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Renata Anderson, MA



Pam Wagenaar,
Administrative Assistant



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FIRST ANNUAL Community Meeting



With special guest speaker, Joe Piscatella, author of 16 best-selling books, host of three PBS television specials, a “guest expert” on WebMD, and a member of the NIH Expert Panel on Cardiac Rehabilitation.

Good Shepherd Health Care System cordially invites you to our 1st Annual Community Meeting and Health Fair. Join us for an evening of fun, food, raffle prizes, and most importantly, learn about the positive impact GSHCS is having on the communities they serve.

Wednesday, October 24, 2018
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Hermiston Community Center
415 S. Hwy 395
Hermiston, OR 97838

RSVP 541.667.3509
Or register on Eventbrite at <https://gshcsevent.eventbrite.com>



History of Halloween

Halloween started as a religious holiday, moving from paganism to the Romans to the Christian church, with each successive holiday taking on the traditions of the holiday before it. In the United States, those early traditions were augmented as different groups from all over the world poured into the young country.

According to The History Channel, Halloween started with the Celtic festival of Samhain on Oct. 31. The day marked the end of summer and harvest and the start of winter, which was often associated with death. The Celts believed on the night before the new year, which began on Nov. 1, the boundary between the world of the living and the world of the dead became blurred. The Celts built bonfires and gathered to burn sacrifices to their deities while donning costumes, usually animal heads and skins. They then lit their own hearth fires from the bonfire to commemorate the start of the new year.

A couple of millennia later, about 43 A.D., the Roman Empire had taken over Celtic territory and Samhain, combining it with two Roman traditions. Feralia was a day in late October when the Romans commemorated the passing of their dead. The second day honored Pomona, the goddess of fruit and trees; her symbol was the apple, which likely explains the tradition of bobbing for apples.

Four centuries later, Pope Boniface IV, leader of the Catholic Church, established the feast of All Martyrs Day in conjunction with dedicating the Roman pantheon in honor of Christian martyrs. Pope Gregory III expanded that feast to include all saints and moved it from May to Nov. 1, and All Saints Day was born. By the ninth century, Christianity spread to the Celtic regions, and in 1000 A.D., the Catholic Church changed made Nov. 2 All Souls Day to honor the dead. It was celebrated similarly to Samhain and called All-Hallows; the night before became known as All-Hallows Eve.

The early Americans didn’t take to the holiday, although as people spread from colonial New England and the rigid religious beliefs found there, celebrating the holiday became more common in the southern part of the country. As immigrant groups from throughout Europe settled in the U.S., celebrations like harvest festivals, at which partygoers shared stories of the dead, told fortunes, danced and sang, as well as other mischief, sanctioned or not.



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