

VFW Buddy Poppy sales under way

Members of Sandy Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4273 and Auxiliary will be selling poppies this weekend to raise money for local relief projects.

The Buddy Poppy sales project has been held in Sandy for six years. VFW posts from across the United States hold similar fund-raisers.

All money raised locally will go toward relief projects for local people, according to Virgil Polk, chairman of the VFW Buddy Poppy sales effort. He is working on the project with Barbara Ellis, chairwoman of the auxiliary sales project, and her husband, Dennis.

Cub Scouts from Pack 663 will be helping VFW and auxiliary members sell the poppies at different locations in Sandy.

The VFW Post also sells poppy boards to local businesses, and the boards are often displayed in the stores. About 75 businesses in Sandy and the Mount Hood corridor are participating, Polk said. Another 200 individuals have purchased poppy boards. On Friday and Saturday, poppies will be sold individually.

Polk said in the past money has been used to purchase food for people in need, to help pay for doctor's appointments, or pay utility bills or make rent payments.

Sales of the boards have gone well, according to Barbara Ellis. "We've had a beautiful response," she said.

The VFW Post has 452 members, and there are 292 members in the



Sandy Mayor Deane Wesslink, second from the left, accepts a Buddy Poppy board from Virgil Polk, far left. Barbara and Dennis Ellis are also pictured.

auxiliary. The two organizations also sponsor or help support softball and baseball teams, a scout troop, the Voice of Democracy speech competition, the Sandy Junior Miss scholarship program, bicycle safety programs, cancer

research, the Sandy Community Action Center and other programs.

The poppy is the symbol of the fallen soldier. The first poppies were made of silk in France and sold to benefit children of post-war

France and Belgium in the 1920s.

In 1923 the poppies were made in the United States by needy and disabled veterans, who often referred to each other as buddies — thus the name Buddy Poppy.

Bike ride at Wildwood aids medical research

Jerry McMahan of Brightwood will serve as chairwoman for the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital "Wheels for Life" bike ride on Saturday, May 30, from 9 a.m. to noon at Wildwood Park.

A free-style exhibition will be put on by Sandy High School students Tony Mulls and Curt Deegan at noon.

The ride will raise funds to support the hospital's battle against childhood cancer and other illnesses. Founded in 1962 by entertainer

Danny Thomas, St. Jude Hospital has become the world's largest center for the study of childhood cancer and is the only institution dedicated solely to the treatment and study of catastrophic childhood diseases.

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Woman earns college degree

Gayle D. Christianson of Boring is among an estimated 775 Texas Christian University students who completed degree requirements and received diplomas during spring commencement May 9. Christianson, 15585 S.E. Orient

Drive, earned a bachelor of science degree in social work.

Spring baccalaureate and commencement services were held in the university's Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. Dr. William Tucker, chancellor, presided.

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- Number of salmon and steelhead over North Fork Dam for past three days and the total fish for the month.
- Number of salmon and steelhead over Marmot Dam on the Sandy River for three days and the monthly totals.

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