



## News Release

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### **Butterfly Release to Celebrate Life Beyond Cancer at Arkansas Oncology**

**Today we celebrate a very special day ... National Cancer Survivors Day®.**

**Little Rock, Arkansas June 6, 2011** –A Butterfly Release will be held to honor our Cancer Survivors at Arkansas Oncology Associates in Little Rock. “We chose the butterfly as a symbol of new beginnings, transformation and hope to encourage Cancer Survivors, Caregivers, Family Members and Friends”, states AOA nurse Carolyn Ciak. The outdoor celebration will feature music, food, fun, freebies and education.

A ‘survivor’ is anyone living with a history of cancer – from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life, as defined by the National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation. Cancer survivors may face many challenges such as hindered access to cancer specialists and promising new treatments, inadequate or no insurance, financial hardships, employment problems, and psychological struggles. “Despite these difficulties, cancer survivors can live active, productive lives,” states AOA Practice President, Dr. Thomas Sneed.

The local American Cancer Society will be on hand to provide information regarding the disease and also services that are available through the American Cancer Society. It is an “organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service” according to their mission statement.

A representative from UAMS will also join us to collect saliva samples to aid research of breast cancer risks. Their program, Spit for the Cure, is a breast cancer research study, is a pain-free process that is continuing to expand and develop into a comprehensive representation of the women of Arkansas.

“Surviving cancer is an attitude about life and living each day to the fullest,” says Charlene Hardester, NCSA coordinator for Arkansas Oncology.

#### **About Arkansas Oncology Associates**

Arkansas Oncology Associates has served the cancer care community since 1977. With 5 locations in Arkansas, we are committed to helping patients in The Natural State and their families win the battle against cancer. Our physicians are supported by talented clinical staff who are sensitive to the needs of cancer patients and their caregivers.

For more information, please visit [www.ArkansasCancerCenters.com](http://www.ArkansasCancerCenters.com).

#### **About US Oncology**

Arkansas Oncology Associates is United in Healing with US Oncology and the Life Beyond Cancer Foundation, supporting the nation’s foremost cancer treatment and research network to accelerate the availability and use of evidence-based medicine and shared best practices. We believe every patient should have access to high quality, advanced cancer care, close to home. Through more than 500 affiliated sites of care, including 100 radiation facilities, and the more than 1,300 physicians we unite into the nation’s largest network of community oncologists and cancer researchers, we deploy innovative technology and foster collaboration to advance cancer care in America. Physicians affiliated with US Oncology care for more than 850,000 patients in communities throughout the nation.