



Itemizer-Observer file

Discover MI Town gives people a chance to check out local businesses, including Costume Kreations.

Discover MI Town on Saturday

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH/INDEPENDENCE — A few changes are in store for the third annual Discover MI Town Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m., sponsored by the Monmouth-Independence Chamber of Commerce.

“Discover MI Town is an opportunity to stop in and check out many local businesses,” said Ryan Kingsella, chamber executive director. “Each location will be giving away something in their shop. There are a lot of great prizes, and many will have select wineries and brewers giving samples of their product.”

A shuttle will transport ticket holders from one downtown to the other. Two spots will be open for initial check-in: The Monmouth Independence YMCA in Independence, and Volunteer Hall near the senior center in Monmouth.

“A few big exciting differ-



ences,” Kingsella said. “Western Oregon University will be participating this year. They’ll have three separate locations.”

Stops on campus will be at the Werner University Center WOU bookstore, the Dan Cannon Gallery of Art, and at the Smith Fine Arts Center at Rice Auditorium.

“We’re very excited to have the CSC Maker Trailer at the event,” Kingsella said. “We’ve had a bigger push this year to make it family friendly. The Maker Trailer is from Oregon State Uni-

versity, and has a host of new and exciting technology to get kids involved.”

Technology includes die cut machines, screen printing and a 3-D printer. This will be the last chance for the community at large to access the trailer, Kingsella said.

Another really big change is the afterparty at Independence Grill, he said. “That is where we’ll do all our giveaways and drawings,” Kingsella said. “They will have live music and food and specials.”

All who purchase tickets to Discover MI Town will be entered to win prizes. Those who complete their Discover MI Town passports — by visiting each of the 24 locations and 32 businesses

participating — will get additional entries to win. Participants must be present at Independence Grill to win.

Tickets may be purchased online, at participating locations, or at the door. Tickets cost \$10 if purchased by Friday; \$15 on Saturday.

However, people may earn a \$5 off credit by either volunteering in the Independence-Monmouth Community Cleanup and Beautification Day, or by purchasing a make-your-own flower basket from Independence Downtown Association — a fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Riverview Farmers Market and supporting IDA activities.

A Wolf Pass will be available for WOU students who wish to participate and explore their downtown areas.

For more information: micc-or.org.

Cleanup, beautify MI Town Saturday

Itemizer-Observer staff report

INDEPENDENCE — Saturday is the annual Independence-Monmouth Cleanup and Beautification Day.

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Riverview Park in Independence, residents may drop off debris for \$10. The cost is \$12 for those living in the surrounding county areas.

The cleanup will be held in conjunction with SOLV project Oregon. Independence and Monmouth residents may volunteer for the greater communitywide cleanup and beautify their own properties. Volunteers will receive \$5 off tickets for the Discover MI Town, held from 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Volunteers are needed to help in projects such as park restoration, riverbank cleanup, and downtown and road cleanups. Lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Residents dropping off debris may bring nonkitchen trash, wood (not painted or pressure treated), metals, yard debris, appliances, car batteries, empty propane tanks, and unmounted tires. No hazardous materials, paint, chemicals, fuel, computers, televisions, kitchen or household garbage, concrete, dirt, soil, or commercial business wastes will be accepted.

Umpqua Bank will be on site to provide confidential shred service for personal documents.

Johnny’s Auto Wreckers and Myers Towing will pick up abandoned and junk vehicles from private properties.

Elderly or disabled citizens needing help may contact the Independence Police Department, 503-838-1214 by Friday to schedule a pickup, or Monmouth Public Works, 503-838-2173, ask for Shannon.

For more information: Sue Albee, 503-838-1127. To arrange pickup of a vehicle: 503-838-0060 or 503-838-0306.



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