



WORDS OF HOPE

A PERIODIC NEWSLETTER FOR CANCER PATIENTS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Gems of Hope Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing hope to cancer patients and their families.

Wine Tasting Benefit for Gems of Hope

with Cedar Ridge Winery, Swisher, IA
Ardon Creek Winery; Lets, IA
and Deja Vine Winery, Martelle, IA

Join us for light hors d'oeuvres and some fabulous
wines made right here in Iowa!

Friday, June 11

5:30-7:30 p.m.

at Basket Bowtique

758 North Center Point Rd.
Hiawatha, IA



Inspiring Cancer Patients and Their Families

www.gemsofhope.com



Wine-tasting to Support Gems of Hope June 11th

Thanks to Linda McConnell, owner of Basket Bowtique, Gems of Hope will be the recipient of funds generated through a wine-tasting benefit next month. This is the first such event for Gems!

Tickets for this event are \$15/couple or \$10/person, available at Basket Bowtique in Hiawatha (362-2577) or through Gems' office (393-9681). Proceeds of ticket sales and 10% of Basket Bowtique sales that evening go to Gems of Hope.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Beading—6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays—May 18 at Benchmark, June 8 at St. Luke's, June 15 at Benchmark, July 13 at Mercy & July 20 at Benchmark.

Card-making—6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays—May 18 at Benchmark, June 8 at Mercy, June 15 at Benchmark, July 13 at St. Luke's & July 20 at Benchmark.

Benchmark 6065 Huntington Ct. NE.

St. Luke's 1026 A Ave. NE, Rm 163. Mercy Medical Ctr. 701 10 St. SE, Hall Radiation Ctr.

Ways to Give

Join the Houby Days Bike Tour in Czech Village Sunday, May 16. Registration is at 8 a.m. Ride the Cedar Rapids trail, starting at 9 a.m. Registration fee includes t-shirt. Proceeds go to Gems of Hope.

Support the Sierra Manning Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction Benefit 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 21, at Shueyville United Methodist Church. Advance tickets are \$6 for adults & \$4 for kids; at the door, \$7 for adults, \$5 for kids.

Sierra, age 10, was diagnosed with a brain tumor when she was in kindergarten. She has been battling cancer for four years. Proceeds from this event will go toward Sierra's medical expenses. For more information or to make a donation, contact Jen Neira at 319-350-2280.

Relay for Life—June 4 & 5th

Join the Gems of Hope team at Kirkwood Community College on **June 4-5th**, starting at 7 p.m. Friday. The Relay begins with a caregivers/survivors' lap, followed by a luminaria ceremony. There will be food, live music and children's activities until midnight. Saturday, breakfast is at 7:30 a.m.; the relay survivors' lap starts at 9 a.m.

This year, Cedar Rapids is part of a Cancer Prevention Study 3 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. on Friday. Participants must be ages 30-65, never have been diagnosed with cancer and committed to completing a survey every other year for 20 years.

At right, some of Gems' Relay team: (back row from left) Deb Gulick, Beth Hammell, Kristin Glockhoff, Aaron Green, Rebecca Jacobs, Lynn Widen & Cathy Terukina. Front, from left: Cindy Sale, Kathie Cink & Linda Nelson.





Gems of Hope was the recipient of fundraising efforts at the Fairfax CARnival on Saturday, May 8. Kandi Floyd (at left), a race car driver and two-time cancer survivor, teamed with Jester Apparel and Guaranty Bank in Fairfax for the event. Kandi raised \$200 for Gems through t-shirt sales and by allowing people to sign her car for a donation. At right are Gems' founders Cindy Sale & Beth Hammell.

Gems of Hope Office Hours

Mon.—Tues 1–4 p.m.
Weds. 9 a.m.—12 p.m.
Thurs. 1–4 p.m.

Check out books from the Hope Library.
Schedule a presentation & workshop for your organization.
Call 393-9681.
Located at Mercy Medical Center

Thanks, Witwer Trust

Gems of Hope, Inc. is the recipient of one of the Linn County Board of Supervisors' Witwer Trust grants. Funds from this grant will be used to support the "What About Us?" kids' group, which helps children find strategies to cope when a loved one is diagnosed with cancer. Our sincere thanks to the supervisors for this opportunity to extend our services.

Next "What About Us" session this summer to be announced.

Call Gems at 393-9681 for further details.

Thanks, Lindale & Lisa

We also want to thank Lindale Mall and Lisa Rowe for applying for a \$500 grant this spring on our behalf. Gems was awarded the grant funds, which will help cover expenses for our workshop materials for the Gift of Hope cards we distribute.

Thanks, J-Hawks & Saints

On April 17th the Jefferson and Xavier girl's tennis teams took the court in pink shirts for their tennis match to raise breast cancer awareness. Coach Pam Towe of Jefferson, a breast cancer survivor, received a Gift of Hope serenity circle from Gems of Hope while undergoing treatment. Pam teamed up with her former assistant coach Erin Seely (now Xavier's head coach) to arrange this event. Together, the teams sold pink t-shirts and presented Gems with a check for over \$500 before their Saturday match.

Endow Iowa—Endow Gems of Hope

Please consider Gems of Hope in your charitable planning. We have established a fund with the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. Take advantage of this chance to help Gems through the Endow Iowa Tax Credit Program.

The Endow Iowa program gives each donor a 25% percent state income tax credit on a first come, first served basis, in conjunction with federal income tax benefits for charitable gifts to qualifying non-profits.

Become a Gems of Hope
volunteer!
Contact us at
www.gemsofhope.com

Interested in volunteering? We need you!

Gems offers volunteer opportunities, including : helping with light administrative work once a week; managing & maintaining our Web site; helping with display booths at health fairs and farmers' markets; and telling Gems story each month to civic groups.

Consider joining Gems of Hope!