



THE DAILY TIMES

FARMINGTON NEW MEXICO

NEWS

Front Page
Local News
Town Talk
Business
Financials
Opinion
Columns
Obituaries
Photo Gallery

SPORTS

Local Sports
Prep Sports Plus
Sports Plus
Broncos NFL

FEATURES

Health
Travel
Food
Religion
LifeStyles
Outdoors
Education

MAGAZINES

Explore
Four Corners Business
Journal
Real Estate Magazine
Attitude
Farmington Magazine
Energy Extra
2005 How To Guide

BROWSE CLASSIFIEDS

Autos
Business Center
Employment
Entertainment
Events & Notices
Garage, Tag, Estate & Yard Sales
Industrial Products & Supplies
Memberships & Timeshares
Merchandise
Mobile & Modular Homes
Office Equipment & Supplies
Personal Ads
Pets & Animals
Real Estate Rental & Sale
Recreation Vehicles
Schools & Instruction
Services & Professionals

MEDIA PARTNERS

CI_4385084

Monday, September 25, 2006

Print Article Email Article

Popular singer, cancer survivor appears in Farmington

Staff Writer

— By Cory Frolik —

The Daily Times

FARMINGTON — Kevin Sharp has a tattoo of a wishbone on his upper chest. He said the image commemorates what the Make-A-Wish foundation has done for him.

Sharp, whose song "Nobody Knows" topped Billboard's Country Singles Chart for four weeks in 1997, visited Farmington on Friday to kick off the 25th annual Cancer Walk-a-Thon.

He said it has been a long journey from the hospital bed where he had cancer to the stage where he sings to inspires others to beat what he called a "horrible disease."

When Sharp was 18, he was diagnosed with bone cancer. The year was 1989 and Sharp, a young athlete in Sacramento, Calif., constantly felt nauseous and experienced reoccurring pain in his legs and back.

Doctors discovered he had an unusual form of bone cancer that had spread to his lungs. The outlook for Sharp was not good. Doctors were not sure he would survive for another six months. The Make-A-Wish Foundation contacted Sharp and said it would grant his wish.

His was a simple wish: to meet David Foster, the famous record producer known for his work with such artists as Chicago, Celine Dion and Whitney Houston.

Sharp said he was always a music fan and paid close attention to not only who played the music, but who produced it.

He was in his hospital bed, facing a grim medical diagnosis, when Make-A-Wish arranged a meeting with Foster.



Country music recording artist and cancer survivor Kevin Sharp performed a concert Friday night at the Farmington Civic Center. Sharp's concert helps kick off the San Juan Medical Foundation's 25th Annual Cancer Walk-A-Thon beginning at 8 a.m. today at the civic center. (Lucas Ian Coshenet/The Daily Times)

Alamogordo Daily News
 Carlsbad Current-Argus
 Deming Headlight
 El Paso Times
 Las Cruces Sun-News
 Ruidoso News
 Silver City Sun-News
 Missile Ranger

SEARCH

News search

Search

Sharp traveled to Foster's studio in Malibu, Calif., where he met James Pankow, the trombonist for Chicago. Sharp said he became friends with Foster and when his cancer "miraculously" went into remission, he sent Foster a demo tape, and used the tape to get Sharp record deal.

Since recovering from cancer, Sharp has released three albums. The most recent, "Make a Wish," appeared in record stores nationwide last year. He was voted "Rising Male Video Star of the Year," by County Music Television and listed among Billboard Magazine's Top Ten Lists/ Top Ten "Country Artist" and "Country Album." And, more recently, he was honored by the Make-A-Wish Foundation as the "Celebrity Wish Granter of the Year."

Sharp has not just benefited from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. He has gone to great lengths to contribute and help others through their struggles.

Once he was a wish child, now he has become became the wish request of other children.

"There's nothing more amazing than the fact I know exactly what it's like to be in a hospital bed and very ill and have the opportunity to make a wish, to later in life have kids in hospital beds make

Advertisement



a wish to meet me," he said.

Sharp sang to a crowded auditorium at the Farmington Civic Center on Friday evening. He said his performance relies on creating an intimacy between performer and audience.

"I always hated, as a kid, when I went to a concert and I left feeling like I didn't know the artist any better than when I came. Because all they did was say hello' and goodnight' with some music in between," Sharp said. "I actually prefer the artist and the audience getting to know each other. People say that our show is like listening to friends play."

He said he and the audience share a common thread. They both know the importance of support when it comes to triumphing over the disease that is cancer.

"When I was sick, just knowing that there were others that were living and had been through it was a great sign of hope for me. There is a special bond and intimacy between cancer patients and survivors," he said.

Sharp's performance was part of the annual Cancer Walk-a-Thon, which begins at 7:30 a.m. today at the civic center front lawn. The event raises money to support the Connelly Hospitality House, a place where cancer patients and their families stay while they are receiving treatment at the San Juan Regional Cancer Center.

Cory Frolik: cfrolik@daily-times.com

[↑ RETURN TO TOP](#)

VISIT THE DAILY TIMES
 PHOTO GALLERY
 CLICK HERE

Four Corners
**Business
 Journal**
 Website: www.businessjournal.com

Rocky Mesa
 Realty
 (505) 327-4423
 (505) 716-5190
 San Juan County Homes for Sale
 CLICK HERE

Fleming
 Realty, Inc.
 (505) 599-0000

CHECK WITH
DIMMICK
 REALTY
 CLICK FOR MORE LISTINGS

MARY JO
Walters
 REAL ESTATE, INC.
 327-6303
www.maryjowalters.com

[Prostate Cancer](#)

Clinical study enrolling men In
Cincinnati area.
www.ASCENT-2.com

[Funds For Cancer Patients](#)

There are Financial Options to
Help Pay for Cancer Care & Other
Bills.
www.welcomefunds.com

[Hear Melissa Etheridge's](#)

Song that Supports Breast Cancer
Survivors!
www.fordcares.com

[Treatments for Dog](#)

The latest treatment opt
dog cancer explained sin
alohamedicinals.com

Ads by Google

Advertise

[Privacy Policy](#) | [MNG Corporate Site Map](#)