

# FAULK COUNTY RECORD

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## Looking for more cancer survivors

# Hope Lodge benefits from your Walk/Run donations

The Faulk County American Cancer Society's Walk/Run Event is rapidly approaching and will take place Sunday, Sept. 16 at the Faulkton Community Center, Melius Center and FHS gym.

This year's theme is "Survivor/Never Give Up" featuring Holly Hoffman of Eureka who was a participant in the 21st season of the TV show "Survivor" as the keynote speaker.

Elsewhere in this issue is a special invitation to all cancer survivors. There will be special seating for them at the 5:30 p.m. supper during the event. The goal is to honor all area survivors. Contact Carol Stark or Sheila Fischer to have your place at the table reserved.

Your donation to the American Cancer Society benefits victims of cancer and their families in many ways. This week we feature Rod Fortune of Rockham.

"We first noticed my wife Becky's health problems on Jan. 7 of 2010," Fortune said. "Not long after we found out she had cancer. She had melanoma in stage four, and she had four tumors in her brain, the largest in the center being about the size of a golf ball. They did operate and removed the biggest one. The others they attacked with radiation."

Fortune said that along with chemotherapy, she had a long term recovery from her surgery. They faced many drives back and forth to Rochester, Minn. The Fortunes were able to take advantage of an American Cancer Society sponsored program that gave them room and board near the Mayo Clinic.

"The Hope Lodge was a great help to us," Fortune said. "Think of it as a Ronald McDonald house for adults. To stay, you need to be referred by a physician and then you are put on a list. A spot opens and they call

you. If you meet the qualifications, such as living more than 45 miles away and are a patient that is in an active outcare more than three times a week, then they'll check you in. You have your own room that will meet all your basic needs, beds and linens provided, with a maid service if you should need it. Shared kitchen assignments are given to full kitchens with appliances for you to cook your own meals and common rooms where you can interact with other cancer patients and families. It's really a communal living space, and a community that forms around it all."

Fortin says that with high speed internet, game rooms, laundry rooms and a computer lab with fax machines and printers provided free of charge, that it really provides a home away from home. Also regular shuttles were available to ferry patients to their appointments at the Mayo Clinic only seven blocks away. He said that even though his wife eventually lost her fight with cancer, dying on March 11, 2011, the people he met turned into friends.

"The support groups for cancer patients and then just for family members who were care givers were very important," he said. "There was always something going on that you could be a part of if you wanted to be. I made friends there that I still keep in contact with, some of whom are still there fighting cancer or have come back for more treatment. It was especially interesting to meet and make friends with three Tuskegee Airmen who were there, strangely enough. I felt honored and privileged just meeting them, what a important piece of history that was. We made lots of friends and there was always something to do, or something to entertain us and even church services, and a pot luck every Wednesday night when each of us would bring a dish and we'd have these big dinners all together. It was a place where you could find quiet if you needed that, and company if you need that too. It was a very important thing for us."

Fortune said that he will be at the Faulk County Cancer Walk/Run Event to answer questions about the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge and encourages anyone with questions or who wishes to make private donations to contact manager Jammie McGuire at: [jammie.mcguire@cancer.org](mailto:jammie.mcguire@cancer.org) and to go to their website; <http://www.cancer.org/Treatment/SupportPrograms/Services/HopeLodge/RochesterMN/rochestermn-staying-with-us>.



# You may not recognize the field

It's high school football time. This season Trojan fans will not only be proud of their team, but they can be proud of the facility where they will be playing.

Potter County is coming to Faulkton Friday night, Aug. 31. Game time is 7 p.m. for the debut of the new field.

A volunteer crew worked through the weekend, working on a new crow's nest for occupation Friday night. The picture with the Wilbur Ellis donation (right) was taken early Saturday afternoon. The above photo of the crow's nest with new siding and glass enclosed announcing booths was taken Monday evening.

"We have had a tremendous amount of volunteer help at the field as of late," said committee member and Faulkton Principal Craig Cassens. "The crow's nest is coming along and will be ready for the Friday game. Homan Welding is doing a fabulous job on the bleachers and railing around the retaining wall. Dirt and fill will be completed at the base of the crow's nest by the time this issue hits the news stand. The parking area is leveled. The goal posts have been painted and replaced. The fence surrounding the field has been covered with the gold plastic protective tubing."

"I realize that a number of people have either driven through the complex and have discussed the progress. As a committee, we did discuss the possibility of building the concession stand into the base of the Crow's nest. It was decided to leave the concessions where they are currently located with the possibility of utilizing the area underneath the nest for a future concessions or possibly rest rooms. Any future renovations will depend greatly on donations from the public," Cassens said.

Among field improvements:

- The new lighting system that was installed in time for last season.
- The new spacious crow's nest.
- There will be a lot more parking in a newly graded area to the north of the field
- The field has been sloped and reseeded and an underground sprinkler system installed. The new grass has been watered beginning last spring.
- Fencing has been repaired and "Trojan gold" tubing has been installed on the top of all the fencing.

• In the crows nest area a cement wall was poured. It has been filled in and four of the new bleacher units will rest on top. That will make for a lot better viewing for fans. According to Faulkton School Principal Craig Cassens that four bleacher area will be the "home side" of the field and cheerleaders and the Faulkton team will be in front. On the other side there will be the remaining two bleacher units placed for the visiting team fans.

**New football field**  
(Continued on Page 2)



The Redfield branch of Wilbur-Ellis Company, a marketer and distributor of agricultural products and application services, has made a generous contribution to the non-profit Sportsman's Field Improvement Organization to assist and support the renovations of Faulkton's Sportsmen's Field and the surrounding structures. The donation will help fund necessary improvements, including renovations to the field and help the organization's efforts to host games into the future at Sportsman's Field. "Wilbur-Ellis Company is proud to continue our support of local community organizations and improvements in the area we serve," said Todd Boss. Above, Boss, left, presents a check to School Principal Craig Cassens and Todd Eschenbaum who serves as treasurer for the improvement group.

## RECORD NOTES

### Weather

	H	L	P
Tues., Aug. 21	85	53	
Wed., Aug. 22	84	56	.44
Thurs., Aug. 23	90	60	
Fri., Aug. 24	92	56	
Sat., Aug. 25	78	49	
Sun., Aug. 26	87	54	
Mon., Aug. 27	88	54	

Tom Bartholomew, Observer

The total amount of moisture in 2012 is 12.64. Total moisture to date in 2011 was 23.16.

For current weather conditions: [climate.sdstate.edu/awdn/current/realtime.asp](http://climate.sdstate.edu/awdn/current/realtime.asp)