

Sisters girl beats cancer, gives back

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Holly Davis was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) in June 2009. After undergoing months and months of treatment at Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland, she was cancer-free when she finished treatment in August 2011. And as of August 18, 2016, she can call herself cured.

Holly, 9, the daughter of Chad and Darcy Davis of Sisters, wanted to do something to give back to others facing the same rough road she traveled down as a young child.

"I couldn't donate blood because (she's had cancer) so I wanted to see what else I could do, so I decided to donate my hair instead of donating my blood," she told *The Nugget*.

While visiting Camp Agape in August — a camp for families dealing with cancer — she had her waist-length locks shorn and donated her hair to Wigs For Kids, which provides wigs for children who have lost their hair during chemotherapy.

"I got really, really nervous," Holly admits. But once the deed was done, "it felt nice. Felt cold, too."

Giving back is important to the whole Davis family, who



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Holly Davis is officially cured of her blood cancer.

are deeply appreciative of the tremendous support they received in the Sisters community throughout Holly's treatment. From meals and house cleaning and play dates for siblings to financial help from the Sparrow Club and Sisters firefighters who participated in the 2010 Firefighter Stair Climb in Seattle in Holly's honor, to the support of teachers and staff at Sisters Elementary School and Sisters Christian Academy, the community rallied as it so often does to help one of our own in need.

September is Blood Cancer Awareness Month. Leukemia is the most common form of cancer in children, adolescents, and young adults under

20 years of age. Five-year survival rates for all types of leukemia over the past 10 years are approximately 67-93 percent. Survival rates have improved significantly, in part due to funding and research supported by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, which the Davis' have supported in fundraising marathons and other activities. To donate, visit www.lls.org.

Fully cured, Holly is athletic and active. She likes football, volleyball, basketball, softball and skiing and was very proud of her recently set record of 33 plunges while bridge-jumping on the coast.

Sisters artist earns spot in governor's residence

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

A view of Mt. Bachelor created by Sisters artist Kathy Deggendorfer will adorn the walls of Mahonia Hall, the official residence of the governor of Oregon.

The Oregon Historical Society last week presented Governor Kate Brown with the loan of a Kathy Deggendorfer painting from her traveling exhibit "Painting Oregon's Harvest."

The exhibit launched two years ago at the High Desert Museum.

Kerry Tymchuk, executive director of the Oregon Historical Society, explained that OHS bought one of Deggendorfer's paintings when the exhibit was on

display there earlier this year.

"It was a very popular exhibit," Tymchuk said. "She had some original paintings there and we purchased one to include in our collection."

That painting was then provided on loan to Governor Brown.

"I just knew she would enjoy having that painting in Mahonia Hall," Tymchuk said. "It's such a beautiful painting of one of Oregon's great areas and we knew it would be right up her alley. And it was — she loved it."

Each governor can decorate Mahonia Hall.

Tymchuk is a Deggendorfer fan.

"I happen to have three of her paintings in my house," he said. "Not on loan from OHS — that I bought."



PHOTO PROVIDED

Gov. Kate Brown loves her on-loan Kathy Deggendorfer painting.

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