

REFLECTION

Edward Rensch, Jr., 1927-2005
*CARTI's first colleague, who retired as CEO in 1999,
was treated for sarcoma at CARTI/Baptist in 2004*



PERSPECTIVE



"I'm really happy to have seen how CARTI is treating its patients today. It was what CARTI started out to be, and what it still is. It is an organization that strives for the best in everything—technology, compassion, staff, care. It's like I've come full-circle. I couldn't be more proud."



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Benefits the CARTI Foundation

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June 10
Tour de Rock
 Burns Park Soccer Complex, North Little Rock
 \$30 in advance, \$35 on race day
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 Call 1-800-482-8561, ext. 406
Benefits the CARTI Foundation

All CancerAnswers programs are provided at no cost to participants. Registration is required to participate.

To register for any of CARTI's programs or to request more information, call the CARTI Program & Information line at 501-660-7696 or 800-879-8618.

For information on CARTI Foundation events, call 501-296-3406 or 800-482-8561, ext. 406.

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On the cover

Amber Freeman, who survived a brain tumor at age 10 and a recurrence 10 years later, treats each day as a gift. A mother now, Freeman is passing her zest for life and love for art on to her daughter.

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Every April brings about a special day for CARTI – the anniversary of the day we opened our doors to patients. This year marks the 30-year milestone in CARTI's history.

CARTI's very roots are about cooperation and concern for what is best for the cancer patients of Arkansas. In 1969, Baptist Medical Center, University of Arkansas Medical Center, Veteran's Administration Hospital and St. Vincent Infirmiry Medical Center joined together to research the feasibility of treating patients with radiation therapy at a central location.

Out of that partnership, the idea of CARTI became a reality. While the hospitals had to give up their own radiation therapy equipment to treat patients, they made a commitment to what was best for those patients by ensuring the best technology and care would always be available from one centralized, non-profit organization. An organization whose doors would be open to any and every one who needed our services, regardless of economic or social status.

When CARTI opened its doors, there was one vault with one linear accelerator to treat patients. A second vault sat empty, ready for future expansion. CARTI was so needed in the community that the expansion came quickly to serve the growing numbers of patients needing treatment.

Now in addition to the original location at CARTI/St. Vincent, we have six other centers to serve patients around the state. We also offer, when necessary, transportation to ease the burden of traveling to a treatment location, and many other services to help our patients maintain the best possible quality of life during and after treatment.

Thirty years ago in April 1976, CARTI began treating patients. As those of us at CARTI pause to remember the changes CARTI as an organization went through, we also look forward to a continued future of providing the highest-quality treatment and care to the cancer patients of Arkansas.

kindest Regards,

Janice E. Burford
 CARTI President & CEO



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DRUMMING UP SUPPORT WITH BIKES & BEADS



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CANCER CHANGED MY PERSPECTIVE

CHERISHING LIFE AFTER CHILDHOOD CANCER



Amber Freeman with daughter Scarlett

Amber Freeman of Searcy knows what life looks like. She sees it day-after-day swirling around her, and breathes in every second of it.

There was a time when Freeman wasn't sure if another day would come. At the age of 10, she was diagnosed with a malignant Astrocytoma, a tumor in her brain.

"Cancer totally made me see life as a gift. It is so nice to be able to go outside and breathe. I can't explain it, but the grass is truly greener. The sky is bluer. Everything is brighter, more vibrant, and you want to breathe it all inside."

For her, life changed forever due to this once in a lifetime experience - or so she thought.

Ten years later, another spot showed up on her brain. This time she was newly married and living in Texas.

For Freeman, who was born a mere seven months before CARTI opened its doors in April 1976, life is never something to take for granted.

THE REALITY OF CANCER

In 1986, Freeman began having headaches around her eyes. They wouldn't go away, so her parents took her to the doctor. She was a little excited, she admits, because they thought the headaches were due to eye strain. Freeman couldn't wait to get a pair of glasses. She thought glasses were cool.

But what the doctors found was a tumor in her brain, which was definitely uncool.

"I didn't know how to react. I thought I would go in and get glasses. I was excited, because I thought they were cute," she said. "I had no idea it would be something serious. I didn't really understand it all, but I saw how my family reacted when they said it was cancer. I was worried because they were worried."

She underwent surgery and followed that with six weeks of radiation therapy at CARTI/St. Vincent. Even though it was a worrisome time, Freeman couldn't shake a sense that it would all be ok in the end.

"I don't know why, but I just knew that God had it under control. It was good to have that sense of peace," she said. "My doctor put me at ease also. He was very straightforward about what was going to happen. He laid it all on the line so there wasn't any guessing."

With her strong sense of faith, the support of her friends and family and the strength of her medical team,

Freeman made it through her treatment without too much fear.

"I'd never been in the hospital before. I didn't know enough to be scared."

The second time around, things were a bit different for Freeman. "This time I knew enough. I was scared then."

In 1996, Freeman had her routine yearly MRI. After this one, she would be able to have one every two years.

But in the middle of her brain, there was something there. Because of its location, the doctors couldn't access it with traditional surgery. She underwent treatment, which at the time was new and relatively experimental, with Gamma Knife at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas. The treatment is similar to Stereotactic Radiosurgery, offered at CARTI/St. Vincent, where a focused beam of radiation can be used like a surgeon's scalpel to destroy both malignant and benign growths in the brain.

"I remember parts of my experience [at CARTI]. I have distinct memories of the smell of the waiting room and when the nurse came to get me always with a smile on her face. For an 11-year-old going every day for six weeks, it really helped that everyone there was always smiling. I also remember they got me a Jetts tape — just out of the blue they

would do things like that. They were so gentle and happy. It made it better to come there and not make me dread coming back. They made me feel like they loved seeing me and were glad I was there. And they were really interested in seeing you get better."

Her knowledge of cancer and cancer treatment was much more advanced during her second diagnosis, which led her to worry more about what could happen.

"I didn't have any of the side effects possible from my first radiation treatment at CARTI. I was scared to have more radiation. I was married and away from home. I didn't know what my future would be like."

The treatment went well for Freeman. Within six months the spot had disappeared.

The first time she had her parents' support, and the second time she had her husband. Without their

"Cancer totally made me see life as a gift."



“I always tell people that I wouldn’t change anything about my life. They look at me like I’m strange, but it is true. I look at life as a gift. Each day that I’m not in the hospital, when I can walk and talk, that is a wonderful gift.”

support and her faith in God, she said she never would have made it as far as she has come.

