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Sponsors Contribute to Third Annual Health Fair

Eleven major sponsors have stepped up to help ensure the success of Perris' third annual health fair April 25 at the City Hall Campus.

All the major sponsors have contributed cash or in-kind services to support the free health fair, which is part of the City's Live Well Perris healthy-eating active-living initiative. The health fair runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the campus at 101 North D Street.

Major sponsors include 180 Degrees and Still Standing, Inland Area Health Plan, Renegade Temporary Site Services, Mount San Jacinto College, Gavilan Springs Nursery, Aleshire & Wynder LLP, Perris Print Shop, Olivia Johnson Interpreting and Languages, Inc., Citizens Business Bank, Tri-Lake Consultants and Cardenas Markets.

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Perris Mayor Daryl Busch (far right) presents a proclamation in support of the annual Relay for Life to Bob McGinty and others from the American Cancer Society during this week's City Council meeting.

The health fair features screenings for such debilitating conditions as diabetes, high-blood pressure and high cholesterol along with body mass index screenings. It also features healthy snacks, exercise demonstrations, educational materials, a rock wall for kids, music entertainment and plenty of raffles.

Electronic billboard announcing the health fair are in place at the Lake Perris Fairgrounds, at Ethanac Road and Interstate 215 and Perris High School. In addition, a large banner in English and Spanish is located on Perris Boulevard just south of Ramona Expressway.

Radio Lazer will be on hand to broadcast live from the April 25th event.

Information Technology Manger Arturo Cervantes promoted the health fair during a 30-minute question-and-answer session at Radio Lazer earlier this week.

Cervantes answered questions about the health fair from host Alfredo Gonzalez. Afterwards Cervantes said the health fair should help Perris residents learn important lessons about how to improve their quality of life.

"This is a great opportunity to take charge of your health," he said. "It's important to get the message out that good health begins at home."



An electronic billboard along Interstate 215 in the City announces the April 25th City of Perris Health Fair.

The City of Perris is partnering with the Perris Elementary School District and the American Cancer Society, which also will be hosting their own events at City Hall on April 25th. The school district hosts its sixth annual "Fun Run," a 5-kilometer race/walk/stroll that usually attracts up to 1,500 participants. The American Cancer Society's 24-hour Relay For Life also will bring a large turnout to City Hall. Together, the trio of events could draw 5,000 participants.

Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Tonya Burke will lead a Zumba-exercise class.

"Excitement is definitely building," Burke said. "I've invited people to the health fair and they seem very excited and eager to go out, have a great time and learn how to improve their health. I believe it's going to be a great day."

Burke said First Lady Michelle Obama recently created the "Give Me Five" challenge, encouraging people to consider giving up five things that them unhealthier and beginning five activities that improve their fitness. Burke said she will be spreading that same message while demonstrating Zumba at the health fair.

Mayor Daryl Busch presented a proclamation April 14 to Bob McGinty, who is chairman of the Relay for Life this year. McGinty, a three-time cancer survivor, said he expects great things in 2015 thanks to the City's partnership with the American Cancer Society.

"It's going to be the best we've ever had in the City!" McGinty said.

Vince Ponce, superintendent of the Perris Elementary School District, said teaming up with Perris for the sixth annual Fun Run makes perfect sense, calling the partnership "the next step" to making the event bigger and better. Last year's Fun Run drew 1,100 participants; the anticipated crowd in 2015 is 2,000.

City Councilmembers are encouraging residents to attend the health fair/fun run/relay for life and are pleased with the level of corporate sponsorship.

"I am pleased we are partnering with the school district to provide opportunities for our youth," said City Councilman Julio Rodriguez. "Without our partnership with the schools and Relay for Life and the financial support of our sponsors this event would not be as successful as I know it will be."

Councilman David Starr Rabb said partnerships make the health fair "a community-wide event," adding "I am really excited businesses have chosen to participate with us."

"Health is a pre-eminent issue in our community and country," Rabb said. "Without good health, you really have nothing."

City Councilwoman Rita Rogers praised the municipal staff for organizing the health fair and numerous other Live Well events in the last two years but says corporate sponsorships help turn an already special event "into something super-special."

"Corporate sponsors are vital to provide funding for such a major event," Rogers said.

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch said the City's partnerships and planning will make April 25 a special day for all participants and visitors.

"We have three great events in the City of Perris that day," he said. "The school district and the American Cancer Society are thrilled to be here and we are thrilled to have them. Hopefully we will make it great for everyone."



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