. "Jose passed away from multiple myeloma in November, so we're walking in his memory. Even while he was sick, he worked to help and support other cancer patients. We all still really miss him, but doing this with all these other people really helps."

For JCHS ninth-grader Linda Perez, the motivation was her friend, Anna from West Orange. "I know Anna through sports and she's been sick from cancer and several other diseases pretty much all her life," Perez said. "She's only my age, so it's been pretty difficult for her and I just want to support her by walking here tonight."

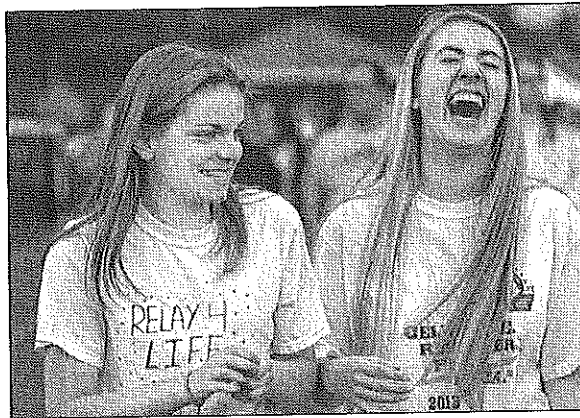


Photo by W.L. Bill Allen Jr.

James Caldwell High School junior Tricia Davis and sophomore Meredith Reilly, part of Team One Step at a Time, share a laugh as they circle Bonnel Field during Friday night's Relay for Life event in West Caldwell.