“It was neat to have a partner the second time because we could lean on each other in those times when we were fearful. We’d been married a year when it happened. It reminded us that life can be taken away so quickly. We were thankful for each day. All those petty little arguments that couples have in that first year, really don’t matter anymore.”

NEVER CHANGE A THING

With each day, Freeman said, her soul is richer and renewed. She loves life and there’s no doubt about it. You can see it in her tone, her smile, her eyes.

There isn’t one thing she would wish different about her life — not the cancer, not the treatments.

“I always tell people that I wouldn’t change anything about my life. They look at me like I’m strange, but it is true. I look at life as a gift. Each day that I’m not in the hospital, when I can walk and talk, that is a wonderful gift,” she said.

She also knows that what happened to her was for reasons beyond her control. It not only helped her be a stronger person because of her experiences, but it also helped her family and friends be stronger as individuals and together.

“Like the first time, I knew it was all in God’s plan — it was happening for reasons that I didn’t understand. He had done so much with my first cancer, I tried to focus on the good that would come from this second cancer. I saw so many positives in the people around me, how could I ever question it?”

The impact that cancer has on everyone involved is something cancer patients can miss if they aren’t looking for it, she said. But when they see it, it is a special and uplifting occurrence.

“I encourage them to look around them and see what God is doing. That’s what I did. I saw how God was using my cancer to have a positive effect in my friends’ lives, in my family and in my life. It’s not happening to punish or to be mean. There’s a life lesson that’s waiting to be learned. Don’t lose a positive attitude, even when everything seems so dark and lonely.”

Despite the hardships that she’s endured, she said she knows many who had it much harder than herself.

“Of course, I had the best situation one can have. I have a scar on my head, but you can’t see it under my hair. I had no side effects that children can have physically or mentally,” she said. “I don’t want to seem like I’m brushing off my diagnosis. I want to spread that hope into the lives of other cancer patients with my story. I don’t want them to lose their hope of a future.”

THE COLOR OF HER LIFE

Her belief in seeing the joy and color of life around her, reflects her creative spirit that she indulges in art projects and decorating her home.

“I’m not an artist, but I love challenges. I love to draw. As an early education major, I would do art projects and posters for student teaching.”

Her desire to create led her to create a piece that she submitted for CARTI’s 30th anniversary calendar, “The Art of Survival.” The piece inspired by her experiences with cancer graces the month of March 2007 in the 18-month calendar.

It also gave her the opportunity to be the artist for the 2006 Tour de Rock artwork that will be used as a poster and T-shirt to advertise the event that raises funds for the CARTI Foundation.

“I was thrilled when they asked me to do it. I wanted to be able to give back and do something with CARTI. Anything done with the CARTI name is such an honor.”

The design is reflective of her own experience as well with a cyclist on a bright yellow path – in some ways, she said, like the idea of the yellow brick road.

“For cancer survivors, the road always seems so much brighter because of what is behind them. I know mine is. If I had not been there, I wouldn’t know that life is a gift.”

Freeman knows first-hand the impact that the CARTI Foundation can make on the life of a pediatric cancer survivor. She was one of the recipients of the CARTI Foundation Dennis Jungmeyer Scholarship Award, which is awarded to pediatric cancer patients treated at CARTI.

“It helped me get finished with school. It also gave me an extra confidence because it was a special scholarship. I had one that was unique,” she said. “I was an older student back at school. It was neat having the help I needed and the ability to finish.”

The major she chose to pursue was early education with plans on becoming a kindergarten teacher one day. Her inspiration was her mother who taught for 21 years.

“I saw how kids loved her and the positive mark she left on each student’s life. I want the same thing. I want to be a positive influence and help children form their foundation of learning.”

Her graduation was in spring of 2004, and a few months later her daughter was born.

“For a time there, we were unsure if I’d be able to have children and how all the treatments have affected me now. Once we let our guard down, everything was

OK,” Freeman said. “Scarlett is a huge blessing. I sometimes think I shouldn’t have been able to have a baby so healthy and perfect because of everything my body has been through.”

After having her daughter 20 months ago, Freeman now understands what her own parents went through. And appreciates the support they gave her even more now.

“I can see through my parent’s eyes now with a child being given the diagnosis that I was. My heart breaks for kids going through what I did. I understand why my parents were so overprotective of me – all the sleepless nights—and I appreciate all of it more,” she said. “We all had a vision of how fragile life is.”

With her own child to mother now, Freeman takes it all in stride. She knows that glimpse of the fragility of life taught her important lessons about life, and she hopes to pass that on to her own daughter.

“I also see how blessed I am to have a child. If she throws a fit or something, I remind myself to enjoy it because this might not have happened. I can see a different perspective on things, and not get upset because it is all good.”



“Winds of Change” is Freeman’s artwork included in CARTI’s 30th anniversary calendar. The piece reflects her experience because cancer like a tornado blows into life unexpectedly leaving recovery in its wake.

TRIBUTES AND GIFTS TO THE CARTI FOUNDATION

Over the years it has become a wonderful expression of love and hope from our supporters to honor or memorialize individuals through gifts to the CARTI Foundation. These tributes make a tremendous impact on the lives of those under our care.

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IN MEMORY OF CRYSTAL ILYES

Velda Sibley

IN HONOR OF GEORGE W. JACKSON

Ouida and George Jackson

IN MEMORY OF GRADY JACKSON

Mildred Hefner

IN MEMORY OF CLIFFORD JENKINS

Sammie and John Goff

IN MEMORY OF MINNIE LEE JOBE

Mary Walker and Toma

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT M. JOHNS

Bette Bright

Amber Clemons

IN HONOR OF JIM JOHNSON

Ann Johnson

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPHINE JOHNSON

Shirley and Johnny Johnson

IN MEMORY OF ORIE JOHNSON

Johnnie and Jim Fisher

Donna and Kenneth Hare

Peggy and Lloyd Parker

IN MEMORY OF JAMES JOHNSTON

Oneal Overfelt

IN MEMORY OF V. L. JOHNSTON

Shirley Johnston

IN HONOR OF BARBARA JONES

Carol Rodgers

IN HONOR OF DENNIS E. JUNGMEYER

Association of Fundraising

Professionals

IN MEMORY OF PAUL KEETON

Oneal Overfelt

IN MEMORY OF MARIBETH AND PAUL KESSLAR

Karen and Bobby Davis

Susan and Richard Hall

IN MEMORY OF BILLIE KEY

Marie Smith

IN MEMORY OF CAROLYN T. KHOURY

George J. Khoury, Sr.

