# **Our Community**

E-mail your community news items to: community@hermistonherald.com

## Free event connects people to local services, resources

By TAMMY MALGESINI Community Editor

Clothing and hygiene supplies, employment and housing information, haircuts, veterans services, dental, vision and healthcare screenings and other support services are available free of charge during the Project Community Connect & Veterans Stand Down.

Open to all veterans, the homeless and other at-risk individuals in the community, the event helps connect people with resources and provides on-the-spot services. Although it's coordinated by the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon, case manager Susie Stuvland said the event is made possible through all the partner agencies that come together to connect people to services. It's the seventh event of its type, the second time in Hermiston.

"In today's world, it's good to link arms and work together," Stuvland said.

Project Community Connect is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Oregon National Guard Armory, 900 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston. Fiesta Foods is catering a delicious hot meal, Stuvland said, which is provided to all participants and volunteers. In addition, free transportation is available.

Area residents can take Kayak Public Transit to the Columbia Drive stop in Hermiston. People can check schedules for the Hermiston Hopper and Walla Walla Whistler at



Patti Coffman introduces Teddy Bear, her border collie/blue healer mix, to a volunteer during Project **Community Connect.** 

www.ctuir.org/tribal-services/planning/kayak-public-transit. For questions, the dispatch line is open Monday through Fridays from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. Other Morrow County residents outside of Irrigon can obtain transportation information by calling Anita Pranger at 855-644-4560.

Stuvland said it's important to get people connected to available services. Positive things can begin to happen in people's lives when they have access to resources, she said.

"We feel very strongly that we provide a hand up and not a hand out," Stuvland said. '

Volunteers are still needed for the event. Opportunities include working at the registration table, guiding participants to specific services and the exit station to hand out toiletries, clothing and other items.

For more information about Project Community Connect & Veterans Stand Down, call Glenda Mc-Daniel or Susie Stuvland at 541-276-1926.

#### Library seeks friends

People who enjoy books and libraries are encouraged to join the Friends of the Hermiston Public Library

The group meets quarterly and assists the library by raising money through an annual book sale and periodic basket raffle baskets. Members can help decide how money that is raised is used.

There are membership dues, but with that comes perks — including a preview and discount for the book sale. To learn more. attend the next meeting Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 6 p.m. at the library, 235 E. Gladys

For more information, call 541-567-2882.

#### **Oregon** Humanities program starts conversation

The Conversation Proiect brings Oregonians together to discuss important and challenging issues and

More than 90 free programs will take place in communities around the state this winter and spring. The local events are:

·Life after War: Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home by Jim Lommasson. Friday, Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m. at Frazier Farmstead Museum, 1403 Chestnut St., Milton-Free-

•Homeless in the Land of Plenty by Ryan Stroud.

Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 11 a.m. at BMCC, 975 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermis-

For more information about presentations across the state, visit www.oregonhumanities.org/calendar. For questions, contact Mikaela Schey at 503-241-0543 or m.schey@oregonhumanities.org.

#### Student anthology seeks submissions

The deadline for student photography, poetry and prose is Jan. 31 for an anthology created by a Portland-based conservation organization.

"Honoring Our Rivers" seeks submissions from kindergarten through college students from across the state. Items submitted should reflect the relationship between students and Pacific Northwest rivers and watersheds, including weather, land, plants, animals and habitats that make up river systems.

A special feature, Working Rivers, focuses on towns, traditions and economies (fishing, agriculture) connected to rivers, iconic bridges and historical expeditions. Students are encouraged to be creative

For details on how to submit, visit www.honoringourrivers.org. Photographs of art installations, bulky items or sculptures also are accepted.

In addition to the publication, students artists and authors are celebrated during special readings and gallery exhibits across the state.

#### **Bunco fundraiser** benefits women

HERMISTON — A bunco fundraiser is planned by Soroptimist International of the Greater Hermiston Area

I Love Bunco is Tuesday, Jan. 31 with the doors opening at 6 p.m. at Desert Lanes, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston. The cost is \$10 (cash, check or square payment) at the door. The event includes snacks, prizes and silent auction baskets.

The local Soroptimist club is part of an international group that promotes education and leadership to transform the lives of women and girls. Money raised from the event will go towards Live Your Dream, which provides education and training awards for

For more information, call Jan Mills at 541-571-

### **IMAC** serves Saturday breakfast

The Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center is hosting its monthly breakfast this weekend.

For a hearty homecooked meal, head to the fundraiser Saturday from 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 N.W. Opal Place, Irrigon. The cost is \$4.50 per per-

The group of volunteers hope to preserve Irrigon's 1921 school building and create a regional arts center. For more information, call Peggy at 541-567-3806.





Gary L. West | Editor • gwest@hermistonherald.com • 541-564-4532

Tammy Malgesini | Community Editor • tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4539

Jayati Ramakrishnan | Reporter • jramakrishnan@hermistonherald.com • 541-564-4534

Jade McDowell | Reporter • jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4536 Jeanne Jewett | Multi-Media consultant • jjewett@hermistonherald.com • 541-564-4531

Shannon Paxton | Office coordinator • spaxton@hermistonherald.com • 541-564-4530

Audra Workman | Multi-Media consultant • aworkman@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4538

**Reta Larson** 

Admin. Assistant

Jeff

To contact the Hermiston Herald for news. advertising or subscription information

- call 541-567-6457 e-mail info@hermistonherald.com
- stop by our offices at 333 E. Main St.
- visit us online at: hermistonherald.com

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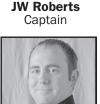
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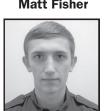
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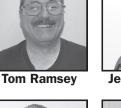
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Tom Bohm Fire Marshall



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Billing Clerk





**Ed Clark** 

Lieutenant

whenever flames may rage,

Give me the strength to save

some life

Whatever be its age.

Help me to embrace a little child

Before it's too late, Or some older person

from the horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert

And hear the weakest shout,

Tristan Walker

**Katlyn Jackson** 

**Destry Stewart** 

Josh Simmons





**Terry Cummings** 

Chaplain



**Division Chief** 

FIREMAN'S PRAYER



I want to fill my calling

and give the best in me,

To guard my neighbor

And protect his property.

And if according to Your will

I have to lose my life, Please bless with Your

protecting hand My children and my wife

**Jimmy Davis** 

**Battalion Chief** 



When I am called to duty, God And quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.







**Mark Johnson** 

**Brian Washburn** 

**Chance Mikaelson** 



**Gabe Billings** 



**Chris Wrathall** 



**Gaige Phillips** 





**Erickson** 





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