Betty Fox keeps her son's dream alive

Continued from pg. 1

He died in June 1981 and as of February of that year his hope to raise \$1 from every Canadian was realized when the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope fund totalled \$24.17 million.

She said she reluctantly left a job she loved to become involved in the Terry Fox Run, and later the Terry Fox Foundation, when it was decided a family member needed to participate.

"I really believe the run would have been exploited. If we hadn't been there I totally believe the run wouldn't be here today because something would have happened."

She said Terry, who was the family comedian and a big tease, was diagnosed with ostegenic sarcoma (bone cancer) during his first year in university after experiencing pain in his right knee for some time. Despite his parents' urging, Terry wouldn't see a doctor until the pain was excruciating.

"I believe Terry could be here today if he went to a doctor months earlier," she said urging audience members to have mammograms, pap smears and PSA tests because it could save their lives.

When Terry was told he had a malignant tumor below the knee and they would have to amputate Fox said he cried and cursed.

"He said, 'I'll have to try harder than I ever have before because I'm not ready to leave this world."

The night before his leg was

amputated a former high school coach of Terry's sparked the notion in him he could run on his artificial leg after showing him a story about a man with an artificial leg who ran the New York marathon.

It was in a B.C. clinic he saw there wasn't enough being done for cancer patients. He also began reading up on cancer and discovered there wasn't much money going toward cancer research. That's when he decided if he could run, he'd run and raise money for cancer research.

After 16 months of chemotherapy, Betty said her son was weak and had to work hard to regain his strength. Two years after his leg was amputated he began training for 15 months, running every day for 101 days until he could run 23 miles a day.

Despite his parents' protests, he continued to train and in 1979 told them he planned to run across Canada to raise money for cancer research.

After earning sponsors for his run he dipped his artificial leg in St. John's harbor to begin his marathon but by September 1, 1980 the cancer had spread to his lungs. He knew he needed to go to a hospital but he didn't want to disappoint the people who had lined the street outside of Thunder Bay to cheer him on so he ran until there was no one left then asked his friend Doug Alward to drive him to the hospital.

Fox said to date \$225 million has been raised in Terry's name for cancer research.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer



Betty Fox (left) visited the site of the Georgetown Terry Fox Run at the Georgetown South Community Park and was shown the Tree of Hope planted last year in honor of Terry Fox. On hand were Georgetown run committee members (from left) Bonnie Covert, Annette Holman, Scott Becksted, Halton Hills Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson, Mac McLean, Paul Yates and run organizer Tom Wharton. Photo by Ted Brown

AAETCOIAIE BACK BBQ

OPEN HOUSE / REGISTRATION WEEK

SENIORS' CENTRE

September 13 - 17, 1999

318 Guelph St. - at rear of the Indoor Mall

905-877-6444

Competition

•Week Long Scrabble

Open House Draws

Put your name on a ballot each day you visit and you'll be eligible to win prizes drawn Friday, September 17th at 3:00 p.m.

•Week Long 50/50 Draw Tour Facilities & Participate

Afghan Raffle

DRAWN

at 3:00 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Tuesday, September 14th

12 noon

Hot Dog - \$1.50

Corn on the Cob - 50¢

Drink - 50¢

Pool Table Open until 4 pm 9:00 am Learn How To Carpet Bowl 9:00 am Introduction to Computers 10:00 am Join the Drama Group 10:00 am Cribbage 1:00 pm BINGO 1:30 pm

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 am Crafts - Everyone Welcome Pool Table Open until 4 pm 9:00 am Free Easy Does It Workout 9:15 am Travel Desk 10:00 am Introduction to Art Class 10:00 am WELCOME BACK BARBECUE 12:00 pm and Musical Entertainment by Corey's Band. Clogging Demo 1:00 pm Bid Euchre 1:00 pm "Total Wellness" - Helen Grant 2:00 pm Free Square Dancing 2:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Chess - Everyone Welcome. 9:00 am Pool Table Open until 4 pm 9:00 am Free T'ai Chi Class 9:30 am Learning Euchre - learn to play. 10:00 am

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 continued

Free Gentle Yoga Class 10:00 am Mingle & Chat - have a coffee, 10:00 am meet some new friends & enjoy some stimulating conversation Bridge & Euchre - join the fun! 1:00 pm Book Club meets 1:30 pm newcomers welcome.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Pool Table Open until 4 pm 9:00 am Diners Club Meeting 9:30 am Free Sizzlin' Seniors 10:00 am Free Line Dancing Class 11:00 am Shuffleboard - Learn to play 12:45 pm Travel Desk 1:00 pm Cribbage 1:00 pm Darts 1:00 pm

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Crafts - Everyone Welcome 9:00 am Pool Table Open until 4 pm 9:00 am Carpet Bowling 9:00 am Introduction to Memoirs 10:00 am Cribbage 1:00 pm Choir - new members welcome 2:00 pm DRAWS 3:00 pm

Run for Terry Sept. 19

Terry Fox Runs will be held in both Acton and Georgetown on Sunday, September 19.

The Acton run will be held at Acton High School. The official opening will be at 8 a.m. and participants can run, walk or ride their bikes anytime before 3 p.m.

Georgetown's run will be held at Georgetown South Community Park. It begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m.

Pledge forms are available at banks, variety stores, credit unions and other locations and those who want to participate but don't want to collect pledges can simply make a donation at the run.

Last year Acton's run raised \$24,000 and the Georgetown run raised \$8,967 for cancer research.



Sat. Sept. 11/99 to Fri. Sept. 17/99