IN HONOR OF JULIE KILLOUGH

Carol Rodgers

IN MEMORY OF VOREE KILLOUGH

Pam and Robert Edwards

IN MEMORY OF MYRK KING

Brenda and James Lanis

IN MEMORY OF BILL KINGSBERRY

Frances Rutledge

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE KRAMER

Alice W. Kramer

IN MEMORY OF PATRICK J. KUBISIAK

Judy Kubisiak

Marie Smith and Family

IN MEMORY OF FRANK G. KUMPURIS

Marilyn and Greg Brown

IN HONOR OF MELISSA LACY

Leah and Donald Miller

IN MEMORY OF DON M. LAFFERTY

Dallas Lafferty

IN MEMORY OF OMIE LAMBIRTH

Ruth Brown

IN MEMORY OF JUNIOR C. LANDIS

Brenda and James Landis

IN MEMORY OF MARIE LANDIS

Brenda and James Lanis

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY LANGLEY

Karen and Bobby Davis

IN MEMORY OF H. TRUETT LANGLEY

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF MILDRED LANGLEY

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF FRANK LEAVITT

Helen Leavitt

IN HONOR OF MARIANNE LEEPER

Mr. Walter J. Leeper

IN HONOR OF LENDERS TITLE CUSTOMERS &

ASSOCIATES

Lenders Title Company

IN MEMORY OF DR. JIM LEWIS

Pam and Robert Edwards

IN MEMORY OF CLYDE LIEBLONG

Margaret Moore

IN MEMORY OF J. E. LIGHTLE

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF MARION LIGHTLE

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF MARY LOUISE LIGHTLE

Norma Burgin

IN HONOR OF DOTTIE LINDSEY

Carol Rodgers

IN MEMORY OF RALPH LITZELFELNER

Juanita Litzelfelner

IN MEMORY OF WALTER MABRY

Wyvon Taylor

IN MEMORY OF MARY ANNE MAHFET

Alyce and Matt Reinbard

IN MEMORY OF MORSE MALLETT

Marie Smith and Family

IN MEMORY OF CECIL R. MARCUM, SR.

