

# TCC students create Web site for Komen group

BY MARGARET WINDLEY  
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PRINCESS ANNE — The Tidewater Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation recently got its own Web site, thanks to students at Tidewater Community College.

Visitors to the site may take a virtual self-exam, become better informed about breast cancer and learn about events that raise money for cancer research.

The affiliate's site was created by three students in TCC professor Debbie Benham's Advanced Web Development class in the college's Information Technology program.

Sherrie Steiner, team leader, with Jane Digman and John Cerdenola in design and graphics, competed with two other teams in the class to design the site.

They didn't learn until January — after the semester was over — that they had been chosen. The site went online in March. The team



Sherrie Steiner, left, (team leader), John Cerdenola and Jane Digman with Debbie Benham, maintain a Web site promoting Komen's signature fund-raiser, Race for the Cure. Benham's Web Development class develops a number of Web sites every year as a public service.

members maintain it.

"We chose to do it because it was a charity," said Steiner, 40, a resident of Chesapeake's Holly Point.

Steiner, who recently was called up for duty with the Navy Reserves, has a civilian job as Web master for the Chubb Group. She

has designed Web sites for friends.

"Your friends can tell you all they want you are doing a good job, but when the Komen Foundation reinforces it, it gives me that confidence that I can do it as a profession," said Steiner.

Fellow teammate Digman, 21, who lives in Oak Springs, is in her last semester at the community college and plans to continue her education at Old Dominion University.

"It's made me want to start my own Web design business," Digman said of the TCC project.

The site by Steiner, Digman and Cerdenola, 20, who lives in Princess Anne Gardens, was chosen by the affiliate's board of directors, who granted

them a byline on the site. They have committed themselves to working on it free for a year.

"The TCC students created a whole new look for the site and helped us significantly expand the content," said Eileen Werber, the affiliate's

president. "The range of information available on the site is much more extensive than before."

By August, visitors to the local site also will be able to register online for the Oct. 23 Race for the Cure, Komen's signature event and fund-raiser.

Each year, Benham's Web development class provides free Web development services to a limited number of small local businesses and organizations.

Benham also is teaming with Joan Casteel, another Information Technology teacher at TCC, whose summer school class is developing the forms for Race for the Cure.

■ Visit the Tidewater Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation online at [www.hamptonroads.com/racefortheCure](http://www.hamptonroads.com/racefortheCure). Or, go to the national site at [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org). For more information about the local affiliate, call 490-7794.