



Alzheimer's 'Walk' set for Friday

By ROBERT PIERCE

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Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States.

Organizers are encouraging everyone to join the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's and united in a movement to reclaim the future for millions.

Each walker will join in a meaningful tribute ceremony to honor those affected by Alzheimer's disease.

Liberal will host a Southwest Kansas Alzheimer's Walk on Saturday, with registration to begin at 11 a.m. at Emeritus at Liberal Springs followed by lunch at noon.

The walk will begin at about 1 p.m. after the opening ceremony. Come show support and sign up to walk or donate by calling local walk chairman Misti Bohl at 624-8000.

Participants can also register online by going to alz.org/walk and listing their town and sign up as an individual. Those unable to walk the day of, but would like to support the cause, call outreach coordinator Jan Evans at 316-267-7333.

The Walk to End Alzheimer's is the nation's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research.

The event takes place in more than 600 communities nationwide and calls on participants of all ages and abilities to reclaim the future for millions.

"When you participate in Walk, your fundraising dollars fuel our mission-related initiatives of care, support and research," reads a description of the walk on the Web site. "In addition, your actions, both through fundraising and participating in the event, help to change the level of Alzheimer's awareness in your community."

The page added walk events help people learn more about the disease and the support programs and services offered by local chapters.

"You will also have unique opportunities to get involved with the cause through advocacy initiatives and clinical trial enrollment," the site said. "These experiences, in addition to other on-site opportunities, help each participant connect to their reason for walking."

The Alzheimer's Association is the largest non-profit voluntary health organization dedicated to accelerating the progress in prevention, cure and living with the disease.

The funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's benefit the care, support and research efforts of the association, which strives to:

- Help families across the country by continuing to provide and enhance programs focusing on education and support;
- Advance critical research studies into methods of treatment, prevention and ultimately, a cure; and
- Speak up for the needs and rights of those facing Alzheimer's through public policy initiatives.

"A donor-supported organization, the Alzheimer's Association allocates its fund in an ethical and responsible manner that exceed the rigorous standards of America's experienced charity evaluator, the Better Business Wise Giving Alliance," alz.org/walk said.