Shirley Reid

IN MEMORY OF MARGARET J. MARCUM

Shirley Reid

IN MEMORY OF ROD MARSH

Karen and Bobby Davis

IN MEMORY OF DARRELL W. MARTIN

Tiffany Brown

IN MEMORY OF LEON S. MARTIN

Jamie and Jim Christian

IN MEMORY OF WILLIS MARTIN

Kathryn S. Harris

IN MEMORY OF LEEANN MASHBURN

Margaret and Joe Miller

IN MEMORY OF SUSAN MASSANELLI

Thomas Massanelli

IN MEMORY OF DE ANN MAUK

Lou Alice and Bill Britton and Family

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES D. MAYNARD

Nancy and Robert Bailey

Pat and Gus Blass

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Calcote

Louise and James Christian

Stuart and Jim Cobb

Marie C. Erwin

Mary T. Henry

Nancy and Dick Horne

Leah and Sandy Keith

Athalia and Karl Kullander

Linda and Gene Pfeifer

E. L. Scharff

Joan and Purcell Smith

IN MEMORY OF PEGGY J. MCCALL

Lee A. Biggs, III

CARTI Searcy Auxiliary

Karen and Bob Davis

Ada and Harold Lewis

IN MEMORY OF IUKA T. MCCOURT

Myra and Jay Shock

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT C. MCCOURT

Myra and Jay Shock

IN MEMORY OF ARCHER AND GRACE

MCDEARMON

Sue McDearmon

IN MEMORY OF NEAL McDONALD

Genevieve and Larry Bailey

IN HONOR OF JOAN MCKENZIE

Ruby Lane

IN MEMORY OF LORENE MCNEIL

Peggy Burkett

IN MEMORY OF MARTHA MCPHAIL

Martha and Robert Tindell

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM S. MEEKS

Mary Jane Attwood

IN MEMORY OF FRIEDA AND MERLE MEHARG

Carla and L. W. Bailey

IN MEMORY OF JIMMY D. MELLON

Emma Turner

IN MEMORY OF JEAN MIESEN

CARTI Searcy Auxiliary

Johnnie Fisher

Nancy and Leroy Froman

Irene W. Gray

Hettivee and Herman Van Patten

IN MEMORY OF FRANK H. MILLER

Arkansas SMART Hogs

IN MEMORY OF JOHN B. MILLER

Doris E. Miller

IN MEMORY OF HOYE A. MITCHELL

Judy Kubisiak

IN MEMORY OF BOBBIE L. MONCRIEF

Angela and Bill Elizandro

Evelyn Cox

IN MEMORY OF BRADY MOORE

Margaret Moore

IN HONOR OF MARGARET MOORE

Margaret Moore

IN MEMORY OF FRED A. MORROW

Billie and Skip Rutherford

Carolyn and Sam Stiles

IN MEMORY OF RICKY MOSS

Marie Smith

IN MEMORY OF MARCUS MURPHY

Norma Burgin

IN HONOR OF JANE NEAL

Kathleen and Shell Blakely

IN MEMORY OF JIMMIE NEAL

Marie Smith

IN HONOR OF KAY NEBBINS

Carol Rodgers

IN MEMORY OF OUIDA B. NEWMAN

Tommie Brown

IN MEMORY OF OWEN NEWMAN

Mary Walker and Toma

IN MEMORY OF CLARA NORMAN

Pam and Robert Edwards

Marie Smith

IN MEMORY OF HARRY J. NOWICKI

Lynda Cloe

Karen and Bobby Davis

Irene Gray

Karen and Mike Millar

Bobbie M. Parrish

Marjorie Pierce

IN HONOR OF JESSICA ODLE

Ray Ellen and Edward Odle

IN HONOR OF PAULETTE OLLISON

Sherry Conely

IN MEMORY OF CARL J. OVERFELT

Susan and Richard Hall

Oneal Overfelt

IN MEMORY OF DALE OWEN

Judy Palmer

IN MEMORY OF DEATRICE OWEN

Judy Palmer

IN MEMORY OF PERRY E. PALMER

Murrell Hilton

Pearl Palmer

Imojane Powell

IN MEMORY OF GERALD PARISH

Wanda Parish

IN MEMORY OF JIM PARRISH

Bobbie M. Parrish

IN MEMORY OF NANCY R. PATTERSON

AMAS DE CASA Extension

Homemakers Club

IN HONOR OF DR. CHERYL PAYNE

Pat and Mack Lehman

IN MEMORY OF GARY LYNN PAYNE

Frances Jo Ablf

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES L. PEARSON

Lena Ruth Pearson

IN HONOR OF PHYLLIS PEARSON

Tammy Hays

IN MEMORY OF NEYSA PETERSEN

Nelda Allison

IN HONOR OF ARTHUR J. PFEIFER

Linda and Gene Pfeifer

IN MEMORY OF JOHN PIERCE

Lynda Cloe

Nancy and Leroy Froman

Susan and Richard Hall

IN MEMORY OF BRENDA SCROGGINS PHIPPS

Wyvon Taylor

IN MEMORY OF VINCENT POCZIK

Peggy Burkett

IN MEMORY OF GLENN POLLARD

Betty and Alton Pollard

IN MEMORY OF MITZI POLLARD

Betty and Alton Pollard

IN MEMORY OF DEROPHA PORTER

Marie Davis

IN MEMORY OF MAYNARD PRINCE

Betty Jo Ladd

IN HONOR OF MARY LEE PULLEY

Ann Johnson

IN HONOR RAYMON PULLEY

Ann Johnson

IN MEMORY OF JEAN PYEATT

Carol Rodgers

Kathleen and Shell Blakely

IN MEMORY OF MR. AND MRS. L. H. PYLES

Irma and Hilton Emde

IN MEMORY OF SIDNEY QUATTLEBAUM

Bob Cargile

IN HONOR OF CHARLES AND HARRIETT RALEY

Eloise Muncy

IN MEMORY OF DONALD R. RANEY

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF BILL RAWLINGS

Irene Gray

IN MEMORY OF H. H. RAYBURN

Janada Brandon

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPHINE RAYBURN

Janada Brandon

IN MEMORY OF BILLY J. REAMES

Mary Lue Reames

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD RENSCH

Joyce and Bob Landgren

Liz and Spencer Lucker

Mary Machen

Suzanne B. McGee

Paula and Jim Moseley

IN MEMORY OF LOUISE REYNOLDS

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF CLAYTON RICE

Wilma Hamilton

IN HONOR OF ROBBYE RIDOUT

Carol Rodgers

IN MEMORY OF NOVELLE R. RIGGS

Marilyn and Greg Brown

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES RISTER

Maxine Rister

IN MEMORY OF SYED N. RIZVI

Zaibunnisa Rizvi

IN MEMORY OF ANN ROGERS

Jackie Bordelon and Family

IN MEMORY OF JAMES ROWEN

Ellen Schamberger

IN HONOR OF NONA ROWLAND

Betty and Greg Baumgarner

Linda Collins

Pam and John Cox

Kim Van Noy

IN MEMORY OF ALICE RUMPH

Pam and Robert Edwards

IN MEMORY OF DEAN B. RUSSELL

Margaret Brookshire

IN MEMORY OF JAMES E. "RUSTY" RUSSELL

Joni Russell

IN MEMORY OF CARROLL RUTHERFORD

Shirley and Wayne Bolding

IN MEMORY OF JEAN AND HOWARD SANDERS

Nelda Allison

IN MEMORY OF CHARLA ANN SCHOL

Billye Murphy

Lena Ruth Pearson

Linnie Pelkey

IN MEMORY OF DR. STAN SCHWARTZ

Karen and Bobby Davis

IN MEMORY OF ALBERT SCROGGINS

Wyvon Taylor

IN MEMORY OF BEVERLY SESSION

Bill C. Session

IN HONOR OF PAT SHIRA

Mary Lou Glass

IN MEMORY OF GRADY SIBLEY

Velda Sibley

IN MEMORY OF JAY SIBLEY

Velda Sibley

IN HONOR OF GENE SIMMONS

Scott Elpbngstone

IN MEMORY OF MARK SIMON

Nita J. Simon

IN HONOR OF JERRY SIMPSON

Carol Rodgers

IN MEMORY OF LILLIAN K. SIMPSON

Wilburn A. Simpson, Sr.

