

Gun rights rally set for Saturday

Event begins at 1 p.m. at Lewiston's Pioneer Park

By Kelcie Moseley/Lewiston Tribune

Two members of the Lewis and Clark Tea Party Patriots are hoping Pioneer Park will be loaded with gun rights advocates Saturday for a Second Amendment rally.

Marvin Dugger of Lewiston and Rose Bunch of Clarkston are hosting the event on behalf of the Tea Party group.

The rally will begin at 1 p.m. in the Lewiston park, complete with guest speakers and food and beverages. One speaker the group has secured is Idaho County Commissioner Jim Chmelik.

Dugger said the pair planned the event with relatively short notice, but got the idea from other places around the country that have recently had "enormously successful" Second Amendment rallies since discussion of gun control reform began on a national level. Dugger said organizers feel the people of Lewiston deserve to have one as well.

Bunch said they aren't making a point of encouraging attendees to come armed, but they do urge those who are planning to bring their weapons to practice gun safety. Bunch said she isn't worried about an incident occurring, though.

"People who usually pack guns know how to pack them safely," Bunch said.

Bunch and Dugger are stressing the need for better enforcement of current laws, armed guards in schools and an examination of how the mentally ill might be able to obtain firearms - not an assault weapons ban or other proposed reforms. Those topics will be main points of discussion at the rally, they said.

"We just want people to show up," Dugger said. "The people who show up rule the world. We need to stand up and say we're here and we're watching."

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