

Geocaching event helps raise funds for Kidney Foundation of Canada

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Melfort Journal

Family and friends gathered to help support the Caching for Kidneys fundraising event on Sunday, Oct. 11 at Spruce Haven Park.

Melfort resident Mary Dancey organized the event to help raise funds for the Kidney Foundation of Canada Saskatchewan Branch.

"I'm overwhelmed that everybody came in this weather and they seem to be enjoying themselves and I'm looking forward to a really good day," said Dancey during the event kick off.

Dancey suffers from a kidney disease called P-Anca Vasculitis.

Dancey greatly appreciated all the support she received from her friends and relatives.

"It's even hard to talk about it. They've been like this from the get go and it looks like they're not giving up yet," Dancey said.

"I'm grateful for my family every day."

The event raised a total of \$6,041.28.

Dancey's daughter Nicole helped

with the event.

"I can't even express it in words because it is just so amazing. Mom works so hard to just stay positive and overcome so many things. It just feels amazing to have such good family and friends and relatives," said Nicole.

"It's just so good especially on a day like Thanksgiving, it seems like the perfect day to have an event like this."

For Arlene Andrews and Beth Baerwald, who are sisters, taking part in the fundraiser was personal.

Baerwald initially found out she had kidney disease when she was a teenager and Andrews donated her kidney to Baerwald.

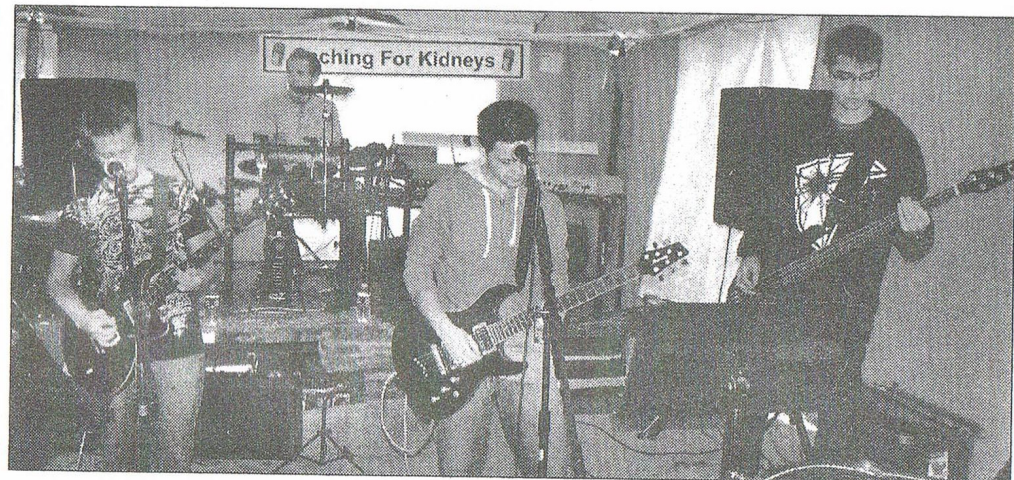
"Besides being my sister, she's my best friend. It was her 40th birthday present. She didn't know that I was offering," said Andrews.

"She hadn't been tested or anything at that point. It was just the offering. Actually, that was the best part of the whole gift was that she offered," said Baerwald.



One of the teams that took part in the geocaching event check their find during the event.

photo by Shelley Tomlinson



Members of Midday Rival performed during the Caching for Kidneys event.