IN MEMORY OF TODD SIMPSON

Pam and Robert Edwards

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF MAGGIE SIMPSON

Pam and Robert Edwards

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE SLAUGHTER

LaJunta Whitener

IN MEMORY OF ED AND ADA SMITH

Velda Sibley

IN MEMORY OF LAURA M. SMITH

Liz and Spencer Lucker

Mary Machen

IN MEMORY OF LOU SMITH

Marie Smith

IN MEMORY OF MARY SMITH

Janis and Paul Overstreet

IN MEMORY OF W. R. "BILL" SMITH

Marie Smith

IN MEMORY OF BEVERLY STAHLER

Ginny and Bob Shell

IN HONOR OF KELLY STANLEY

Ada and Harold Lewis

IN MEMORY OF PAT STARK

Peggy Burkett

IN MEMORY OF MARK STENDEL

Joan Batten

IN MEMORY OF FREDRICK STEWART

LaJunta Whitener

IN MEMORY OF HAROLD STEWART

Nancy Stewart

IN HONOR OF JUNE R. STEWART

Betty and Greg Baumgarner

Linda Collins

Kim and John Cook

Pam and John Cox

Kim Van Noy

IN MEMORY OF VIRGIE L. STEWART

Shirley and Gary Johnston

IN MEMORY OF MARIE C. STORTHZ

Levinson Cleaners

IN MEMORY OF MR. AND MRS. JOHN STORY

Lena Ruth Pearson

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL ROBERT P. STORY

Lena Ruth Pearson

IN MEMORY OF JAMES E. SWAIM

Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Carey

IN MEMORY OF EDITH "MIMI" SWAIN

Rexann and Wade Holloway

IN HONOR OF DR. J. TYLER SWINDLE

Ann Johnson

IN MEMORY OF GILBERT TARPLEY

Genevieve and Larry Bailey

IN MEMORY OF LOIS TARPLEY

Genevieve and Larry Bailey

IN MEMORY OF MILLARD TAYLOR

Alma and Robert Davis

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT S. TAYLOR

Peggy Burkett

IN MEMORY OF TOMMY J. TAYLOR

Pam Taylor

IN MEMORY OF CECIL TEDDER

Marie Davis

Lightle, Raney, Bell and Simpson

IN MEMORY OF ELOISE TOWNSEND

Sibyl and Glenn Clay

Ada and Harold Lewis

IN MEMORY OF WINSTON TREADWAY

Levinson Cleaners

IN MEMORY OF LEONARD TRIBBLE

Stephanie Vernon

IN MEMORY OF EARL TROTT

Karen and Bobby Davis

IN HONOR OF DANIEL AND HANNAH TUCKER

Mae A. Tucker

IN MEMORY OF EARLENE TUCKER

Joyce and Charles Burleson

IN HONOR OF JOHN DAVID TUCKER

Mae A. Tucker

IN HONOR OF KINSEY TUCKER

Mae A. Tucker

IN MEMORY OF LOTT TUCKER

Mae A. Tucker

IN MEMORY OF MARY GRACE TUCKER

Eloise Muncy

Mae A. Tucker

IN HONOR OF PEYTON AND YAHNA TUCKER

Mae A. Tucker

IN MEMORY OF RENEE TUCKER

Mae A. Tucker

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS TUCKER

Joyce and Charles Burleson

IN MEMORY OF WILBURN TUCKER

Joyce and Charles Burleson

IN MEMORY OF BOBBY VAN PATTEN

Lynn and Leon Van Patten

IN MEMORY OF LENNIE VAN PATTEN

Hettivee and Herman Van Patten

IN MEMORY OF I. B. VAN PATTEN

Hettivee and Herman Van Patten

PERSPECTIVE ON GIVING

IN MEMORY OF SARAH WEATHERS
Betty and Alton Pollard

IN MEMORY OF FLOREN T. WEBER
Norma Lutner

IN MEMORY OF MILDRED HARPER WEBER
Norma Lutner

IN HONOR OF POLLY WEST
Ruby Lane

IN MEMORY OF PAT WHITEMAN
Margaret Moore

IN MEMORY OF MILDRED WILBOURN
Betty Headlee
Strother-Wilbourn Land Title Company
Jim Wilbourn

IN MEMORY OF MARIE WILES
Sharon Cobb

IN MEMORY OF SONNIE R. WILEY
Rexann and Wade Holloway

IN MEMORY OF MELVIN WILKERSON
Karen and Bobby Davis
First United Methodist Church Thrift
Shop-Searcy

Nancy and Leroy Froman
Irene Gray

Susan and Richard Hall
Wilma Hamilton

Jean Miesen
Karen and Mike Millar

Kathleen and Shell Wilkerson
Nona Wilkerson
Richadean Wilson
Doris and Albert Yarnell

IN HONOR OF NONA WILKERSON
Karen and Bobby Davis
Mary Lou Glass
Ann Johnson

IN MEMORY OF LEWIS WILKS
Irene Gray

IN HONOR OF LINDSEY WILLIAMS
Doris and Albert Yarnell

IN HONOR OF PAM WILLIAMS
Dee DeLoach
Tammy Hays

IN HONOR OF RUBY WILLIAMS
Ann Johnson

IN MEMORY OF VIRGINIA WILLIAMS
Snookie and Gene Joseph

IN MEMORY OF RAPEL WILLIS
Brenda Landis

IN HONOR OF BEVERLY L. WOMACK
Murrell Hilton
Pearl Palmer
Imojane Powell

IN MEMORY OF CARLTON WOMACK
Oneal Overfelt

IN MEMORY OF GRAYCE AND VILAS WOMACK
Betty Case

IN MEMORY OF DEWEL WOOD
Lyndel Wood
Sheila Wood

IN MEMORY OF ELVERT WOOD
Judy Kubisiak

IN MEMORY OF JACK WOOD
Martha and Robert Tindell

IN MEMORY OF MARYE H. WOOD
Martha and Robert Tindell

IN HONOR OF SUE ANN WOOD
Ada and Harold Lewis

IN MEMORY OF HAZEL AND W. C. WOOSLEY
Kathleen and Shell Blakely

IN MEMORY OF KENNETH WRIGHT
Eilene Wright

IN HONOR OF CYNTHIA YOUNG
Carol Rodgers

IN HONOR OF JOHN AND PRISCILLA
YOUNGBLOOD
John W. Foust

For many friends and volunteers of CARTI, their initial involvement with the organization centers around a personal experience with cancer. Not so for longtime CARTI Foundation Board Member Mark V. Williamson of Little Rock.

While his stepmother would eventually be treated successfully at CARTI, it was CARTI's reputation in the community that first got his attention roughly 20 years ago.

"I can't even remember how exactly I got involved," Williamson said, "but I got involved with the annual fund drive and not long after that, they asked me to get on the board."

Williamson has been active in the community since founding his own insurance company in the Heights area of Little Rock 32 years ago.

When approached about helping with CARTI's annual fund drive, CARTI's reputation helped seal the deal.

"CARTI has always had such a good reputation in the community," he said. "You never have to explain how the money is being used. You just know it's going for great use."

After agreeing to help raise funds, Williamson became actively involved with what is now known as the CARTI Kids Memorial Golf Classic through his association with the Independent Insurance Agents Association.

"I was on the committee that helped get it going," Williamson said. "It has really grown. There was a time when it didn't make any money, but then it just took off. Dennis [Jungmeyer, a longtime CARTI supporter and board member whose efforts enabled the tournament to become a reality] has done a great job. He was the brains behind it."

"It's a feel-good place to work and volunteer for, and raise money for. You know what you're doing is going to a great cause."



Mark V. Williamson

Williamson currently is in the third year of his third stint as a Foundation Board member. He served as president of the CARTI Foundation Board from 1992-1994. Among his various philanthropic and charitable associations, he places special emphasis on CARTI.

"Of all things I've been associated with and still do, CARTI is maybe the most meaningful. I've raised thousands of dollars for CARTI, and never been questioned about what the money is used for. People know CARTI is going to treat patients with the best technology we can get, and making money is secondary," Williamson said. "It's a feel-good place to work and volunteer for, and raise money for. You know what you're doing is going to a great cause."

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP

The New Year brings a new president to the CARTI Foundation.

Kathi Jones joins CARTI as president of the CARTI Foundation and CARTI vice president of development. Jones was previously executive director for the Centers for Youth and Families Foundation where she served a six-and-a-half year tenure.

She has also worked in Arkansas for Youth Home as development director, Winrock International as development officer and as executive director of the Association of Retarded Citizens.

Before moving to Arkansas, Jones lived in Florida where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Florida Atlantic University. She is a member of the Arkansas Society of Association Executives and the Rotary Club of Little Rock. Jones is also a member and past president of the Arkansas chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and was named the group's "Outstanding Fundraising Executive" in 2000.





Bea Bell with CARTI Colleague Vickie Strain

Bea Bell of North Little Rock received an unexpected surprise during the holidays this year. On her doorstep was a Christmas present from CARTI delivered by a special elf, CARTI/North Little Rock's Front Office Representative Vickie Strain.

