CANCER......MANY OF US HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THIS DISEASE, INDIRECTLY OR PERSONALLY.

OUR COMMUNITY RECENTLY LOST TWO VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE, WITH THE PASSING OF CRYSTAL DAIGNAULT, AND DEB AUSTRUS. THEY BATTLED FOR A LONG TIME, BUT WERE FINALLY OVERCOME.

ALL OF US HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORT TOWARDS A CURE AND SUPPORT SERVICE FOR CANCER PATIENTS.

For the twenty third year, we will gather at College of the Redwoods on July 12th and 13th, for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Relay is the largest campaign of its type in the country.

Volunteers are forming teams and are collecting donations and holding fundraising events. This is not only a good cause, but a lot of fun and very rewarding. I strongly encourage all of you to consider joining, or starting your own team with friends or family.

If you have a business, there are simple ways to support the campaign logistically, as well as financially. Business supporters enjoy a very special partnership, that brings years of benefits.

So, why do we Relay? We are committed to the long-term task of raising funds for research towards a cure for cancer.

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.

If you are a cancer survivor, we especially invite you to join us, as we celebrate your success and courage.

Survivors.... 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 also. 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 promotion

According to the American Cancer Society, in Humboldt

County, there are sexpected deaths from cancer in 2013. Seventy of those would be from lung cancer. Through increased knowledge, better life styles and preventive 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, counseling,....etc, 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, I hope you will support a Relay team, and join us at the main event on July 12th at College of the Redwoods.

For more information, call 707-951-0852 OR email to relayeureka@gmail.com

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