

Students gear up for Relay for Life

BY DANIEL SCHWAB

The prevalence of cancer has a dedicated group of Essex District High School students rallying together to organize this year's Relay For Life event.

Scheduled for June 1, the 12-hour event will be taking place from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. at the high school track.

Over the next few weeks, the Relay for Life Committee, made up of 14 students and a staff advisor, will be busy promoting the event that forwards all proceeds to the Canadian Cancer Society to be used for research, peer support and local services.

The group will be posting flyers throughout the school and in local businesses, encouraging students to sign up and collect pledges.

"Pretty much everybody today has been affected by cancer," said committee registration co-ordinator Amanda Oshar, who will be participating in her second Relay for Life event.

In fact, most of the committee members have already walked the track as juniors during the 2004 event held at the high



Essex District High School Relay For Life Committee members will be promoting the June 1 event over the coming weeks in an effort to bring together about 400 participants. From left, committee members Amanda Oshar, Brit Garon, Spencer Woltz and staff advisor Jennifer Alexander.

school. Now, as seniors, the students are taking the lead in an effort to bring together about 400 participants.

Committee chair Spencer Woltz, a Grade 12 student, said the group will also be asking Essex police and firefighters to join in.

Woltz, who lost a grandmother to cancer, is also

asking for those who have survived the disease to participate in the Survivor Lap, which will kick off the event.

The evening will feature live music, food and refreshments and volunteers selling commemorative candles to be lit at 10 p.m. to honour those who have lost their

fight with cancer.

The school will be holding a rally on April 25 to inform students about the event and to encourage them to sign up, said committee staff advisor Jennifer Alexander.

This year, there are four other Relay For Life events happening throughout

Windsor and Essex County. There will be two community events, one at the Canadian Transportation Museum and Historic Village on the Arner Townline and another at the Windsor Campground on the 9th Concession in Windsor.

Assumption and Massey High Schools in Windsor will also be hosting events.

Laura Lefebvre, fundraising co-ordinator for the Canadian Cancer Society's Essex County Unit, said the organization is hoping to raise \$330,000 through the two community relays.

"The event is a huge help for us," Lefebvre said. "The Relay For Life is a signature event of the Canadian Cancer Society and this is a large portion of where our funding comes from."

According to the Canadian Cancer Society website, an average of 2,944 Canadians are diagnosed with cancer every week.

To participate in the local Relay For Life, either as a community team member or in the Survivor Lap, contact Woltz at 519-819-6214 or email the committee at relayforlife_essexhigh@yahoo.com.

Call for presentations to LHIN

The call for public delegations is out. The Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network is looking to hear from residents at its upcoming public board meeting in Sarnia on May 22.

"The LHIN is all about working with the public and our providers to ensure the right service is at the right place at the right time" said David Wright, acting chair of the Erie St. Clair board of directors. "In order for us to effectively address the community's needs we need to hear and understand their needs."

Although the board currently holds monthly open meetings, the public sessions will give community delegations an opportunity to address the board with a

presentation. TV Cogeco will be on hand to televise the proceedings offering a system wide glimpse into Erie St. Clair's local health-care system.

The public session will take place following the regular board meeting at 6:30 p.m. in room A223 of Lambton College. Delegates who would like to present to the board are asked to complete and submit a Delegation Application Form outlining their proposed presentation to Ruth Augi, Corporate Coordinator, Erie St. Clair LHIN at: ruth.augi@lhins.on.ca, or to 180 Riverview Drive, Chatham, Ontario, N7M 5Z8.

Application forms and guidelines can be obtained by contacting Ruth Augi at

519-351-5677 or 1-866-231-5446, ext. 202.

Deadline for proposals is Friday, April 20.

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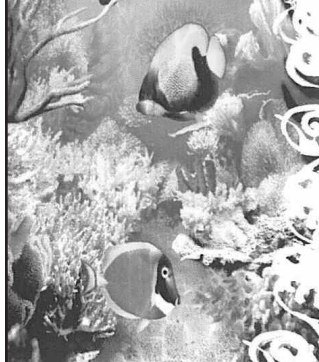
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