

Awareness walk steps 'In Her Shoes'

By TAMMY MALGESINI
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Jeanne Bedolla, an advocate and project coordinator with Domestic Violence Services, said insight can be drawn from the recent chaos caused by Mother Nature.

Flooding at Riverfront Park in Hermiston has impacted the organization's upcoming fundraising awareness event. Despite having plans in place for several months, the resulting damage at the park requires a change in venue.

"In a way, it's what our clients go through with all the barriers they face," Bedolla said. "Things happen that are out of their control."

Held in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month, "In Her Shoes" is Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Oxbow Trail, 1100 N.W. Elm Ave. (located behind the One Stop Mart gas station on Northwest 11th Street). The registration fee is \$15, which includes an event T-shirt. Also, people can purchase raffle tickets for \$1 each or six for \$5 for a chance to win prizes.

Also on Saturday, Good Shepherd Health Care System is holding Steps to Success, a fun run and walk — with distances of 5K, 10K and 1-mile. Bedolla said proceeds from that event will benefit Domestic Violence Services and the local Special Olympics program.



Tess Adams reads information at one of the stations during the 2018 "In Her Shoes." This year's experiential walk, which raises awareness for Domestic Violence Services, is Saturday at the Oxbow Trail in Hermiston.

Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini

Steps to Success starts at 8 a.m., also at the Oxbow Trail. People can register in advance at www.itsyourrace.com or on-site beginning at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 or \$25 with a T-shirt. Prizes will be awarded to top finishers. For questions, call 541-667-3509.

"Good Shepherd has been a great supporter of Domestic Violence Services," Bedolla said.

In its sixth year, the "In Her Shoes" experiential walk provides insight as to what victims of domestic violence and sexual assault go through. Family and

friends, Bedolla said, often wonder why victims "don't just leave." The activity provides an opportunity for people to learn more about the decision-making process and barriers that victims face.

When participants arrive, they receive a scenario and

then advance through stations based on their "decisions." The process, Bedolla said, can be eye-opening as people believe they are making the best decision based on the circumstances.

"A lot of times they are shocked," she said. "People think it's so simple and

logical."

While a victim of violence might make the best choice, Bedolla said there are many variables. At the same time, perpetrators of violence are making decisions. "In Her Shoes," she said, helps people understand some of the dynamics.

The Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence created "In Her Shoes" as a community education tool. Bedolla said the local organization modified the simulation activity to incorporate it as an actual awareness walk.

"It's better than someone just explaining what happened because it kind of gets you more into the feeling and emotions of it," Bedolla said about "In Her Shoes."

A nonprofit organization, Domestic Violence Services has served Umatilla and Morrow counties for more than 40 years. In addition to shelters in Hermiston and Pendleton, it maintains a 24-hour crisis line (800-833-1161) and provides support services and advocacy activities for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, including stalking, teen dating violence and the impact on children.

For more information about the organization or to register for "In Her Shoes," visit www.dvs-or.org. For questions, call 541-276-3322 or volunteer@dvs-or.org.

BRIEFS

Good Shepherd offers Collective Goods

A large selection of toys, books, gifts and games are featured in the spring Collective Goods sale.

A fundraiser for the Good Shepherd Medical Center Auxiliary, the event is Tuesday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, May 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will be held in Conference Room 1 at Good Shepherd, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Proceeds from the event helps in providing scholarships to area students who are pursuing a career in the medical field and for medical equipment at the hospital.

For more information, contact June Rosenberg at juner1942@gmail.com.

Old time fiddlers to play toe-tappin' music

The Blue Mountain Old Time Fiddlers encourage people to kick up their heels during an upcoming performance in Irrigon.

The group will perform Saturday at 6 p.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. All ages are welcome. The cost is \$5 (kids accompanying adults are free).

In addition, people are invited to come early for dinner, which will be served at 5 p.m. The cost ranges from dessert for approximately \$3.50 to \$8-\$10 for a full meal.

For more information, contact Judy Brown at 541-571-6117 or judydee39@hotmail.com.

Spring Fling features vendor booths

The Hermiston Friends of the Library are hosting a Spring Fling.

Handcrafted items and home business products, such as soap, jerky, painted signs and more are featured. The event is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.

For more information, call 541-567-2882.

Library friends host spring bazaar in Irrigon

A variety of vendor booths are featured during the Friends of the Irrigon Library Spring Bazaar.

People will find everything from artwork, baked goods and candles to jewelry, crafts, home business products and more. The event is Friday from noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Irrigon Public Library meeting room, 490 N.E. Main St.

For more information, call 541-720-3940 or search Facebook.

Blues guitarist to offer workshop

Hailed as one of the top acoustic blues guitarists, Terry Robb is offering a guitar workshop in Pendleton.

Born in British Columbia and raised in the United States, Robb has won numerous awards for his talent. He has been inducted into the Oregon Music Hall of Fame and the Cascade Blues Association Hall of Fame. In addition, Robb won the Muddy Award for Best Acoustic Guitar 19 con-

secutive years — from its inception in 1992 to 2011, when it was re-named the Terry Robb Acoustic Guitar Muddy Award. In 2017, he received the Muddy Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Limited to 12 people, the workshop is Sunday, May 19 from 1-2:30 p.m. in Pendleton. It's open to guitar players of all levels. The cost is \$45 per person.

Robb also will perform a free all-ages show Saturday, May 18 at 7 p.m. at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., Pendleton. He's currently on a limited edition advance release tour for "Confessin' My Dues."

For more information or to register for the workshop, email info@terryrobb.com.

Irrigon drama students stage original play

Romance and adventure is the theme of an upcoming drama performance at Irrigon High School.

Written and directed by students in the drama club, the storyline of "Steel Hearts" centers around an evil scientist who created robots for nefarious purposes. Melissa Dunn said it's presented as a TV drama — complete with commercials, breaking news events, previews of upcoming shows and announcements.

The production will be staged Friday and Saturday.

The doors open at 6 p.m. at Irrigon High School, 315 E. Wyoming Ave. A pasta dinner, which costs \$5, will be served at intermission. Also, Dunn said donations are always welcome to help support the club.

For more information, call the school at 541-922-5551.

Inland musicians host fundraising auction

The Inland Northwest Musicians are celebrating "20 Years of Moving Music."

The nonprofit organization is hosting its 19th annual dinner and auction. While it's too late to purchase dinner tickets, people are invited to attend the auction free of charge.

The event is Sunday at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. The live auction begins at 7:30 p.m. Items for the auction will be accepted through Friday. Also, people can buy tickets for a block quilt that features music-themed symbols and fabrics. The quilt drawing will be held June 16 during the INWM 20th anniversary concert.

For more information,

contact 541-289-4696, 541-561-2453, inwm@machmedia.net or visit www.inland-northwestmusicians.com.

Resource fair provides information

Seniors, veterans and people with disabilities are invited to a Wellness, Safety, Resource Fair.

The free event is Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ione American Legion Hall, 325 W. Second St. Lunch will be available for purchase. Also, several raffles will be held.

Those who attend can obtain information about support and services available. Also, government and private nonprofit agencies are recruiting for in-home support services.

For more information, contact Taranna Patton at tarannap@gmail.com or 541-571-1620. Rides are available through The Loop by calling 541-676-5667.

IMAC serves up Saturday breakfast

A breakfast fundraiser will benefit the Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center.

The hearty meal will be available Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. The cost is \$4.50 per person.

The group is dedicated to the preservation of Irrigon's 1921 school building and developing a regional art venue. For more information, call Peggy Price at 541-567-3806.

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