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## Tour de Perris Set to Thrill Again on October 4

The City of Perris is teaming up with the Susan G. Komen Inland Empire to raise money for breast cancer awareness and treatment during the upcoming Tour de Perris bicycle ride.

The fourth annual Tour de Perris takes place Oct. 4 and once again will feature four bicycle rides – 8, 30, 62 and 100-milers--through the Perris Valley and southwest Riverside County. The 2014 Tour also includes a Tour de Tots bicycle-safety class for children that takes place at the City Hall Campus. This year's tour includes an added bonus: a 5-kilometer power walk through the City's historic Downtown District hosted by Perris City Clerk Nancy Salazar. All tour events are part of the City's ongoing Live Well Perris health initiative.

The City committee organizing the 2014 Tour de Perris decided to partner with the Komen Inland Empire chapter because breast cancer has affected the lives of many women and their families, said Sara Cortes-dePavon, who is coordinating the upcoming event. It's not the first time the City has teamed with a non-profit agency to support a worthwhile cause. In 2013, the Tour de Perris partnered with the United Service Organization (USO) which provides support services for U.S. veterans.



Riders take off from Perris City Hall at the start of the 2013 Tour De Perris. This year's bicycle ride takes place Oct. 4 and also includes a bicycle training class for youngsters and a 5-kilometer power walk to support breast cancer research and treatment.

Cortes -dePavon said the 2014 Tour will include a "survivor banner" for breast cancer victims and their supporters can sign.

"It seems everyone knows someone who has been afflicted with breast cancer or who has died from the disease," she said. "That's why this year's Tour de Perris has become such a personal event for so many people. We expect many people to ride in support of survivors and for those who have passed on. It's more of an emotional touch."

Cortes-dePavon said \$5 from every Tour de Perris registration, \$5 from every jersey sale, \$2 from each t-shirt sale and all proceeds from the \$5 registration fee for the power walk will be donated to Susan G. Komen Inland Empire. Jerseys are \$ 70 and t-shirts are \$12.

Participants in the 62-mile and 100-mile rides also receive free jerseys and free lunch at Faulkner Winery in Temecula's Wine Country.

Katie Parker, executive director of Susan G. Komen Inland Empire, said she is delighted that Perris is supporting the program.

"We are excited and pleased that the City of Perris is supporting our cause so wholeheartedly," Parker said. "I am very impressed that the City is so cutting edge in getting its residents to live healthy lifestyles."

City Clerk Salazar said she is gearing up for the 5-K power walk. The walk will be kid-friendly, family-friendly and senior-friendly but should provide a great workout for all participants.

"I hope the whole community gets involved," she said. "I think it will be a great personal milestone for everyone who finishes the 5-K walk."

Hikers and bikers who enter the Tour de Perris before Sept. 29 will pay the following registration fees: 8-mile family ride (up to four people) \$25; 30-mile ride, \$50; 62-mile ride, \$75 and 100-mile ride, \$80. Registration fees between Sept. 29 and Oct. 4 will rise by \$10 for the 30, 62 and 100-mile rides and remain the same (\$25 for to four people) for the 8-mile family ride. High-school students from the Perris Union High School District and the Val Verde School who enter the 30-mile ride will pay a special fee of \$5.

Cortes-dePavon said the City could use more volunteers for the Oct. 4 Tour rides. To volunteer or for more information about the 2014 Tour De Perris, call 951-943-5003 or visit the website <http://www.cityofperris.org/bikeride/>.

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