

Cross-country cyclists to stop in East Polk

Tim Newby, originally from the area, and wife Ann are pedaling across the United States to raise money for ACS

By **VICTORIA CARRINGTON**
Herald-Index staff writer

Southeast Polk graduate Tim Newby and his wife Ann will stop home for a visit on their way across the United States on a tandem bicycle.

The couple, who now live in Florida, started their journey in Seattle with their back wheel in the Pacific on July 26 and have ridden their bicycle built for two nearly half way across the country.

They plan to stop for a much-needed rest at the home of Tim's parents, Helen and Bill Newby, this weekend.

Bill and Helen have planned a potluck at Grace Community Church in Rising Sun on Sunday, Sept. 9 at 1:30 p.m. Old friends are encouraged to stop to welcome Tim and Ann before they continue their 4,700-mile journey to dip the front tire of the bicycle in the Atlantic Ocean in St. Augustine, Fla. Guests are welcome to bring a covered dish to help feed the hungry travelers.

Why take on such a long journey by tandem bicycle? Tim and Ann are avid bicyclists and to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Visit their Web site at www.newbystandemamerica.com to see a diary of their travels or to make a donation for a good cause.



VICTORIA CARRINGTON/HERALD-INDEX

Tim Newby (left) and his wife, Ann (right) pose with Tim's parents, Bill and Helen Newby, during a reception on Sunday. Tim and Ann passed through the east Polk area on a cross-country bike ride, on which the couple is raising money for the American Cancer Society.

Newbys stop in Pleasant Hill on tandem bike ride across America

By **VICTORIA CARRINGTON**
Herald-Index staff writer

Weeks after dipping the back tire of their tandem bicycle in the Pacific Ocean and riding 2,150 miles, Tim and Ann Newby cruised into Pleasant Hill last Thursday on a tour

across America.

They were greeted by their family and friends at a reception and potluck hosted by Tim's parents, Bill and Helen Newby, at Grace Community Church Sunday afternoon. Tim is a graduate of Southeast Polk and Ann, who celebrated her birthday on Sunday, is from Pleasantville.

They are driven by a love of bicycling and pastries, but Tim said they have a greater goal in mind.

"We have friends and family facing cancer and we wanted to help find a cure by raising funds for the American Cancer Society. The real heroes are the ones fighting and beating cancer," he said.

Riding a tandem bicycle cross-country is no easy feat. The couple has endured 100-degree heat and a climb and descent through the Cascade Mountains since they departed from Washington on July 28. They average 50 to 60 miles per day but have reached the

103-mile mark on at least one occasion. The second half of the trip doesn't daunt Tim and Ann.

"It's all downhill from here," Tim said.

There have been memorable moments on their journey.

At one café a farmer told the couple to take care because they would see hail in the next half hour. Sure enough, as predicted by the "weather prophet" they were met with a hailstorm right on schedule.

One night they found a beautifully manicured campground that appeared idyllic. That is until the sprinkler system went off in the middle of the night and soaked them in their tent.

To see a journal of their journey as they travel on to St. Augustine, Fla., or to donate funds to the American Cancer Society, visit their Web site at www.newbystandemamerica.com.

"We've had a lot of fun and we've gotten to meet some wonderful people," Tim said.