

TRINETT Foote laughs on the phone with a friend as an IV drips Kool-Aid-red chemotherapy into her arm, a process that has a 30 percent chance of stopping the orange-sized tumor in her pelvis from growing even larger.

Foote, a 45-year-old artist and nurse from Fort Wright, Ky., has come to New York to carry on the fight for her life against ovarian cancer at Sloan-Ketter-

ON THE RUN

**BEN
WEBER**



ing in midtown — and to run in the 30th New York City Marathon on Sunday, Nov. 7.

Foote doesn't really know how long she has to live, but says that as long as she's alive, she's determined to challenge herself.

"If you're faced with death it's a spiritual emergency," Foote says. "You make changes thinking you're going to die, and when you live it's like a windfall profit."

For two years, doctors have told Foote she has terminal ovarian cancer. But that hasn't stopped her from constantly searching for a cure, from training every day, and from painting folk art that promotes cultural diversity.

Her work is on exhibit at the Louisville Airport, and while living in New York for the next couple of months she is looking

Trinett Foote works out in Central Park this past week in preparation for upcoming NYC Marathon.

**Cancer can't
stop brave
marathoner**

**RUNNING
FOR HER LIFE**

"You have to go out there and fight for your life because no one else is," Foote says.

In April 1997, while she was

was trying to smuggle drugs in her stomach.

In late 1997, after doctors in Cleveland and Cincinnati told

and through the Achilles Track Club, which helps disabled people run year-round, she ran the NYC Marathon in 1998 despite

and that is why she is still going through chemo and looking for a doctor who thinks that having another surgery wouldn't kill her.

Most of the flying she does is through an organization called Corporate Angels, based in Westchester, which lets cancer patients hitch rides on private corporate planes.

What makes Foote rare is her indestructible determination.

She has been told more than once to give up her fight.

"Well, I just don't want to hear that," Foote says. "I don't see myself as dying."

She doesn't sleep that well anymore, she says, because she does worry about how much time she has left.

In September, her doctor told her she would let Foote know when it was time for Foote "to put things in order."

The chemo causes Foote's hands and feet to swell, her hair to fall out and leaves her feeling foggy for about two weeks. The worst side effects from her last treatment, she says, will occur on marathon day.

She's currently looking at four different procedures: 3-D pinpoint radiation in Staten Island, two clinical trials at UPenn, and another surgery at Yale.

At Penn doctors are experimenting with a drug drawn from a tree in South Africa that can cut off the blood supply to a tumor and kill it, and with a photodynamic surgery that uses a special light to kill cancer cells