With Bell's treatments for breast cancer just over when the bags arrived, the CARTI/North Little Rock staff knew that one should be hers. Strain called Bell and said she had something to drop off for her.

"I thought she had a T-shirt or something for me that I didn't pick up. I had no idea what was coming."

When Strain walked in with a big bag filled with goodies and decorated with penguins playing in the snow, Bell felt like a little girl meeting Santa Claus.

"I was so surprised to see what she brought to me. It made me feel very good. I guess I had such a shocked look on my face, because Vickie gave me a big hug and wished me a Merry Christmas."

This past holiday season, CARTI provided holiday gift bags for elderly patients who were hospitalized, in nursing homes or alone during the holidays. The CARTI Auxiliary Festival of Trees funded the program after Mary Machen, director of community outreach for CARTI, requested a grant.

The bags contained many practical items, and a few treats for patients. You would never realize, Bell said, how much something like this means to patients - not only because it makes them feel remembered during the holidays, but also how helpful the items are to them.

"You name it, and it was in there. It had everything I needed. CARTI put a lot of thought into it," she said. "It was so helpful to me, because I didn't have to go to the store for a while. Especially at that time of the year when things are so hectic. I showed it to my friends and they couldn't believe it either."

Just as special as the gift was the visitor who brought it to her.

"It was like an old friend coming to see me. We sat down and talked, caught up on everything. It hadn't been long, but I missed seeing Vickie and the rest of the gang."

Her cancer was diagnosed from a routine mammogram. She had one once a year as part of her yearly check-up, since she had problems that they wanted to watch.

It was caught very early, while it was still just cells that had not yet formed into a tumor. After surgery to remove the cells, Bell had radiation at CARTI.

"I was shocked, but I hate to think what would have happened if I hadn't had a mammogram every year. When they told me it was just cells, I was not as worried. My doctor and CARTI were the ones who got me through it. They were fantastic."

The support of the staff at CARTI/North Little Rock caught her a little off-guard—in a good way.

"I looked forward to going for my treatments every day. I never could have imagined that a whole office could be as friendly as they were. I can't give them enough praise," she said. "They informed me ahead of time what was going to happen. They want to help you in any way they can. And they work so well together that it is a wonderful thing to see."

The advances in treatment were evident to Bell, a retired bookkeeper who had been to CARTI before - as a caregiver to her mother who had bladder cancer.

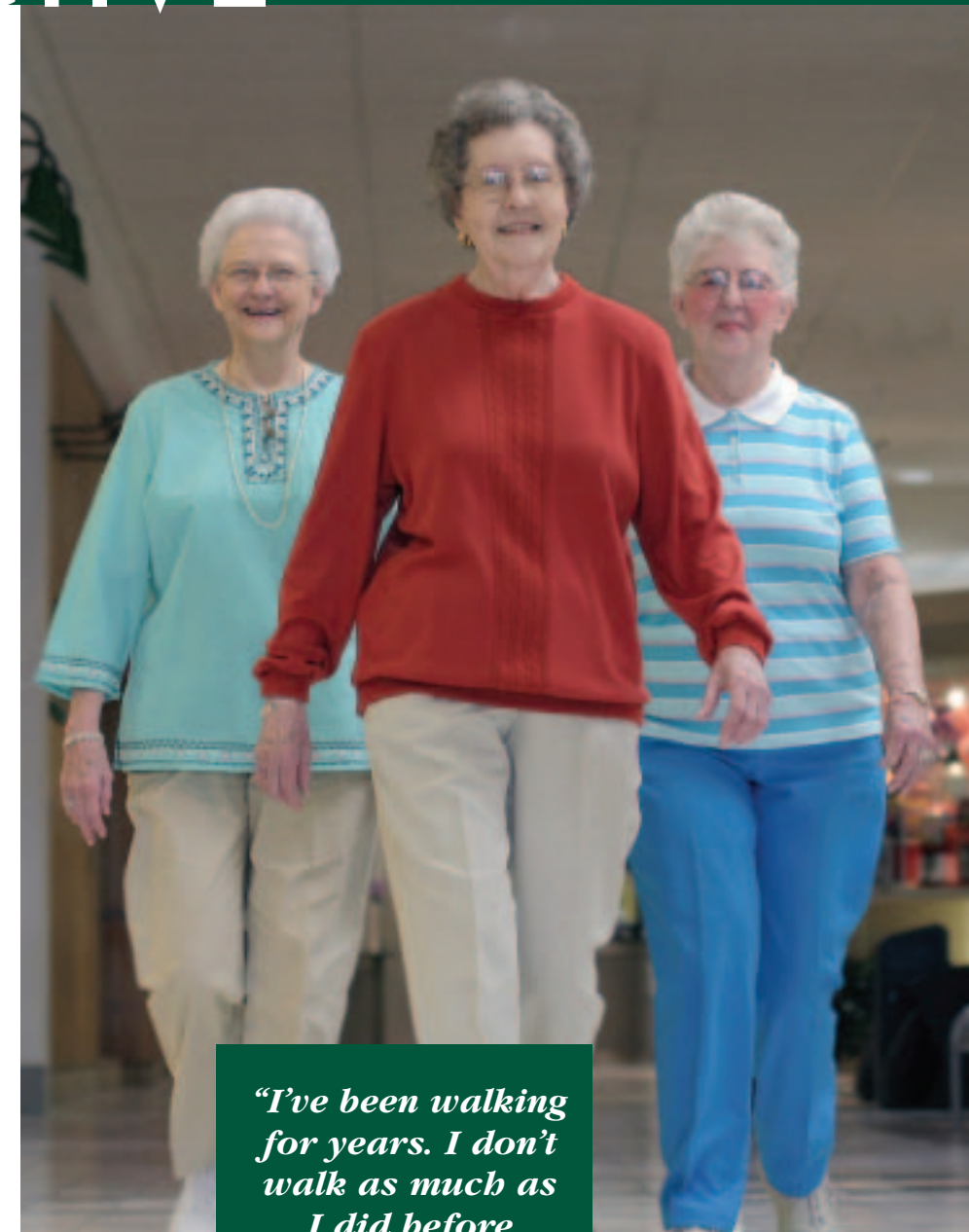
"It was quite a bit different then. Of course, I wasn't the one who was being treated for cancer. I don't think anyone can understand what that is like until you have experienced it first-hand. I thought I did, but now I can see what I didn't know then."

