

Residents donate to garage sale in Heights. Last year's sale raised more than \$10,000 for research

By Mason W. Canales Killeen Daily Herald HARKER HEIGHTS – April 25, 2007

Residents have donated bits and pieces of their past to help a community garage sale that benefits the future of the American Cancer Society. On May 5, Shine Team Realtors will host its annual community garage sale and donate the proceeds to the society. "This has been going on for several years," said Jean Shine, president of the Shine Team Realtors of Coldwell Bankers United. "The people in the community look for it every day. The people who donate love donating their items, because they love their stuff going to benefit cancer (research)." The organizers have already started collecting unwanted items. Donations for the garage sale include old furniture, decorating items, baby equipment, children's toys, games and books, Shine said.

"We have just about everything for a home," she added. Local businesses have donated storage space and other items. The Shine Team is still taking donations for the garage sale. They also are accepting volunteers to help move items, pass out fliers, and get the site ready. "We have a storage facility where we have our items," said Lori Edson, closing coordinator for the Shine Team. "If people want to donate items, they should just let us know so we could meet them there." In an effort to get more people involved, they also are selling booth sites to families and craftsmen. People who purchase those sites keep any money earned from sales, but the site's rental cost is donated to the American Cancer Society, Shine said.

"The more people that are involved, the more the awareness of cancer is out there," Shine said. The date chosen for the garage sale coincides with Killeen's Relay for Life, an all-night fundraiser walk that supports research for the American Cancer Society. The garage sale will be held the day after the walk. The organizers of the sale also make luminaria bags for the walk. The bags are made for a minimum of \$10, and often feature the image of someone who is battling cancer or who died of the disease, Shine said. Money for the luminaria bags must be in soon, because the bags must be completed before the Relay for Life.

Last year's garage sale raised more than \$10,000 for cancer research, Edson said. Shine is a five-time survivor of cancer and feels very passionate about the cause of the Relay for Life and the garage sale. "Cancer hits all ages," Shine said. "It's something that affects babies, teens, adults, men and women. The quest for a cure is strong. We will prevail, we will." The garage sale will be held in the Extraco bank building parking lot on the corner of Highway 190 and Farm-to-Market 2410 from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5. To sign up for the Relay for Life, go online at <http://www.kintera.org>. For donations and luminaria information, contact the Shine Team at (254) 690-4321. Contact Mason W. Canales at mcanales@kdhnews.com or at (254) 501-7554.