

Author to visit Warm Springs

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo



Craig Lesley

Craig Lesley, an award-winning author with local connections, will host a conversation hour in Warm Springs on April 21.

The event, called "Conversations with Craig" is part of a two-day gathering in Lesley's honor, hosted by Jefferson County Community Read.

The Warm Springs Library will be open for the event from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m.

Jefferson County Community Read will be conducting writer's workshops and reminiscent gatherings throughout the month of April in conjunction with Lesley's novel, "The Sky Fisherman."

Multiple copies of the book are available at the library, and staff are requesting that the book be returned as soon as patrons are finished reading in order for others to be able to finish it.

According to Ruth Ann Hopps, the event in Warm Springs will give community members a chance to visit with Lesley.

"He has a lot of connections and friends in Warm Springs," Hopps said.

In fact, one of the characters in "The Sky Fisherman" is partially based on a local woman Lesley knew in high school.

Love, death, coming of age and Native American spiritual beliefs are combined with the forces of nature in Lesley's novel.

In the novel, the fictional town of Gateway is modeled after Madras as viewed during Lesley's teenage years spent there during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Lesley writes that, "Jake is modeled on my uncle, Oscar Lange, a legendary fishing guide and small-town hero. Flora resembles my mother, a tenacious single parent who worked on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Billyum Bruised head played high school football with me."

Lesley is the author of 4 novels and a memoir, along with numerous other works.

He has received three Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Awards, the Western Writers of America Golden Spur Award for Best Novel, and an Oregon Book Award. He has been the recipient of several national fellowships and holds a Doctorate of Humane Letters from Whitman College.

Currently the Senior Writer-in-Residence at Portland State University, Craig lives with his wife and two daughters in Portland, Oregon. Both "Storm Riders" and "The Sky Fisherman" were nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

"He had a terrible crush on her," Hopps said.

Crossword puzzles using information found in "The Sky Fisherman" can be picked up at the Warm Springs Library and are available as well as from Jefferson County Library's website at www.jcld.org.

Additional information is available at www.jcld.org or by calling 475-3351.

In "The Sky Fisherman," the lives of young Culver, his twice-married mother, and his charismatic uncle Jake have always been overshadowed by the death of Culver's father in a fishing accident.

When a suspicious fire destroys the town mill and three murders occur, Culver is engulfed by the dangers he finds lurking in the place he'd come to call home.

Darkness to Light training offered in Warm Springs

By Sarah Frank
Victims of Crime Services

One in four girls, and one in six boys will be sexually abused before their eighteenth birthdays, but it doesn't have to happen. You can help lower those numbers and protect the children in this community.

As part of an ongoing tri-county initiative led by the Kids Center in Bend, Warm Springs Victims of Crime Services and the Central Oregon Battering and Rape Alliance (COBRA) in Madras are sponsoring a free "Darkness to Light" training from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday, April 23.

Darkness to Light is a revolutionary, research-based sexual abuse prevention training program developed by the Darkness to Light organization.

Darkness to Light educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to the epidemic of child sexual abuse. Adults who participate in the Darkness to Light training will learn how sexual abuse affects communities nationwide. They will learn about the long-term and often devastating effects that sexual abuse has on individuals.

Most importantly, participants will leave with simple, proactive strategies for protecting children from sexual abuse.

Only 10 percent of child

sexual abuse cases are committed by strangers; 90 percent of these incidents involve an adult known by the child and/or the child's family. This is a chilling statistic, but one that cannot be ignored.

It is the responsibility of adults to protect children in the community from sexual abuse so that they can grow up to lead healthy productive lives. Children are the community's most precious resource.

The Darkness to Light training will be held at the Family Resource Center in Warm Springs. Call VOCS at 553-2293 for more information.

Historical Society Annual Fundraiser Dinner

The Jefferson County Historical Society will host its annual fundraiser dinner on Saturday, April 14 at the Culver Christian Church Annex. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30. The speaker will be Dr. Alice Parman.

There will be entertainment, a silent auction, raffle, door prizes. Dinner tickets are \$40.

For more information or for dinner tickets call Evaline Patt at 553-3331, or 553-5605.

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