

## **PATH Walk to support homeless outreach**

**By TANG LOR -DN Staff Writer**

Organizers are looking for participants to join the PATH Walk, an annual fundraiser for the Poor and the Homeless.

Participation during this year's event is especially needed, as PATH has received a pledge from an anonymous donor who will match the money raised up to \$20,000, event coordinator Pam Klein said.

This is an opportunity that's amazing, she said.

Every donation we get will actually be doubled. The walk will be Saturday, Sept. 17 starting at River Park.

Check-in begins at 9 a.m. and the walk at 10 a.m.

Participants can sign up as individuals or as a team. Teams representing nonprofits are eligible to receive a portion of the funds they raise.

Money raised will go toward PATH's general operating fund and a planned permanent, yearround shelter.

The matching pledge is a big deal, as PATH lost several grants that would have paid for staff salaries and a \$1 million grant for the proposed shelter, Klein said.

PATH is running out of time to get a new grant proposal submitted for the shelter.

It still needs to find a suitable location. Without a chosen location, PATH cannot submit a grant proposal, President Allene Dering said.

The site at Minch Road is still a possibility, along with a few other options.

Every bit of money raised will help PATH in some way, whether it goes to support already existing programs, such as the men's Pathways transitional living, the women's transitional home called the Sale House or the proposed shelter, Dering said.

Previous fundraisers have not brought in any amounts close to \$20,000.

Last year's walk had about 100 participants and raised about \$4,000. But PATH is hopeful the matching pledge will draw more participants.

Connecting the event to the ninth annual Recover Happens Celebration is another way PATH hopes to attract more people.

The walk will end at River Park, where the celebration starts at 11 a.m.

Recovery Happens is designed to celebrate the success of treatment and recovery with community members of all ages and is sponsored by the Tehama County Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board.

The family event is free to the public and includes a barbecue lunch, live music provided by Roy Dyer and The Big Guns, speakers, children's activities and booths.

For information on the PATH Walk, call Klein at 527-6439.

For information on the Recover Happens Celebration, call Patrice Tamp or Karen Weldon at 527- 7893.