



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

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**BRADFORD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SALUTES OUTSTANDING
WOMEN'S HEALTH ADVOCATE**

STARKE – Sylvia Tatum is a breast cancer survivor, promoter for breast cancer research, health care advocate, children's supporter and fund raiser. During Women's Health Week, May 10-16, the Bradford County Health Department (CHD) is proud to honor the achievements of Mrs. Sylvia Tatum, a woman who is always available to help her community.

Mrs. Tatum is well known in both Bradford and Union Counties for her advocacy and action on behalf of women and children. Her list of activities extends over many years, and her service is appreciated by community members. "Whenever Sylvia is asked to help, she always does it graciously and from the depths of her heart," said Dimple Overstreet.

Each year, she sponsors a special event focusing on breast cancer and raises funds for breast cancer research. Sylvia not only sponsors the "Survivors Reception" at the Relay for Life event in Bradford County, but she also financially supports and participates in the Relay. This annual event provides the Starke community an opportunity to recognize the importance of financially supporting breast cancer research while educating individuals about early detection.

Sylvia continues her advocacy for early detection and a breast cancer cure across the Bradford County line. Raised in Union County, Sylvia is also active in Union County's "Holding for Hope" project, an annual event that raises funds for breast cancer research. According to Pam Woodington, "Sylvia is generous with both her time and her purse and is a one-of-a-kind individual."

Children hold a special place in her heart as well. Sylvia taught school for many years and still is involved with youth through her Kiwanis club membership. She meets monthly at Lawtey School with the Terrific Kids program, reads to youth at the elementary school and is generous in the use of the Starke Golf and Country Club clubhouse for fund raising activities. "We could not accomplish all we do in our community without the support of Sylvia and the other owners of the country club who allow the use of the facility for events," said Jeff Johnson, President-Elect of Kiwanis Club of Starke.

As a member of the Bradford County Education Foundation and the Santa Fe College Foundation, Sylvia works hard to ensure that the youth of Bradford County have an opportunity to receive the best education possible and opportunities to attend college. She is also a member of the service organization Altrusa, which is influential in community causes, including scholarships for youth. "She has endless energy for the causes that matter to her," said sister-in-law Linda Tatum.

"I am honored to know Sylvia Tatum, respect her involvement and truly appreciate her behind-the-scenes activities to make a difference in the health of Bradford County's residents," said Winifred Holland, Bradford CHD Administrator. "Sylvia always has a smile and a positive



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attitude that has transformed a difficult health diagnosis like breast cancer into an ongoing cause to help others.”

For more information about National Women’s Health Week or National Women’s Check-Up Day, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women’s Health website at www.womenshealth.gov.

DOH promotes, protects and improves the health of all people in Florida. For more information about the Bradford County Health Department, visit www.doh.state.fl.us/chdbradford/index.htm.

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