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Tracy's ground zero



Danielle MacMurphy Thursday, 24 April 2008

The American Cancer Society has chosen Tracy to conduct a 30-year study on adults with no history of cancer.

Tracy's diverse population and its success with the past eight years of Relay For Life has earned it a spot in a 30-year cancer prevention study put on by the American Cancer Society.

The study, dubbed CPS-3, is the third of its kind over the past 50 years. American Cancer Society's epidemiology and surveillance research department is in search of men and women between the ages of 30 and 65 who personally have no history of cancer to join the research study.

Organizers of CPS-3 will set up a booth at Relay For Life May 3 where prospective study volunteers can take a blood sample and fill out a short survey. Within a few months, study participants will receive another survey with in-depth questions about the participant's sun and smoke exposure, family history and lifestyle.

Tracy is one of 110 cities nationwide to participate in the study. The CPS-3 group hopes to get about half-million volunteers nationwide, according to its Web site.

A family member has died of cancer in Relay For Life co-chair Renee Riddle's family nearly every year for the past two decades, including her mother and brother. Forty-four-year-old Riddle, who battled cervical cancer 20 years ago, can't participate in the study, but she's recruited several of her friends and family to enroll.

"It's hit our family hard," she said. "This is a great opportunity to help with research and hopefully find that cure."

Sixty-year-old Kathleen Lonskey lost her mother to breast cancer six years ago and her father survived both colon and prostate cancer. When she heard about the cancer prevention study while in Washington D.C. two years ago, she didn't hesitate to enroll.



Sue Mudd is chairwoman of the Tracy cancer study. Press file photo.

**MISSING
SINCE
Monday
April 21, 2008**



**Monica
Hernandez
Age 17**

**Last seen at:
471
Wagtail Ave.
Tracy, CA
For any
information
on her where
abouts PLEASE
Call
Alfredo
Hernandez:
209-640-0701
or
Police Dept.
209-831-4550**

"The more data they can get on lifestyle behavior will help find a cure," Lonskey said.

Sue Mudd, chair of Tracy's CPS-3, said the fact that the study chose to come to Tracy is historic.

"Tracy is a very passionate community about relay and curing cancer," said Mudd, who also signed up to be a part of the study two years ago. "I really believe this is going to find it. I can't wait to say I was in that study that found cancer."

•We want to hear what you have to say. To reach Tracy Press reporter Danielle MacMurphy, call 830-4221 or e-mail danielle@tracypress.com.

At a glance

WHAT: Cancer prevention study registration at Relay For Life

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 3

WHERE: Peter B. Kyne field, Tracy High School, 315 E. 11th St.

INFO: 1-888-604-5888 or www.cancer.org/cps3

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