

THE NEWBURYPORT CURRENT

5K run memorializes victim of violence

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AMESBURY, MASS. -Start a new tradition by running in the first-ever Dorothy's Run 5K in memory of Dorothy Giunta-Cotter, or walking along one of the most beautiful and historic courses in New England, in the 17th annual Walk Against Violence Oct. 19.

The walk/run consists of a 5K, 3.1-mile course, and the event includes water rations, pre-event/post-event warm-up, post-event refreshments, awards ceremony, family fun, children's activities and entertainment provided by the renowned Thomas Machine Works Band.

Prizes are awarded for \$125, \$500, \$750, \$1,000, \$1,500 and \$2,000 pledge levels; registration fee is \$30. This event raises money for the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center, a local nonprofit organization that provides services for families affected by domestic violence. For the 11th year, the Institution for Savings returns as the lead sponsor.

Participants are encouraged to register online and track pledges on a personalized fundraising page. Friends, family, co-workers, neighbors can pledge online easily, as well.

The run begins Oct. 19 with registration at 11 a.m. at the Bartlet Mall; welcome and warm-up begins at 12:15; runners start at 12:45 p.m. and walkers at 1 p.m. Register online at coolrunning.com or download the registration.

For more than 25 years, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center has been helping individuals and families at risk because of domestic violence. What began as the compassionate mission of several volunteer parishioners of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newburyport in 1982, has grown into a nationally-recognized nonprofit organization serving families from Amesbury, Merrimac, Georgetown, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, Salisbury, West Newbury and Groveland.

The mission of the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center is to empower community members to live free from fear, intimidation, violence or the threat of abuse by providing support, advocacy and education. For information, call 978-465-0999.