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Cedarville's Play4Kay Game Honoring Breast Cancer Survivors

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- Cedarville University's Yellow Jacket women's basketball team will honor breast cancer survivors and fighters at the start of its game on Saturday, Feb. 16. The Jackets host Tiffin University at 1 p.m.

The game is a Play4Kay event that will raise money for the Kay Yow Cancer Fund (KYCF). In 2007, North Carolina State head basketball coach Kay Yow started KYCF after battling breast cancer. Yow passed away in 2009, but her organization continues to support research for curing women's cancers and extending the quality of life for those battling the disease.

While Play4Kay is a national event, the Lady Yellow Jackets have their own reasons for wanting to honor cancer survivors.

"Having a sister go through cancer has completely changed my mindset on what a horrible disease it is and the terrible things it does to your body," said Ellie Juengel, senior guard from Midland, Michigan, studying finance. "No one should ever have to go through that pain and torture. If we are able to influence even one person that day to go get checked and prevent this terrible disease from taking another life then that is a win."

Pre-game activities will start at 11 a.m. Canvas painting will be provided by Hang Loose Painting and lunch provided by Tropical Smoothie in Springfield. For individuals wanting to support the cause or to come to the game in honor of someone, the pre-game activities are \$20.

Local sponsors of the Play4Kay event include Ohio Valley Breast Center and Maple Tree Cancer Alliance. Both organizations will distribute information, conduct signups for mammograms and raise money through pregame activities and the game.

"I believe this game is helpful to shed light on those who are battling cancer so that people know they aren't alone," explained Dr. Karen Wonders, executive director of Maple Tree Cancer Alliance and a graduate of Cedarville's master of ministry program. "So much about cancer is hard, and many times people feel like no one understands what they are going through. When we come together as a community to shed light on this, it helps people remember that there are people who care and want to help."

Each survivor/fighter will be announced as they run through the team's huddle before the start of the game. They will each receive a gift, four tickets to the game, access to pregame activities and a Cedarville women's basketball T-shirt.

You can register as a breast cancer survivor or register to attend the pregame activities at cedarilletickets.com.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 4,193 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 150 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.