

Audubon plans KRP birding trip

A birding field trip will be hosted by the Salem Audubon Society at Keizer Rapids Park Wednesday, Oct. 5.

There are a variety of habitats that attract a variety of birds including sparrows,

finches and towhees. Many others can also be found such as waterfowl, raptors, woodpeckers, warblers, and creepers. Swallows, ospreys, kingfishers, and an occasional eagle are spotted occasionally near

the river.

Meeting time is at 7:30 a.m. at the far parking lot in Keizer Rapids Park, 1900 Chemawa Road North. People are encouraged to bring water and a snack for the trail.

SHACK,

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"A couple of weeks ago we helped (a local resident) clean out her garage because she's caring for her husband. We got the whole thing organized and hauled away donation and scrap piles," Shackelford said.

MAK is always looking for new volunteers and members do not need to be members of the Chamber of Commerce. The best way to contact Shackelford and his cohorts is through the MAK Facebook page.

"A lot of the projects involve some sort of manual labor, but we have several members of the group who are retired guys just looking for something to do. If they aren't members of the Keizer Chamber now, maybe it's something

they'll choose to do at a later date," he said. "Everyone has something they can do, and I think more people would volunteer if they just knew where to go to do it."

Those in need of assistance are also welcome to contact MAK through Facebook.

"It might just be an older couple who needs things hauled away. If they pay the fee to dumping site, we're happy to provide the service," he said.

While he's been a driving force behind the expansion of MAK, Shackelford doesn't want it to become a one-man show. He's more interested in getting the MAK name out in the community.

Shackelford recalls "terrorizing the town" between paper routes and tearing down River Road North in his car in his youth. He expects sev-

eral of the people who saw him in those days wouldn't have expected him to turn out as well as he has, but he's currently enjoying nothing more than going out and helping someone in need.

"I feel awesome at the end of the day. Giving to the community gives back, and I'm fortunate in my career to be able to do the things I've been able to do," he said. "It's nice to have my effort recognized, but I want the focus to be on MAK."

REZONE,

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is greater than the need for high density housing, Okada wrote.

She also contested issues revolving around school impacts. While the schools will not turn away additional students, "putting a 112-unit apartment complex on a busy road - right next to a roundabout, where traffic never stops - is not a smart or logical choice to make."

Okada contacted Salem-Keizer School District in an effort to determine just what the impact to schools might be. The results contradict the 41 new students projected in the rezoning proposal.

"I contacted the SKSD to find out how many students lived at Keizer Terrace Apartments, which are directly across the street from Kennedy (Elementary) School. There were 124 students from the 153-unit complex - the ratio of students to housing was 81 percent. If the 81 percent ration were applied (to the new complex),

PLAY,

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Support Network.

For the play's two principals, Joe Botkin and Nyla McCarthy, rehearsals alone have tapped into some deep wells of emotion.

"I think we've had one rehearsal where we didn't break down," said Botkin.

While the production is timed to coincide with the 15th anniversary of the 2001 attacks, McCarthy thinks there is something in the script for those who don't remember where they were the day it happened.

"My character, Joan, talks a lot about media coverage and how watching things happen isn't the same as being engaged," she said. "There are so many people who don't know what to do when bad things happen. This play is kind of a lesson in engaging and finding ways to connect as individuals that has a hell of a lot more value than liking something on social media."

Botkin's Nick, a fire department captain, finds himself trying to assemble something meaningful from, at times, mundane interactions.

"When he starts talking about the men he is eulogizing he has trouble expressing who the

men were. As she draws it out of him it is powerful, powerful stuff," he said.

The experience of working with the character for the past several months has shed new light on both his work and home life.


"Things get under my skin and they will eat at me for a while, but since I started working on this play, I've let a lot more of the little stuff go by. I've taken the moment to pause and realize that we're all in this together and we're sharing this," Botkin said. "The play has helped me make space for those moments to think about the people who mean the most to me and appreciate everything they do."

Botkin is also curious to see how his family reacts when they come to see the play; some of his kids were barely into the double digits when the planes struck the World Trade Center.

For McCarthy, it is the play's message of connection that she hopes is received most powerfully.

"We drive by people living on the streets, we see photos of impoverished people all over the world, but no matter what role you play, we're all citizens of this world and no one should have to be on the outside," she said. "I want people to come out of the theater feeling like they want to go be close to people they love."

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