

Costumes for a Common cause

Race benefits community center

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EXETER — Celebrate community wellness with Squamscott Community Commons during the organization's 1st Annual Fearless 5K Road Race on Halloween.

The concept of community wellness is one that will be fostered at the proposed 80,000-square-foot, nonprofit community center to be constructed on Linden Street and the six partnering agencies that will be housed there. The mission of The Commons is to improve the quality of community and family life by creating and maintaining an inter-generational center that provides social, health, recreational, cultural and educational opportunities for all.

"An event like this made sense," said Campaign Manager Kristi Scarpone. "It's a way for people to experience community wellness together; another opportunity for them to really get excited about the opportunities the organization will bring on a daily basis."

Approximately 200 to 250 elites, mid-packers, runners, walkers, strollers, wheelchairs and celebrants are expected to participate in the Fearless 5K, which is on Oct. 31. The 3.1-mile course will loop through Exeter and will start and finish at 56 Linden St., the future site of the community center and former Exeter Area High School. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., and the race starts at 8:30 a.m. A Kids Fun Run will begin at 9:45 a.m., with a costume contest and awards ceremony beginning at 10:15 a.m.

To register, visit www.active.com. For more information or to find out about race day volunteer opportunities, call The Commons at 778-4722. Registration will be accepted through the day of the event.

Scarpone said the organization is hop-

FEARLESS 5K

What: Road race benefiting Squamscott Community Commons.

When: Saturday, Oct. 31. Registration at 7:30 a.m. Race at 8:30 a.m. A Kids Fun Run begins at 9:45 a.m. Costume contest and awards ceremony begin at 10:15 a.m.

Where: 56 Linden St., the future site of Squamscott Community Commons.

More: Register at www.active.com. For information about the Commons, call 778-4722 or visit www.squamscott.org.

ing the Fearless 5K is a destination for families on Halloween morning. Adults and children are invited to participate in costume.

Vendors, face painting, a rock wall and more will also be available for family fun.

"We want this to be a destination for people to do the run and actually stay," she said.

Squamscott Community Commons is currently fund-raising for the center. Proceeds from the race go directly towards making the facility a reality, Scarpone said. Squamscott Community Commons will house a Y.M.C.A., SeaCare Health Services, Exeter Center for the Creative Arts, Great Bay Kids' Company, Richie McFarland Children's Center and Rockingham Community Action.

"We are thrilled to be putting on this first annual event to build awareness and support for The Commons, and to bring individuals and families throughout the Seacoast together to get some exercise, have some fun and support the mission of our organization," said Robin Drunsic, executive director. "This kind of event is exactly what we envision when The Commons is open — fostering community health and wellness by bringing the community together."

Event sponsors are Access Sports Medicine, New Hampshire Martial Arts Academy, The Barking Dog LTD, Smartwool and AM 1540 WXEX.