Another thing that helped Bell during her treatments was maintaining her exercise schedule. She is an avid mall-walker, and would walk at the mall before heading to CARTI for her treatments.

"I've been walking for years. I don't walk as much as I did before surgery. I used to walk over two miles, so I'm not quite up to that yet. But I will be."

At the retirement complex where she lives, there are always activities to take part in and people to meet. She's always happy to hear when someone knows about CARTI, and to share her story.

"I can't tell people enough about CARTI. I tell them how wonderful CARTI is. Most of them know it anyway, but I want them to know that CARTI is there if by chance they ever need it."



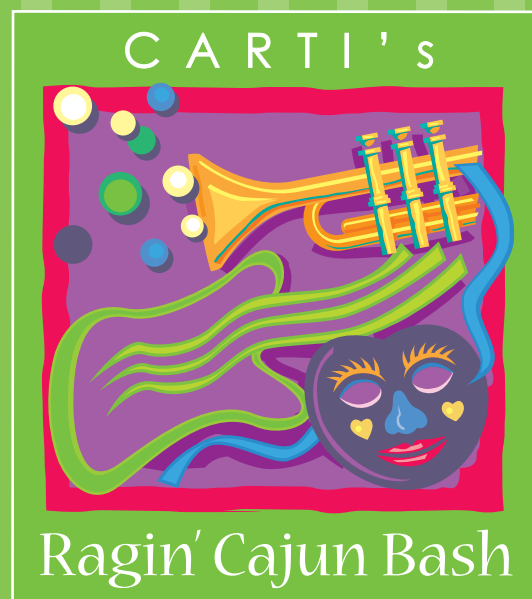
"I've been walking for years. I don't walk as much as I did before surgery. I used to walk over two miles, so I'm not quite up to that yet. But I will be."

And she's proud to be a part of CARTI's extended family. The care that the staff extended to her was exceptional, she said, and

more than gift enough for her.

"At CARTI, they made me feel better and look forward to visiting them. They made you a part of their family. You wanted to see them. It made me so thankful to be able to go to a place like that during this time. Without CARTI, I don't think it would have been that simple and welcoming."

HOT & SPICY PART DEUX



CARTI'S SECOND ANNUAL RAGIN' CAJUN BASH

Last year's bash was such a smash that we're doing it again! So please join us for another evening of Cajun-style fun and fellowship — with hot music and spicy Cajun food. All proceeds will benefit the good works of The CARTI Foundation.

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!**

Thursday, April 27, 2006 • 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
River Market Pavilion – Little Rock, Arkansas

Admission: \$25 per person - \$40 per couple
For tickets, call 501-296-3406

 **CARTI FOUNDATION**

* "LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL" — THE CAJUN NATIONAL MOTTO

MAUDE CRAFT SOCIETY

You may not have heard of Maude Craft. Hers is not a household name. She was a warm, unassuming lady with a wonderful sense of humor who was treated at CARTI when she was 89. She died at the age of 96 from another disease, and Maude left more than \$300,000 to CARTI in her will.

In gratitude, the CARTI Foundation established the Maude Craft Society to recognize those generous people who have included, or intend to include CARTI in their estate plan.

Because of Maude Craft's legacy, CARTI is able to provide the highest quality treatment with programs and personal assistance to patients and their families. Your membership in the Maude Craft Society enables CARTI to continue its tradition of patient-centered care.

The CARTI Foundation would like to honor you by recognizing your membership in the Maude Craft Society. Please let us know if CARTI is included in your estate plan by contacting Kathi Jones, President, CARTI Foundation at 501-296-3405 or P.O. Box 55011, Little Rock, AR 72215. We will be so glad to hear from you.

Give a gift that lasts all year long

If you want to give a gift this Mother's or Father's Day that will last, consider donating to the CARTI Foundation.

Your gift will give cancer patients comfort throughout the year. It will help fund services to CARTI patients like massage therapy, transportation and patient assistance.

Your mother or father will receive a card from the CARTI Foundation telling them a gift was made in her or his honor.

Send us your CARTI Holiday Tributes in the envelope provided in this issue to ensure your generosity touches the lives of cancer patients all year round.

For more information, contact Evelyn Cox, 501-296-3407 or 800-482-8561, ext. 407.

DRUMMING UP SUPPORT WITH BIKES AND BEADS



Frank Martin

No one could have foreseen it at the time, but Frank Martin's December 2003 hiring at Acosta Sales in North Little Rock was a big deal for CARTI.

That's because Martin went to work for CARTI Foundation Board Member and Tour de Rock Brainchild Steve Bentley at Acosta.

"I've become more and more involved with CARTI since that time, primarily due to my association and friendship with Steve," Martin said.

And Martin has been involved from the beginning with two burgeoning CARTI Foundation fund-raisers, set for spring and summer in Central Arkansas.

The second annual Ragin' Cajun Bash, for which Martin serves as event chair, is set for April 27 at 6 p.m. at the River Market Pavilion in downtown Little Rock.

The third annual CARTI Tour de Rock will be held June 10 at the Burns Park Soccer Complex and along the Arkansas River Trail.

Proceeds from both events directly benefit CARTI patients.

Tour de Rock has grown into a comprehensive bicycling event catering to recreational, experienced and competitive riders. More than 300 participants took part in the 2005 event. A paved fun ride of up to 18 miles along the north side of the Arkansas River Trail is available for recreational riders of all ages. A paved ride of up to 33 miles for experienced riders makes its Tour de Rock debut this year, beginning and ending at the Burns Park Soccer Complex. And as always, USCF-sanctioned criterium races for competitive riders complete with prize money for the winners in various divisions will be held on an oval within the complex.

Ragin' Cajun, created as a signature event by the Foundation's Leadership Council, is back for its second go-round after much success in its inaugural year. With Martin as chair, the council's external special events committee came up with the idea.

"As a group we developed the idea of an old fashioned crawfish boil with a Cajun/Mardi Gras theme, and the 2005 Ragin' Cajun Bash was the culmination of our efforts," Martin said.

"The idea was first tossed around as some type of costume event. As we began the planning process and began to examine the time of year it would take place, the Mardi Gras theme just seemed natural."

The event exceeded everyone's expectations. Event organizers planned for 400 folks and about 700 showed up. But everyone had a good time, and with 900 pounds of crawfish on hand, had their fill of food. The local band *Lagniappe* provided live music, and will do so again for this year's event.

"All in all it went smoothly," Martin said. "The weather was beautiful and we just underestimated how ready people were for a spring celebration. It was a great start to the season."

