

# COMMUNITY Charlevoix people

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## Ride continues for lost friend

**BENJAMIN GOHS**  
EDITOR

For the love of a fallen friend, Sue Morris continues coordinating a fundraiser which helps fight cancer throughout the community.

Though in its seventh year as an annual event, the original organizer of the Charlevoix Emmet County Pink Ribbon Ride never lived to see the first one.

"She died six months before the first ride," Morris said of her friend Kathleen McDonald. "I said I'll do this one time for Kathy and be done, but I believe so much in the cause that right now it's seven years later and I'm still doing it."

The pink ribbon bike ride is part of a larger national effort to raise money for local breast cancer awareness programs and testing.

"A mammogram can cost anywhere from \$160 to \$200 ... and we were able to help 61 women get a mammogram last year," Morris said. "Twelve of these women needed further tests and four women needed follow-up biopsies and they had those paid—when you're

going through this you don't need to worry about how you're going to pay for it."

So far, more than 100 people have signed up for the event, and there is still time to join the various bicycle rides.

Call (231) 536-7066 or e-mail [penbryn@charter.net](mailto:penbryn@charter.net) or register the day of the event at 7 a.m., June 20 in Veterans Park in Boyne City.

The rides begin at 7:30 and continue starts through 9 a.m.

The cost to ride is \$30. Ride routes include a 42 and

55 mile route and 20 and seven-mile routes.

"There is a lot of national research and awareness, but not a whole lot to do with getting money back in the community," Morris said. "Our biggest goal is to provide mammograms and testing for women who can't afford it."

she added, "We will stick to that goal until they find a cure."

Morris hopes to meet and exceed last year's fundraising total of \$28,000.



**COURTESY PHOTO**  
Participants in last year's Pink Ribbon Ride fundraiser for cancer awareness and early detection helped raise nearly \$28,000.