

The Middletown Press (<http://www.middletownpress.com>)

Community Health unveils AIDS quilt square

Tuesday, November 26, 2013

MIDDLETOWN >> The local Community Health Center will unveil a 12-foot by 12-foot square of the AIDS Memorial Quilt at a ceremony Monday.

Personal anecdotes from HIV and AIDS patients, a presentation on AIDS in Africa and a performance by an African drumming troupe will culminate in the quilt section's unveiling in the CHC's community room at 675 Main St.

According to aids.gov, more than 1.1 million people in the U.S. are living with HIV or AIDS, and nearly one-fifth that number are unaware that they are infected. Roughly one quarter of new U.S. infections occur in young people ages 13 to 24.

San Francisco gay rights activist Cleve Jones conceived the AIDS Memorial Quilt in 1985, and a group of fellow residents began work in 1987 to commemorate those affected by the disease.

Today, the quilt is composed of more than 48,000 3- by 6-foot memorial panels, most of which memorialize those who have died of AIDS.

World AIDS Day is Dec. 1. The ceremony will be on Monday, Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m.

URL: <http://www.middletownpress.com/general-news/20131126/community-health-unveils-aids-quilt-square>

© 2014 The Middletown Press (<http://www.middletownpress.com>)