

Fighting cancer 'becomes a school-wide project

By STEVE PRISAMENT
Staff Writer

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP
-- Thirteen teams raised more than \$5,000 for the American Cancer Society with a Walk for Life mini-relay at the Galloway Township Middle School Friday, May 2.

The event became a fund-raising project for the entire school with students collecting donations all spring and walking the track during a class period on Friday.

"It's a great opportunity for the students to make an impact in the community as well as become knowledgeable about cancer," said Donna Fulmer, a Middle School teacher and one of the walk coordinators. "The students feel good about themselves knowing they are doing something to help others."

Two eighth-graders made it their class civics project.

Lizzy Gifford, daughter of Katie and Bill Gifford; and Courtney Deissler, daughter of Deb and Bob Deissler, both 13 years old, worked with the Walk for Life staff Tim Waldman, Jamie Sarriocco, Angela McDonough and Fulmer.

"This is how we're taking action in the fight against cancer," Gifford said. "We pretty much arranged the whole thing with Mr. Waldman."

Deissler said they produced the action plan.

"We did the Walk for Life," she said. "We helped set it up and organize it."

The setup included a staff table in the gymnasium, markers on a trail around the school



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Lizzy Gifford, left, and Courtney Deissler hold up their civics project poster in front of where the word "hope" is highlighted on the gymnasium seats.

and roped off areas and signs in the parking lot.

"My Nana survived breast cancer," Gifford said. "I'm doing this in honor of her."

Their civics project poster features a picture of Nana.

"Today, during school, it went real well," Deissler said. "The whole school walked a mile."

Gifford said they walked by teams during the school day as well.

The after-school event started at 3:30 p.m. and ended at 9 p.m.

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Eighth-grade students Lizzy Gifford, right, and Courtney Deissler pose with Galloway Township Middle School teacher Tim Waldman. Sneakers pasted on the wall represent donations.