Martin and event organizers hope to capitalize on the timing of the event each year.

"My expectation is that Ragin' Cajun will become the signature spring kick-off event for downtown Little Rock," Martin said. "The event takes place in the River Market pavilion where a number of events are held in the spring and summer. This year is an election year, and I'd love for the Ragin' Cajun Bash to develop the reputation as an event that political hopefuls view as an important opportunity to get out and mingle with supporters and opponents."

The event's theme takes on special significance this year given the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and parts of the gulf coast.

"The Cajun/ Mardi Gras theme is something people just associate with having a good time and celebrating. The people of the New Orleans and southern Louisiana area have always had that reputation. We feel for the victims of Katrina and the losses they've sustained," Martin said. "Cancer can have much the same effect on a family as a natural disaster. Our goal is to bring people together for fun and fellowship to raise money for the families affected by cancer. Those families have enough to worry and pray about besides the cost of treatment and access to it. We just hope to provide some financial support for those families."

Once the Ragin' Cajun Bash is done, it's only a short ride over to June and Tour de Rock. Bentley, an avid biker himself, recruited Martin to join the original steering committee that got the event out of the planning stages and into motion. Martin still participates on the steering committee, but his main role this year is rider recruitment.

"I've always been pretty involved with the logistics of the actual event and recruiting riders," Martin said. "Last year, we tried to incorporate a trail ride and I organized that part of Tour de Rock 2005 as well as recruiting riders for all of the different parts of the event - the criterium, the family fun ride and the trail ride. However, the majority of the committee members at one time or another have their hands in just about every aspect of the event."

Martin has been biking for 13 years, and as a member of the Central Arkansas Recreational Pedalers (CARP), helped establish the renowned bike trail at Camp Robinson.

"I fell in love with mountain biking during that time and have been an avid cyclist since," he said.

As such, Martin joins Bentley and others who were in on Tour de Rock from the beginning in seeing unlimited potential for the event on the Central Arkansas area.

"As a group our vision is to make Tour de Rock the biggest and best bike event in Central Arkansas and the state of Arkansas," Martin said. "We believe its growth potential is unlimited in several ways, from the number of participants and race fans, to

the resources that we have the opportunity to raise for CARTI patients and their families. We also believe that Tour de Rock can be an integral part of featuring the Central Arkansas River Trail as a destination location for cyclists, runners and walkers from all over the country. We're looking forward to the completion of the bridges that will connect the River Trail in one big loop through Little Rock and North Little Rock. We hope to use the proposed 14 mile loop as the course for our Family Fun Ride in the future."

The big picture is set. Now Martin can focus on details.

"The real challenge has been growing the amount of riders participating in the race and the ride," he said. "We had a small increase in the number of riders and racers from 2004 to 2005, and that's one of our top priorities for 2006, along with increasing the amount of money we ultimately donate to CARTI from the proceeds of the event."

For more information on the Ragin' Cajun Bash or Tour de Rock, contact the CARTI Foundation at 501-296-3406. To register online for Tour de Rock, visit www.tourderock.org.

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Are you looking for a special gift for this Mother's Day? Consider giving the women in your life the CARTI Auxiliary's cookbook, *Festivities*.

Recipes in the cookbook all have a CARTI connection. Proceeds from the sale go back to CARTI patients through the CARTI Auxiliary Festival of Trees, which funds program and services that are patient-related.

Festivities is available for \$15 at all CARTI facilities, or by phone at 501-660-7612 and 800-482-8561, ext. 612.

Cancer 101

What is cancer? How is it treated? These are two big questions you want answers to when someone says they have cancer.

The word cancer is a general word for a group of diseases that are similar. Leukemia (said like: loo-key-me-uh) is a cancer of the blood. Astrocytoma (said like: astro-sigh-toe-muh) is a cancer of the brain. There are many different kinds of cancer. What they all have in common are the cancerous cells. Cells are tiny pieces that make up your body. Your skin is made of skin cells. Your blood is made up of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets.

While the cells that make up your body are usually normal, cancer cells are out of control. Something happens in your body to make them go haywire. They grow fast and can form a tumor (a mass of cancer cells).

The doctors treat cancer with chemotherapy (medicine kills cancer cells), radiation therapy (energy waves destroy cancer cells) or surgery (operation removes cancer cells). People with cancer can have one or more treatments for cancer. At CARTI, we treat people with radiation therapy.

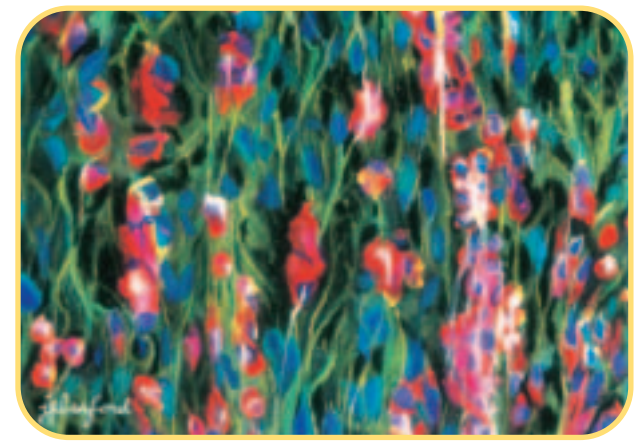
You can't get cancer from another person. It is not like the cold or flu that you can get if someone who is sick sneezes on you. You do not have to worry about being around someone who has cancer.

You don't get cancer because you are bad. It just happens to some people. You can't control who gets it or who doesn't.

If you or someone you love has cancer, the doctors can help. If you have questions, don't be scared to ask. Talk to your parents or a trusted adult about any questions or feelings you have. They can help you understand cancer better and what happens during cancer treatment.

Under the Microscope:

In the first box, draw what you think cancer cells look like.



Compare it to this painting of a cancer cell by CARTI Head Honcho Jan Burford.

Cream Cheese Cookies

*Karen Davis
Searcy Aux. Member
Past President*

- 1/4 cup Margarine
- 1 (8-oz.) pkg. Cream Cheese
- 1 egg
- 1/4 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 pkg. white or yellow cake mix

Pre-heat oven to 375°. Cream margarine and cream cheese until light and fluffy. Beat in egg, vanilla and one-half of cake mix (dry) until smooth. Stir in remaining cake mix. Drop by teaspoonful about 2-inches apart onto ungreased baking sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes until lightly brown around the edges. Cool slightly before removing from pan.