TLHLife

The best cancer specialists.

It's how you fight cancer, right here at home.

TMH.ORG/Cancer

Debbie Peters wasn’t about to let breast cancer treatment take away running

When Debbie Peters crossed the finish line of her second marathon in 2016, her celebration was quiet. Something was nagging at the back of her mind; she had felt a lump a few weeks before. “I figured it was a cyst,” she recalls. “I had a history of them and my family had no history of breast cancer, and I figured I would deal with it after the marathon. So I made an appointment.” Three weeks, a mammogram, and a biopsy later, she learned that she was at the starting line of another marathon: treatment for stage three breast cancer.

“I did what I think anyone would do,” Peters says when remembering the phone call that confirmed her diagnosis. “I cried. I may have screamed. I gave the phone to my husband.” Her tears did not last long. After a meeting with her doctors and a tour of the TMH Cancer Center with a Nurse Navigator, Peters got down to the business of getting better. “I wanted to keep my life as normal as possible,” she says. “Not once did I think I was going to die. I just didn’t. And I wanted to make sure I could keep running.”

Debbie Peters, a breast cancer survivor and runner, poses with some of her most prized medals she received from finishing marathons Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019.

TORI SCHNEIDER/TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

MARATHON MENTALITY

Debbie Peters wasn’t about to let breast cancer treatment take away running

Heather Fuselier

Special to Tallahassee Democrat | USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Throughout the month, the Democrat will be spotlighting stories on survivors, treatment, research and prevention in conjunction with our sponsor Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare.

Sabal Palm school offers wrap-around services

They say it takes a village to raise a child, and in Tallahassee one of those villages has rallied around 32304. That’s the poorest ZIP code in Florida, and it is here in our community. The Florida Chamber of Commerce reports that the area that runs from central Tallahassee into northwest Leon County has more residents living in poverty than anywhere else in the state.

And now, it is also home to Tallahassee’s first community partnership school: Sabal Palm Elementary. The school is one of nine organizations being recognized for their life-changing work by the Beatitude Foundation and #GiveTLH, a community effort underwritten by philanthropist and businessman Rick Kearney.

“Sabal Palm is a Title 1 school serving 579 students,” reports Anna-Say Hutchison, Community Partnership School Director with the Children’s Home Society. “One hundred of our students are homeless.” The school provides wrap-around services designed to create the structure and foundation that many of us take for granted.

That includes food, health care, counseling, tutoring, internships and other support programs delivered by the school’s four community partners and an array of volunteers.

Four key community partners make the work of Sabal Palm possible: the Leon County School District, the Florida A&M College of Education, Florida State University PrimaryHealth, and the Children’s Home Society of Florida. Each has made a 25-year commitment to provide the elements necessary for the students to thrive.

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About #GiveTLH

#GiveTLH, underwritten by the Beatitude Foundation and Rick Kearney, is a look at nine nonprofits in our community and how you can help them in their life-changing work. At the conclusion of this series, Kearney will award grants to the nonprofit that gets the most votes in an online poll. For more profiles, visit give.tallahassee.com.

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#GIVE TLH
CALENDAR

Monday
The Book Of Genesis: 6-10:30 p.m. Tallahassee Chris-
tiian College and Training Center, 1771 Heritage
Road, Suite 102. 213-5453.

Tuesdays
8-10:30 p.m. Bruegman Tavern, 7206 N Monroe

Wednesday
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