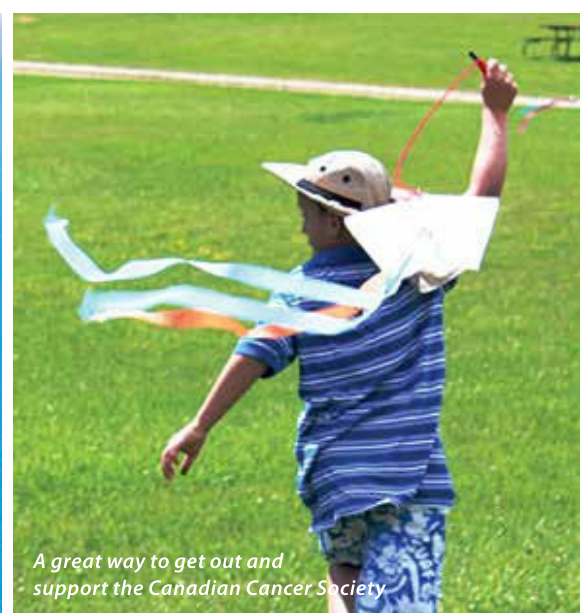




*Kites may be any design,
decorated any way you wish*



*A great way to get out and
support the Canadian Cancer Society*

UP, UP AND AWAY

Flying Kites to Help Beat Cancer

By Lorraine Payette

A blue sky and a fine breeze – what better way to enjoy it than building, decorating and flying kites? Better yet, try coupling that with a chance to help someone with a life threatening condition.

The Canadian Cancer Society and the Red Cow Society are proud to present the first local Kites Against Cancer event on Saturday, August 6, at the Gananoque Intermediate and Secondary School's Jim Bolton athletic field between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

"Our Sponsor – Canadian Tire Gananoque – has ordered plain kites of various colours for families to decorate any way they'd like," said Lisa Bird of the Societies. "Each of us knows of someone who has been affected by cancer, so feel free to decorate kites to honour that person or a pet. Kite Flying can be powerful and emotional, and is a time for quiet reflection and remembrance – a time to remember loved ones lost and to honour those still fighting cancer. The kites represent freedom – freedom from cancer, freedom from illness."

The venue will be filled with vendors of all kinds, including Multicultural Food Vendors who bring the flavours of the world to our doorsteps, as well as a more traditional barbecue for those with simpler tastes. Coupons may be

purchased for \$1 a piece, and then redeemed at participating food vendors for items ranging from \$1 to \$10. Samples may be purchased for \$1 food coupons.

"This event is hosted by the Frontenac Lennox & Addington, and the Waterways office of the Canadian Cancer Society, whose office is located in Kingston," said Bird. "With the recent realignment of some of the Cancer Society offices, the local chapter now covers from Napanee to Prescott and will be increasing their visibility in these areas with services such as; Wheels of Hope, Peer Support, and an online Community Services Locator. No one should have to face cancer alone and connecting with others who understand the situations and how people feel can help them cope. Knowing what to expect throughout a cancer experience can make you feel more hopeful and less anxious."

A difference is being made in over 200 different types of cancer, thanks to research funded by the Canadian Cancer Society. A survivors' ceremony will be held where cancer survivors will be encouraged to sign a balloon or put a personal hope message on it, then meet at 1:00 for a balloon release.

"Last year we invested over \$42 million in research," said Bird. "This has allowed our researchers to influence

scientific knowledge, program delivery, government policy and clinical practice. The discoveries our researchers make will help us prevent cancer, raise survival rates and enhance quality of life.

"The Canadian Cancer Society funds clinical trials in Canada mainly through the support of the Canadian Cancer Trials Group (CCTG), which is based at Queen's University in Kingston. Its mandate is to develop, conduct and analyze national and international trials of cancer therapy, including trials for new cancer drugs, cancer prevention and supportive care, as well as improve quality of life for people with cancer."

Lisa Bird emphasizes that nothing like this could ever happen without help.

"We are thrilled to be bringing events such as Kites Against Cancer to the Waterways area with the assistance of the event organizers, the Red Cow Society," said Bird. "The Red Cow Society is a volunteer group that has either helped organize many events for charities, or simply have given a helping hand. With the support of businesses like Gananoque's Canadian Tire, Bickerton Brokers, and the Thousand Islands Accommodation Partners, our transition into the Waterways corridor has been well received." **LH**