

Our Community

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IN BRIEF

Reporter to share 'Daughters of Hanford'

Anna King, northwest news reporter for Northwest Public Radio at Washington State University in Tri-Cities, is featured in the upcoming Eastern Oregon Forum.

King loves to unearth great stories about people in the Pacific Northwest—from nuclear reactors to Mexican rodeos. She has actively covered the Hanford Nuclear Reservation for the past eight years. Her "Daughters of Hanford" series profiles some women from the area whose stories she hasn't had a chance to tell.

King will present "Daughters of Hanford" Tuesday, April 12 at 7 p.m. in Science & Technology Room ST-200 at Blue Mountain Community College, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

The Eastern Oregon Forum is a collaborative effort among leaders from Blue Mountain Community College, InterMountain Education Service District, the East Oregonian, American Association of University Women and Harriet Isom, former United States ambassador.

For more information, call Karen Parker at 541-966-3177.

Game zone provides science fun

A fun family activity for all ages features stations to challenge visitors' gaming skills and knowledge of science.

Pepsi Primetime @ the Museum presents the Evolution Game Zone Saturday from 1-4 p.m. at Tamastlikt Cultural Institute, located near Wildhorse Resort & Casino. The event is free and complimentary refreshments will be served. It's held in conjunction with the current exhibit, Explore Evolution.

Visitors can explore the many lines of evidence scientists use to reconstruct the evolutionary histories of organisms. Players will solve mysteries, compare bones and DNA, and look for fossils. Another station features players competing in a survival game by keeping their species alive in the changing environment. Also, a microscope will be available to view organisms.

For more information, call 541-429-7700 or visit www.tamastlikt.org.

Women's ministry coordinates widow's luncheon

A time of fellowship and encouragement to widows is available through Hermiston Church of the Nazarene.

As part of the church's women's ministry, the Merry Heart Widow's Lunch is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant, 800 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. It's a no-host event.

For more information, contact 541-567-3677 or hermistonnaz@gmail.com.

Columbia River marathon announces meeting

The first organization meeting for this year's Columbia River Power Marathon is coming up.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the event is invited to attend Wednesday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Umatilla Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center's office, 100 Cline Ave., Umatilla. The marathon is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 15.

For more information, call 541-922-4825.

Heppner woman rolls up sleeves against MS

By TAMMY MALGESINI
Community Editor

Merilee McDowell, who is rejuvenated after recently sharing her story on Capital Hill, is gearing up for the 18th annual Eastern Oregon MS Walk.

The Heppner woman, who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1977, traveled to Washington, D.C., with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Oregon Chapter to attend the NMSS Public Policy Conference. The purpose of the trip, McDowell said, was to network, to inspire one another and to advocate for issues and action for those with MS.

Armed with information, the Oregon delegation met with many people while in Washington, D.C., including U.S. Rep Greg Walden, R-Hood River, and Kristen Shatynski, the Health Policy Legislative Assistant in his office.

"I shared my personal story and I really felt heard; and that my voice mattered," McDowell said. "Do not underestimate the power of talking or writing to your congressman or representative; they care."

New to multiple sclerosis



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

Merilee McDowell, seated in wheelchair, visits with other participants during the 2015 Eastern Oregon MS Walk. This year's event is Saturday, April 23 in Heppner.

activism, McDowell said her experience in our nation's capital provided her with information on how to make more of an impact and help others with MS by advocating and sharing her story.

In 2015, the MS Society invested about \$54 million for research. And, McDowell said, funding research continues to be key in finding a cure for the disease.

When McDowell was diagnosed nearly 40 years ago, she said there were no therapies for the disease. Now, there are 13 FDA therapies for people with relapsing/remitting MS. And currently the FDA is reviewing a ther-

apy to treat progressive MS, she said.

McDowell is excited about the continued support of the Eastern Oregon MS Walk. The fundraiser draws people from across the region.

This year's event is Saturday, April 23, beginning with registration and check-in at 9 a.m. at All Saint's Episcopal Church, 460 N. Gale St., Heppner. Coffee, fruit and cinnamon rolls will be available. The well-marked 5K walk, which is wheelchair accessible, begins at 10 a.m. There's also a 5K run and a 10K walk with a route map. A hosted lunch and door prizes will follow.

With no set registration

fee, donations of any amount are welcome. Participants raising \$100 or more can earn prizes, starting with a T-shirt (while supplies last).

Those unable to participate on April 23 can still help by registering as a virtual walker. This includes walking on your lunch break, to and from work or with other people on another day.

People are encouraged to pre-register at www.walkms.org or by calling 503-445-8342. Walk-ons are welcome and can register the day of the event.

For more information, call co-chairs Barb Orwick at 541-256-0455 or Taylor Disque at 541-256-0295.

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21,000 copies of the catalogs promoting the horses for sale will be distributed all over the great Northwest.

Fill out the entry form online on our website and email it directly to: horseextravaganza1@gmail.com



February Catalog Sale Averages

Top 5 Horses - \$7,400
Top 10 Horses - \$6,000
16 head of mares, including 1 Molly Mule - \$2,000
11 head of 3 to 5 year old geldings, including 1 pony - \$3,200
8 yearling stud colts - \$2,400
9 yearling and 2 year old fillies - \$2,200
Overall average - 92 head sold on Saturday - \$2,450



HIGH SELLING HORSE

Hip #1 in the sale, Juice, Owned by Randy and Janelle Hull, shown by Matt Funk, purchased by Shawn Eng for \$10,500

Please join us on June 4th & 5th at the Hermiston Oregon Fair Grounds, Same Place, Same Great Sale

**Phone: 509-778-3467 -- Any questions please call
Mailing: PO Box 549, Prosser WA 99350
email: horseextravaganza1@gmail.com
Website: hermistonhorsesaleextravaganza.com**



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UMATILLA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ANNUAL MEETING & MEMBERSHIP DINNER



**Saturday, April 16, 2016
Hermiston Conference Center
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

Our Annual Meeting theme "Building For The Future" is a recognition of the milestone projects underway or completed in 2015, and what we expect in 2016. As always, attendance is free to UEC members. We hope you will join us!



Featured Speaker Mark Speckman, celebrated football coach and inspirational speaker, will highlight Umatilla Electric's 2016 Annual Meeting!