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BARK

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with their dogs to check out the action. Cynthia Sherrow, Hermiston, attended Bark For Life for the first time with her German shorthair pointer puppy Missy in tow. She said she came to support the event as well as expose her dog to other animals.

"It's great, especially if you love dogs and people," Sherrow said.

She, like many of the people attending, has been impacted by cancer through a family member. Her brother raised Australian shepherds until he succumbed to the disease.

"He loved his dogs," she said. "They were his companions."

Patty O'Bleness, Hermiston, who was performing with the dog agility group at Bark For Life, said she and her 23-month-old border collie Jazzie also completed the 5K run.

"My mom died of colon cancer, and I've had friends who have died of cancer," she said. "Everyone usually has cancer at some point in their family."

Although her connection to cancer led her to Bark For Life, O'Bleness said the event was perfect for her in another way. "This is our calling because I love working with dogs, and it's just fun to come down here and support a good cause," she said.



JESSICA KELLER
Mim Myren, Boardman, plays with her standard poodle, Tripp, 8 months, on the dog agility course Saturday at the Hermiston Bark For Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society at McKenzie Park in Hermiston. Myren was part of the dog agility group at the event.



JESSICA KELLER PHOTO
Joni Anderson, right, a Hermiston Veterinary Clinic certified veterinary technician, holds miniature schnauzer Sunny, as Kimberly Slover trims his nails Saturday at the Bark For Life event Saturday at McKenzie Park in Hermiston.

To Donate

Jennifer Pittam said people can still donate to Bark For Life or her own Relay For Life team Bud-Rich by emailing her at pittamj@gmail.com or calling 541-230-0780. Other Relay For Life teams are hosting their own fundraising events, as well, and people can visit www.relayforlife.org/hermiston to learn about those fundraisers, how to get involved in Relay For Life or make a donation. People can also make a donation to the American Cancer Society in Kennewick, 7325 W. Deschutes Ave. # A, Kennewick, WA 99336, and indicate where they would like their money to go, or call it at 509-783-5108.

FOUNDATION

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HAC, De La Cruz said.

"When HAC was first formed three years ago, that was one of the first things we thought about," he said. "This is another positive door that opens because of HAC being formed here."

Attorney George An-

derson said he is in the process of completing the paperwork to form the nonprofit foundation, and, once complete, he will apply for tax-exempt status. He said the organization's articles and bylaws would leave it up to the foundation board to determine where and how the scholarships will be distributed. "This is another logical step in the Hispanic com-

munity," he said. "There's the Hispanic Advisory Committee. One of the next things was the Hermiston Cinco de Mayo. Then it was the Hispanic adult soccer league, which is a corporation, too. Then, of course, the cultural corporation. Now, the scholarship corporation. These are all good, forward-looking entities that are doing good things

and will hopefully do more good things for the Hispanic Latino population."

De La Cruz, who will serve on the foundation board, said he hopes to be able to distribute scholarships next year. He said Leo Leal, manager of Hermiston's Fiesta Foods, will serve as board chairman, and Fiesta Foods will donate scholarship

funding.

De La Cruz said the foundation will seek additional donations, and the goal is to award \$1,000 scholarships. He said the scholarships would be very beneficial for Hispanic students because education is important.

"We want to try to educate our community, so we can have more successful people in our com-

munity — keep them out of trouble, keep them on the positive side," he said. "That's one of the things I see HAC doing. ... Out of HAC, all these other things are being formed. In the past three years, the Hermiston community, the city of Hermiston has made a big impact on the positive side to the Latino community. That's no doubt."

SEXTON

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"Everyone else was lined up outside the building on the walkway. We were the lowest person on the totem pole. We met her last, and then they said you can't go in. So we just stood there, and we visited."

Sexton said he had visited England and the queen's castle near Dundee, so they talked about those places and Scotland. Queen Eliza-

beth and Prince Philip had recently visited the United States, so they talked about that trip, as well.

"I asked Prince Philip, 'How was the Orioles game?' and he said, 'Rather hot,'" Sexton said. "Well, it was the end of June in Baltimore, and it was muggy. And, of course, he's the prince, he wore a full suit. Of course it was rather hot. And then the queen said to me, 'How do you like my country?' and she said it in a way that it was like —

and my wife's jaw drops — this is her country. This is the queen."

Sexton said meeting the queen was "awe inspiring." He was impressed by her authenticity.

"She made me feel at home, like I had known this lady forever and she really cared what I thought," he said. "She wasn't just being polite. ... She meets thousands of people, but in that 15 minutes, it was very much like she really wanted to know who I

was."

Sexton said he had always thought about the queen's power and authority, and he was surprised how genuine she was. He said the queen's demeanor reminded him of the way he thinks about God — that God wants to know all of his subjects personally.

"She was real," he said of the queen. "It's because it's been her whole life. She was prepared to be queen as a child, and she's been queen since the '50s.

... There's no power ego. She doesn't have any of that. And God's been God forever. He doesn't have any of that. He wants a relationship with us."

After everyone entered the church, Sexton assisted with the worship service. He said it was amazing to watch all of the attendees sing the British anthem, "God Save the Queen," inside the church. "It was the first time I

had ever seen them singing a song to a person basically saying, 'God save you,' and Prince Philip sang it," Sexton said. "Then the service ended with the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty,' and the queen sung it. So the scripture that says, 'Even the kings and queens will bow before the king of kings and lord of lords' — it was visible. I saw that."

BUTTE CHALLENGE THANK YOU

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the East Oregonian and Hermiston Herald 16th Annual Butte Challenge 5 & 10k Walk & Run. Each of you had a part in the success of this event.

We should all be proud to be living in such a wonderful community!



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Thank you to our technical T-Shirt sponsors: Eastern Oregon Physical Therapy and Advanced Orthopedics & Sports Medicine Institute.
Thank you to Inflatable Fun Gym for donating a bounce house.

Also, thank you to our volunteers: Stacey & Colby Lerten, Kathy Bei, Steve, Audra & Natelie Workman, Cheri Montee, Dana Tassie, Kathy Otnes, Sam & Leslie Weimer and Payton & Jaydon Hoffer for donating their time to make this such a great community event. The Hermiston High School Cross Country team is very grateful.

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