

Thursday, Jan. 22, 2004, By The Porterville Recorder staff

### **Wood stove regulations in effect**

Builders and sellers of homes fall under new air-quality regulations as of Jan. 1 regarding woodstoves.

For new developments of three or more dwellings per acre, new San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District regulations limit the number of woodstoves to two per acre. In developments with two or fewer homes per acre, one stove per house is allowed.

Regulations also require older woodstoves to be removed before a house can be sold. Only newer woodstoves approved by the district legally may be installed in new houses or older houses being sold.

The regulations apply to any new dwelling whose foundation was not completely laid by Dec. 31, 2003.

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### **Asthma coalition plans march**

Staff reports

A first-ever walk against asthma will take place from 9 a.m. to noon March 6 in Tulare.

Sponsored by the Tulare County Asthma Coalition, the march will start at the Tulare Transit Center, 360 North K St. During the walk, participants will encounter educational booths to help them learn about asthma management.

Planners hope the march demonstrates that people with well-controlled asthma are able to participate in activities, sports, and learning experiences at the same level as nonasthmatics.

It is vital that asthmatics maintain a healthy body weight and state of physical condition to better control their asthma and allergies, said Christine Foster, project director with the coalition.

The fund-raising event will benefit the coalition's asthma control and education programs.

Residents wanting to volunteer their time or talents, donate raffle items, or sign up their family to walk can contact the Coalition Office at 685-3494 or by e-mailing [cfoster@tdh.org](mailto:cfoster@tdh.org) <<mailto:cfoster@tdh.org>> or [bedwards @tdhs.org](mailto:bedwards@tdhs.org).

Nearly 115,000 Californians experience daily or weekly symptoms of asthma and are not currently taking any medications to control their condition, Foster said. According to the California Health Interview Survey completed in 2002, about 158,000 young children must limit their physical activities because of their asthma.

"Asthma is a frustrating, confusing disease," said Sandra Eaton, program director at the American Lung Association of Central California. "Managing asthma requires both close medical attention and education for children and their families."

Major sponsors for the "2004 March for Asthma Control" include the Tulare County Asthma Coalition, American Lung Association of Central California, the city of Tulare and GlaxoSmithKline.

The coalition is grant-funded from The California Endowment. TCAC is dedicated to improving lung health, raising community awareness and increasing community action. Improvement in asthma management and reduction of environmental triggers of asthma remain major goals of the asthma coalition.