



WHO ARE YOU
CHEERING FOR?

Show your Bulldog pride by displaying the poster on **Page 7**

*Or you can find the poster for the team to the east on **Page 11**.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016

HermistonHerald.com

\$1.00

ABOUT TOWN

Prison accepts donations for bike program

Bicycles are needed for the Cycles of Hope program at Two Rivers Correctional Institution.

The program repairs donated bicycles and provides them to local charities for distribution. Last Christmas season, 50 bicycles were given to local families in need.

Scott and Steve Cimmiyotti of Scott's Cycle & Sports in Hermiston volunteer as trainers for repairing bicycles. Inmates at the prison learn valuable skills through the project and are provided with an opportunity to give back to the community.

People can drop donated bikes off at Agape House, 500 Harper Road, Hermiston. In addition, people can call Sgt. Kevin Hodges at TRCI at 541-922-2100 to make arrangements for donations or for more information about the program.

Party includes pumpkin fun

Boo bowling and broomstick hockey are among the activities during a Pumpkin Picking Party at the Lexington Grange.

Children of all ages are invited to pick and decorate a pumpkin, as well as entering a costume contest for a chance to win prizes. The event is Sunday from 1-3 p.m. at the Lexington Grange, 66296 Marquardt Road. The cost is \$5. Carnival games require one ticket, which can be purchased for 25 cents or five for \$1. In addition, there's a raffle (tickets \$5 each) for a fall-themed basket.

For more information, visit www.lex-grange726.wix.com/grange or contact lex.grange726@gmail.com.

Event provides Halloween fun

A pair of local churches are offering safe fun on Halloween.

The Fall Family Festival & Trunk or Treat is Monday from 5-7 p.m. at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave. The event offers fun for the whole family. In addition to candy, hot dogs will be available. For more information, visit www.hermistonnazarene.org or call 541-567-3677.

Also, the annual Crossroads Trunk of Treat is Monday from 6-8 p.m. at Crossroads Community Church, 350 N.W. Sherman St., Stanfield. People are invited to decorate their cars or trucks and hand out candy to kids. Also, hot chocolate and warming pits will be on hand — if weather permits, a wenchery castle and slide will be available. For more information, call 541-449-3434.

For more Halloween events and activities, see the *Coming Events calendar* on **Page A2**.

ONE LAST RUN AMONGST THE POPLARS



PHOTO BY ANTONIO SIERRA

Participants take off at the starting line for the children's one-mile race at the Poplar Run at the Boardman Tree Farm Saturday.

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**

Staff Writer

About 1,200 people registered for the Very Poplar Run on Saturday morning, for the opportunity to participate in the final race at the Boardman Tree Farm.

The Poplar Run became a very popular run in its sixth and final outing, as nearly three times the number of runners participated this year as ran in 2015.

Runners still had patches of poplars to run through — striking shades of red and orange melded with green leaves still resisting autumn's pull — but the tree farm's slow fade-out was clearly felt, not only in the Very Poplar Run's premature end but also in the sudden expanses of barren land and corn crops.

GreenWood Resources sold the farm's 25,000 acres to AgriNorthwest of Tri-Cities in February, the new owners intent on replacing the poplars with more conventional Eastern Oregon scenery, including conventional irrigated farmland and dairy.

Andrew Bourque, GreenWood's director of resource information systems, was one of the run's progenitors and organized the race each of its six years.

He's moving to Portland to work in GreenWood's headquarters, but he was grateful for the time the company allowed him to not only work amongst Boardman's trees but organize a race.

"This is very unique and I've been



PHOTO BY ANTONIO SIERRA

Runners participating in A Very Poplar Run make their way through the course at the Boardman Tree Farm Saturday.



PHOTO BY ANTONIO SIERRA

See **RUN, A18** 10K runners get a start on the course at the Poplar Run at the Boardman Tree Farm Saturday.

Where should the bus stop?

City, tribes finalizing plans to start service in January

By **JADE MCDOWELL**

Staff Writer

Fake "bus stops" will start appearing around Hermiston soon, but the signs are a dress rehearsal for a real bus system coming to town.

The signs will provide information about a planned bus system that will transport Hermiston residents for free around town five days a week starting Jan. 2. It will be

operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation's Kayak Transit program as a contract with the city of Hermiston.

Mark Morgan, assistant city manager, said the transit advisory committee, which is helping to plan the bus system, hopes the signs at the proposed stops will work to draw feedback on the route and times before the committee submits a final recommendation to the City Council on Nov. 14. The committee will meet one more time on Nov. 1 at 5 p.m. at City Hall, and members of the public are

encouraged to attend.

"If they have any heartburn about it, we want to hear it at the Nov. 1 meeting," Morgan said.

The advisory committee met last week and traveled the initial route the CTUIR put together, making suggestions for minor adjustments. The tribes plan to incorporate those suggestions before handing the city a map to publicize on its website and the proposed bus stops this week.

Without those adjustments, the proposed route includes 35 stops around town and takes about an hour to complete one cir-

cuit. The suggested stops include Wal-Mart, Blue Mountain Community College, Hermiston Plaza and Good Shepherd Medical Center, as well as multiple stops along major streets like NW 11th Street, NE Fourth Street, Main Street, Orchard Avenue and Highland Avenue.

A city survey offered two options for bus route times: continuously from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or in two chunks of time in the early morning and late afternoon for commuters. Seventy four percent of

See **BUS, A18**



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