

7/5/13

*This is Gary Gundlach for the American Cancer Society's, Relay for Life.*

*I would like to invite everyone to visit College of the Redwoods*

*on July 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> for our annual event . It is truly a*

*memorable event, and has something to offer all who attend.*

*Starting at 11 AM Saturday, there will be 24 hours of music,*

*events, and games. You can even stop by a booth to throw a*

*pie, and just try to hit ....my....face. Other activities include*

*horseshoes, a hot-dog eating contest, line-dancing and rooster crowing contest.*

*So, .....why do we Relay? According to the most recent statistics*

*from the California Department of Public Health, there are 620*

*new cases of cancer expected in Humboldt County alone, this year.*

*We are committed to the long-term task of raising funds*

*for research towards a cure, and for support services. Progress*

*has been made, and survival rates are much higher than in years*

*past. But we still have a lot of work to do, as cancer takes on many forms.*

*We also, celebrate our survivors, as they have endured the battle against this disease.*

*They,... along with caregivers and support staff are our heroes,*

*The courage and perseverance they exhibit is truly inspiring.*

***We remember the loved ones lost in the battle . Personally, I have lost nine family members, including my mother, aunts, and cousins. At Relay, an evening is dedicated to Luminaria, where candle lit bags, with the names of those loved ones, glow in tribute. For a donation, you can have a bag included in the ceremony.***

***We also strive to Fight Back against cancer through educational programs and legislative advocacy. According to the American Cancer Society, in Humboldt County, there are 275 expected deaths from cancer in 2013. Seventy of those would be from lung cancer. Through increased knowledge, better life styles and preventative practices and early detection, survival rates have improved.***

***Many people do not realize how many local services are supported by this campaign.***

***Programs like "Look Good, Feel Better", transportation, lodging, 24-hr phone support, and counseling, are all used by***

***Humboldt County residents. Local doctors and nurses also benefit from the ongoing research made possible in-part, by the funds raised by the Relay campaign.***

***So, come on out to the event on July 13th at College of the***

***Redwoods football stadium, even if you haven't been affected by cancer. You will be glad you did.***

***For more information, email to .....relayeureka@gmail.com***

***This has been Gary Gundlach, with Relay for Life***