The American Cancer Society will host a celebration for volunteers and donors on Thursday, Jan. 10. The reception is in conjunction with the 100th birthday of the American Cancer Society and serves as the kickoff for Society events in 2013. The event will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Island Grove Regional Park's Exhibition Hall in Greeley.

Two of Colorado's foremost American Cancer Society's funded researchers will be at the event to share their insider perspective on research breakthroughs. Dr. Carlton Barnett, the son of Pat and the late Carlton Barnett, was born and raised in Greeley and graduated from Windsor High School. He is currently the director of surgical oncology for Denver Health as well as a professor of surgery for the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Anschutz Campus. His research has centered on blood transfusions and cancer metastasis.

Dr. Tim Byers is a professor in cancer prevention research and in 2014 will serve as president of the society's national board, which is the highest volunteer position possible within the ACS organization. He will speak about the progress that has been made in cancer research and future prospects.

Both researchers have been awarded major grants through the society. The most recent grant awarded to a northeastern Colorado researcher was presented in 2012 to David Hydock, Ph.D. of the University of Northern Colorado, in the amount of $421,000 for his work on physical exercise and how this can decrease the adverse effects of chemotherapy.

For more information or to RSVP for the Jan. 10 event, contact the ACS office at 970-350-5014, email michelle.trabing@cancer.org or visit www.facebook.com/#!/events/162509720559731/ .

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