

8.22.17
Hailey, Idaho

Press Release
Immediate Release

She Will Find One and It Will Work

Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 26 and 27, there will be a Swab Party at the Merriwether Building courtyard, outside Iconoclast Books & Gifts in Hailey. The Swab party will be held to find a match for Bellevue resident Devon Peterson, who's suffering from leukemia.

The Swab Party will be held during Iconoclast business hours: Saturday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. People who are between the ages of 18-55 are eligible.

Devon, 13, an eighth grader at Wood River Middle School, is in her second round of treatment at St Luke's Children's Hospital in Boise. Doctors believe the best chance she has for recovery is a bone marrow transplant. In order to find a match swab kits will be used to ascertain matches. A matching volunteer donor might either give blood or bone marrow to Devon.

DKMS will test the cheek swabs for matches for Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA) tissue markers. These have characteristics of human white blood cells. These protein 'markers' are found on most cells in your body. There is a great diversity of HLA and the cheek swab is currently tested for up to 12 characteristics. Your immune system uses HLA markers to determine which cells belong in your body and which do not. DKMS is an international non-profit organization, dedicated to the fight against blood cancer and blood disorders, with offices in Germany, where it was founded, United Kingdom and New York.

The more donors DKMS registers, the more lives can be saved.

The Swab Drive's motto is She Will Find One and It Will Work. To volunteer or to donate monetarily to help cover the costs of the test kits, contact Sarah Hedrick at Iconoclast Books (208) 726-1564, or visit dkms.org. Iconoclast is located at 111 First Ave. North in Hailey.