

Coloring book pages outline Tracy history

By Bobby Wilson
Tracy Press

The Yokuts lived in Tracy long before the construction of subdivisions, strip malls and fast-food joints.

European settlers pushed these American Indians off their land, and by the late 1800s the Yokuts' way of life was almost nonexistent.

The Tracy Region Alliance for a Quality Community Educational Foundation highlights the city's past in its 13-page "Tracy History Coloring Book" coloring book.

The book is produced in cooperation with the West Side Pioneers and the Tracy Historical Museum, said TRAQC Educational Foundation board member Celeste Garamendi.

"We are looking forward to getting feedback, making improvements and providing more materials in the future," Garamendi said. "We think this is one way for young people to learn and connect with their community."

The coloring books are for children in third through fifth grade and will be given to students who attend field trips at the Tracy Historical Museum and the historic Lammersville School at Clyde Bland Park.

Garamendi said the foundation gave the first 3,000 copies to representatives of the muse-

Info

ON THE WEB

www.traqc.foundation.org

E-MAIL

tef.starband.net

um and historic school site.

The foundation provided the funding to produce the books, and about \$5,000 will be needed annually to produce more copies.

The foundation will focus fund-raising efforts on individual donations, corporate contributions and targeted requests to other philanthropies to fund the program, Garamendi said.

The TRAQC Educational Foundation is also working on two future programs: a Tracy Historical Museum passport and a walking tour of historic Tracy sites and buildings.

The museum passport will guide youngsters and pose questions about exhibits, while the tour will be based on a brochure developed by the museum's landmark committee, Garamendi said.

The future of these projects, including the coloring books, depends on how much money the group can raise, Garamendi said.

The nonprofit foundation supports local public education programs that focus on the Tracy community, including its history and natural environment.