

Sexual assault film brings out students and adults



Steve Tool/Chieftain

As part of their FCCLA project, Enterprise High School juniors Tishrei Movich-Fields and Deedee Duncan wanted to bring attention to sexual assault and its aftermath by showing the movie "Audrie and Daisy" at "The Space" on Friday Jan. 18. About two dozen people attended the event.

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

When you're a high school member of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, choosing a subject for your state FCCLA state conference presentation can prove a daunting task. It's even more difficult when you choose a daunting subject.

That didn't bother Enterprise High School FCCLA members Tishrei Movich-Fields and Deedee Duncan. The two juniors chose one of the more daunting subjects imaginable — sexual assault. The girls wanted to spread the word about the devastating effects of sexual assault and the aftermath, which in this age, includes social media.

The girls chose the film after Safe Harbors, Wallowa County's domestic violence and sexual violence service provider, showed the film about a year ago.

"I went there with my mom and there were only

about three people there," Movich-Fields said. "It was surprising to me because it made an impact — it was so powerful."

Later, thinking of what she wanted to do for her FCCLA project, she thought the film's subject matter an important topic.

"I feel like more people should watch it because it's put together very well, and it's a great tool to raise awareness," Movich-Fields said. "More people should hear about it."

Duncan said that she heard of the film through her project partner, Movich-Fields.

"I went home that night and watched it, and it was really powerful," Duncan said. "It was hard to watch, and I had to do it in sections. I totally agreed it would be something totally great to show. I also thought it would be cool to get people to watch it."

The film tells the story of two teenage girls who suffer sexual assault while drinking

with boys they knew. The film shows the aftermath of the rapes nearly, if not more so traumatic than the events. Both girls and their families endure the worse sort of abuse from their peers and neighbors through social media as well as in the public realm. The indifference of law enforcement to the girls' plight is appalling, and none of the boys were convicted of a sex crime even though during a videotaped confession, one boy uses the word "rape" to describe his assault of the girl.

One of the girls cannot take the public humiliation and hangs herself in the closet a week later. It is not a film for the light-hearted. Although no rapes are depicted, some of the texts to the victims are frankly disturbing and contain obscene language. The movie is not rated and is available on Netflix.

Both Movich-Fields and Duncan have seen the film multiple times but found it equally disturbing each

time.

For a variety of reasons, the girls were unable to show the film at Enterprise High School, and the OK Theatre is in a construction phase. With the help of Safe Harbors and Winding Waters Medical Clinic, the girls arranged to have the film shown at "The Space," located at the county's former health department.

Representatives from Safe Harbors and the county's juvenile department shared some eyebrow-raising statistics — Safe Harbors served 30 victims of sexual violence over the year, including a significant proportion of minors. The juvenile department reported that 20 percent of its caseload concerned sexual offenses.

Both Movich-Fields and Duncan said they know peers who suffered sexual assault.

"A lot of people think it doesn't happen here, in places like this," Movich-Fields said. "It happens more than they think."

Eastern Oregon Meteorite lands back in Oregon

By Phil Wright
EO Media Group

One of Eastern Oregon's oldest and most-travelled residents is back in the state for all to see.

Some 460 million years ago, a collision in the vastness of the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter hurled a chunk of rock on a trajectory toward Earth. Washington residents Donald and Debbie Wesson discovered that meteorite in 1999 in a ditch in Morrow County. The space rock resided in private hands and often out of the public eye. That changed in December when the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, Hillsboro, acquired the 40-pound

Morrow County Meteorite.

"We made a deal where we traded for it," Rice executive director Julian Gray said. "And we are ecstatic."

The Rice had the piece on loan from mineral collector Ed Thompson, and Gray said the museum wanted to own it outright for years. Meteorites from the moon and Mars can go for \$1,000 a gram, but even common meteorites sell for a few dollars a gram. At near 18,200 grams, Gray said, the Morrow County Meteorite was outside what the Rice could afford to pay. But there was a way.

"We had a meteorite from Gibeon, Africa, and they wanted it — badly," Gray said, "and were will-

ing to trade us for that meteorite and give us a replacement."

The museum gave its 200-pound Gibeon piece for the Morrow County specimen and a 125-pound Campo del Cielo iron meteorite. Most meteorite displays are hands off, but not the Campo del Cielo.

"We love having these touch pieces that allow museum visitors to actually touch something that has been in outer space," Gray said.

The Rice also is pretty keen on the Morrow County Meteorite. Gray said six meteorites have been found in Oregon, and the Rice has displays of five, although some are only a few pieces. The Cascadia Meteor-

ite Laboratory at Portland State University analyzed the Morrow County specimen in 2010, declaring it the real deal and naming it Morrow County. Gray said Wesson has never revealed the exact location of where he found it in the midst of wheat county.

"That's kind of frustrating for us because scientists like to be exact," he said.

The meteorite is the first found east of the Cascades and the second-largest from Oregon. The largest is the 32,000-pound Willamette Meteorite, earning it the title of largest in North America. The American Museum of Natural History in New York City has it on permanent display.



Photo contributed by Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals. The Morrow County Meteorite now is on public display at the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, Hillsboro.

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