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Cancer Seminar at the Lafayette Library

Esophageal cancer is the eighth most common type of cancer, according to the American Cancer Society; approximately 16,000 people were diagnosed with it in 2011. With many different types of treatment available it's easy to become overwhelmed. John Muir Health will present an esophageal awareness seminar from 6 to 8 p.m. April 12 featuring physicians specializing in gastroenterology, medical oncology and thoracic surgery, a registered dietitian and esophageal cancer survivor Ellen Tauscher at the Community Hall. Tauscher represented California's 10th congressional district, which includes Lamorinda, for seven terms and worked as the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs. They'll be discussing warning signs, latest medical treatments, early detection and what you need to know to stay healthy. With many signs appearing to be common digestive problems, esophageal cancer can be difficult to detect in its early stages, although having difficulty swallowing is a frequent symptom. The event is free; organizers request that you register via www.johnmuirhealth.com. C. Tyson

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