

Garden tour fundraiser blooms

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

A handful of local residents will share their little slices of paradise this weekend during the Hermiston Garden Tour.

Presented by P.E.O. Chapter DR, the fundraiser provides support to assist women through education. In its 16th year, the event is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets, which are \$10, can be purchased at Cottage Flowers, 1725 N. First St.; Kopacz Nursery & Florist, 465 W. Theater Lane; or from P.E.O. members.

The tour booklet includes descriptions of the gardens, directions and a map. The gardens may be visited in any order, said Becky Hunt, the group's secretary.

Referred to as "Sanctuary at River's Edge," the Bloom Road home of Bill and Loretta Lowrance is ever-changing. Loretta said the property was "pretty rough" when she moved there in 1984. The landscap-

ing has included lots of muscle power moving rocks.

In addition to colorful geraniums, peonies, lilies and wave petunias, the Lowrances recently created a rock garden. However, the focus is a breathtaking view of the Umatilla River.

Working on the property for the garden tour, Loretta said, has given her a jump start for a family reunion later this summer. In addition, people see the work in progress as her business, Shear Illusions, is on the property.

"I love having clients come out here and they enjoy it," she said. "It's peaceful and fun."

The "Country Escape" on East Highland Avenue was featured during the 2005 tour. However, Tina and Jerry Cullers haven't been idle over the years.

With extensive vision, the property has been transformed into a relaxing and reflective place for family and friends — including a remodeled patio, a pond,

rock slabs and more than 300 plants.

"Gardeners never just sit back," Hunt said. "They change and improve — that's what makes them good gardeners."

Another transformation has taken place at the Southwest 11th Street home of Pam and Hank Schaffeld. Dubbed as "Rustic Charm," western flair is evident in the former farmland with an old wagon wheel from Pilot Rock and large rocks from Sumpter. The landscaping also includes a dry riverbed, lilacs and gladiolas.

If you've driven on West Highland Avenue, surely you've noticed the home of Katie and Kyle Fetterhoff. "Celebrating the Seasons," the couple offers thematic decorations and holiday displays throughout the year.

You'll find yard decorations and figurines, as well as a lovely arbor. In addition, there's a fairy garden and an oval-shaped garden with rose of Sharon, hydrangeas and rhododendrons.

Winnie and John Earl share "Beautiful Simplicity" at their Southwest Olive Court home. In just 20 months, the couple has created eye-pleasing landscaping with natural wood stepping stones, a fairy garden, an herb garden and a variety of plants.

And for "One More Stroll Around the Country Garden," be sure to check out Lois and Dennis Wolf's Craig Road home. It features everything from organic gardening and raised beds to a dry creek bed with colorful annuals inside barrels.

P.E.O. members will greet visitors and answer questions about the organization. P.E.O. International (Philanthropic Educational Organization) started as a bond of friendship between seven women in 1869. It celebrates the advancement of women by making education accessible through scholarships, grants, awards and loans. For more information, visit www.peointernational.org.



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

Re-purposed farm and household items are included in the decor at the Hermiston home of Bill and Loretta Lowrance. They are part of Saturday's P.E.O. Garden Tour.

BRIEFS

Pregnancy center sets dinner

TruCare Pregnancy Resource Center invites the public to a free meal and to learn how they can help in re-building a culture of life in Hermiston.

The meal is Sunday at 6 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 515 S.W. Seventh St., Hermiston. Due to limited space, people planning to attend need to RSVP.

Formerly known as Pregnancy Care Services, TruCare has been in Hermiston since May 2011. Its mission is to provide encouragement, support and education for men and women making pregnancy decisions. Its services are confidential and provided at no charge.

TruCare is in the Granary Square, 105 S.W. Second St. Support is available in English and Spanish.

For more information or to register for the outreach event and meal, contact 541-567-2393, info@truicareprc.com or visit www.truicareprc.com.

Treasures plentiful in Walla Walla

More than a flea market, the Love of Junk offers shoppers cool finds, salvaged materials, re-purposed objects and vintage items for the home, garden or gift giving.

The junker's paradise is Friday, June 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, June 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Swenson Farm, 253 Valley Chapel Road, Walla Walla. There's a \$5 entry fee (ages 12-and-under are free). In addition to more than 70 vendors, the event features food trucks, live entertainment and vintage trailer boutiques.

For more information, contact info@loveofjunk.com, 602-321-6511 or visit www.loveofjunk.com.

Summer reading program starts

Corbin Maxey, the Reptile Guy, is helping kick off the Hermiston Public Library summer reading program.

Maxey founded Cyprus Hill Reptile

Reserve, a nonprofit organization in Meridian, Idaho, that's dedicated to reptile rescue, conservation and education. He has found homes for hundreds of homeless, abused, and neglected reptiles and amphibians.

Kids of all ages are invited to Summer of Scales on Tuesday, June 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. There is no admission fee.

Maxey's passion for all animals influenced his decision to commit his life to them.

The Reptile Guy and friends have been featured on many TV shows, including "Late Night with Seth Meyers," "Inside Edition," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "The Today Show."

Registration for the summer reading program is Monday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Tuesday, June 12 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the library at 541-567-2882 or visit www.hermistonlibrary.us.

Joseph project features sculpture

Sculptor Doug Hyde of Prescott, Arizona, will return near his old stomping grounds as he prepares for an art installation for a street scape project in Joseph.

Chosen by the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture, Hyde will create "Plateau Indian Art on Main Street." The former Hermiston resident will be in Joseph to make final decisions and planning for the project.

The public is invited to a reception to meet Hyde June 14 at 7 p.m. at the Josephy Center, 403 N. Main St., Joseph.

Hyde attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the San Francisco Art Institute. While serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, he was seriously wounded by a grenade.

His work has been shown across the country and he recently won a Governor's Art Award in Arizona. In recent years, Hyde has made an effort to help many American Indian tribes tell their own stories in stone and bronze.

The Josephy project offers him a chance to work with his own tribal history. For more information, contact 541-432-0505, info@josephy.org or visit www.josephy.org.

Summer Pops concerts this weekend

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

A selection of popular pieces and show tunes will be performed by the combined ensembles of the Inland Northwest Musicians.

Many members of the ensembles hail from the west Umatilla County area. The 2018 Summer Pops concerts are Saturday at 6 p.m. on the HAPO Community Stage, 800 Jadwin Ave., Richland, Washington; and Sunday at 4 p.m. in the Powder River Pavilion at Geiser Pollman Park in Baker City. People are invited to bring a blanket or lawn chairs to sit on. Admission is free, although donations are accepted.

"This will be an amazing set of pieces," said Salli Ketchersid.

The program includes selections performed by combined ensembles of the Inland Northwest Orchestra and Inland Northwest Chorale along with members of the Willow Creek Symphony.

Selections to be performed includes Orchestra: "American Salute" based on "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," "Moon River" from The Paramount Picture "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "The Pink Panther" and "Selections from The Music Man." Chorale: "Blue Moon," "Java Jive," as recorded by Manhattan Transfer and "Somewhere Out There" from the movie

"An American Tail." Combined Groups: "The Salley Gardens' Red, Red Rose," an Irish Folk Song and "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother."

Founded in 1999, Inland Northwest Musicians is committed to providing live musical performances to rural audiences. It fosters an atmosphere of encouragement and assists musicians in developing their talent.

These are the final concerts of the 2017-18 season. In October, Inland Northwest Musicians will return for its 20th season.

For more information, contact 541-289-4696, inwm@machmedia.net or visit www.inlandnorthwestmusicians.com.

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