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# Local events to inform about domestic abuse

Several local women's groups host events in October to raise awareness about domestic and dating violence

**Danielle Gillespie**  
Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

On April 3, 1996, Ruth Taylor, 41, University academic affairs management assistant, was killed by her husband while taking a bath. She bled to death on her bathroom floor.

Today, more than 132,000 Oregon women and hundreds of men are battered each year by their partners, according to Womenspace, a local domestic violence service.

Womenspace, along with several other local organizations, wants to end domestic violence and save the lives of people such as Taylor. Throughout October, Womenspace will be hosting events in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

"Ideally, we should be talking about domestic violence all year," Women's Center Office Coordinator Lori Brown said. "But setting a month aside lets us focus our energy

## Domestic violence awareness events

**Womenspace** will sponsor a celebration and vigil from 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday at the federal courthouse at East Seventh Avenue and Pearl Street. Womenspace and Sacred Heart Medical Center will host an educational session on domestic violence from 7-9 p.m. Oct. 8 in the Sacred Heart auditorium at East 13th Avenue and Hilyard Street.

**The Sexual Assault Support Services** clothesline project will be on display from 5-8:30 p.m. Oct. 4 at 62 W. Broadway.

**The Women's Center** will host KWVA's "The Girl's Room" Oct. 17 from 10 p.m. to midnight.

and bring attention to an issue that wouldn't get attention otherwise."

Womenspace will kick off the month's events with a celebration from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the federal courthouse located at Seventh Avenue and Pearl Street.

Womenspace community outreach director Margo Schaefer said they decided to hold the event in front of the federal courthouse in hopes that people driving home from work will stop and participate.

"Many people who have been battered are told to shut up and deal

with it," she said. "But if they are driving by, maybe they will look out their window and see that they have a community to support them."

"Maybe, when they stop and get out of their car, they may not be prepared to leave the relationship, but I hope they feel the support."

The event will feature choirs, children's activities, information tables and candle-lighting, as well as various speakers, such as State Rep. Vicki Walker, D-Eugene.

There will also be 12 "Silent

Turn to **Abuse**, page 9

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