

HERMISTON

Churches offer holiday gift for the season

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

A pair of local churches will provide an interactive tour depicting what it may have been like during the time of Jesus’ birth.

Presented by Hermiston and Anchor Point Seventh-day Adventist churches, Journey to Bethlehem includes the sights, sounds and smells of a village during Biblical times, said Sheila Botti.

The realistic-looking village is being erected over the weekend to help kick off the holiday season. The free 20-30 minute guided tours are Friday, Dec. 4 through Sunday, Dec. 6 from 5-8:30 p.m. behind the Hermiston Seventh-day Adventist Church, 855 W. Highland Ave.

The huge undertaking is done out of a desire to provide a gift to the community, Botti said. Nearly 100 costumed actors participate in the dramatic production. Additional volunteers coordinate musical entertainment and those serve refreshments for visitors after they’ve taken the journey.

“This is the true meaning of what Christmas is — the birth of Jesus,” Botti said. “It’s not all about shopping and the gifts and Santa.”

The authenticity of the tour, Judi Hanson said, provides an experience that touches people beyond merely reading the Biblical account or attending a regular living Nativity.

“It makes you feel like you’re right there in a real village,” she said. “The detail in the little shops is amazing.”

More than a dozen shops provide a feast for the senses. The odors include straw, perfumes and animals, adding to the experience, Hanson said. In addition, food being prepared in the fires provides a wafting smell of baked bread and roasted chicken.

“We try really hard to make it authentic with the energy of the village,” Botti



EO file photo

A village is being erected this weekend behind the Hermiston Seventh-day Adventist Church for the annual Journey to Bethlehem. The interactive tours start Friday, Dec. 4 and continue through Sunday, Dec. 6.



Photo contributed by Sheila Botti

A villager carries a chicken during a past Journey to Bethlehem at the Hermiston Seventh-day Adventist Church. The interactive tours start Friday, Dec. 4 and continue through Sunday, Dec. 6.

said.

The production has become more streamlined since it started in 2008, Botti said. However, the past seven seasons have taken a toll on the village and props. The tent structures, tattered over time, are being replaced with

semi-permanent structures, Hanson said.

The churches, who haven’t charged admission or accepted donations in the past, have operating expenses of about \$3,000. Botti said the event’s steering committee decided to solicit financial

support to make needed improvements for this season.

“We did an informal shout out to the community asking if anyone wanted to give back to Journey to Bethlehem,” Botti said. “We were able to get enough and because of that we are able to do it this year.”

Eventually, the group would like to lay asphalt along the path to make it less rugged and more accessible, Botti said. They bought an all-terrain wheelchair, however, it likely won’t arrive in time for the 2015 season, she said. Assistants are available to help in maneuvering wheelchairs and strollers, she needed.

“We have regular wheelchairs and people that will help push wheelchairs through,” Botti said. “It’s hard because it’s just soft dirt, but it’s possible.”

For more information about Journey to Bethlehem, call 541-567-9000.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539

Pair of concerts benefit music ministry

HEPPNER — Musical entertainment by David Bates and Darren Montgomery will help raise money for the children’s and music ministries at Christian Life Center in Heppner.

A pair of benefit concerts are Friday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. at 535 W. Morgan St., Heppner. The doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance. The events include a silent auction and dessert auction during the intermission.

For more information, call 541-676-5814 or 541-256-0962.

New Hope sets Christmas program

HERMISTON — A Christmas Special is planned at New Hope

FAITH BRIEFLY

Community Church.

The event includes singing Christmas carols, watching the kids’ Christmas program and enjoying Christmas cookies. The music features Louise Sundvall on piano.

Everyone is welcome to come celebrate the season Sunday, Dec. 6 from 6-7 p.m. at the church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston.

For more information, call Doug Fehrenbacher at 541-561-8327.

Hope Lutheran celebrates season with music

HEPPNER — A Christmas Musicfest is planned in Heppner.

The celebration of the season features several local musicians. Additional performers may be added to the program.

The benefit event is Sunday, Dec.

13 at 3 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 675 S. Alfalfa St., Heppner. Admission is free, but non-perishable food items or freewill cash offerings are accepted. Donations will be distributed through the Neighborhood Center for those in need.

For more information or to suggest additional performers, call Katy Anderson at 541-676-9970.

Bible study focuses on love, respect

HERMISTON — A Bible study is available for couples at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene.

Love and Respect meets Thursdays from 6:30-8 p.m. in the church’s Ministry Center, 1520 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call Leslie George at 541-922-7229.

SUPPORT GROUPS

DAILY
OPEN AA MEETING, 12 noon, 680 Harper Road, Hermiston. (800-410-5953).

OPEN AA MEETING, 12 noon, Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 241 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. Coffee is provided. (Ed 541-207-2548).

FRIDAYS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/SEXUAL ASSAULT WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, 2-3:30 p.m., Pendleton. Call for location details. Sponsored by Domestic Violence Services. (541-276-3322).

OPEN AA MEETING, 6-7 p.m., Good Samaritan Ministries, 21 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP, 6 p.m., Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-3369).

OPEN AA MEETING, 7 p.m. United Methodist Church, 1004 Main St., Fossil (800-410-5953).

OPEN AA MEETING, 7 p.m., Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center, 73265 Confederated Way, Mission (800-410-5953).

OPEN AA MEETING, 7:30 p.m., lone Community Church, 395 Main St., Ione. (800-410-5953).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30 p.m., United Methodist Church, 191 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.

OPEN AA MEETING, 8 p.m., 680 Harper Road, Hermiston. (800-410-5953).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 9 p.m., 811 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

SATURDAYS
OREGON GREEN FREE MEDICAL MARIJUANA SUPPORT GROUP, 12 noon, 1607 Gekeler Lane, La Grande. Lunch will be provided. (Doreen 541-963-2529).

Second Saturday
AA BOOK MEETING, 10 a.m., St. Johns Episcopal Church, 665 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 7 p.m., Pilot Rock City Hall council chambers, 143 W. Main St. (Edward D. 541-207-2548).

OPEN AA MEETING, 7 p.m., United Church of Christ, 114 S. East St., Condon. (800-410-5953).

VISION FOR YOU OPEN AA MEETING, 7 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 420 Locust Rd S.W., Boardman. (Pat 541-215-2342, 503-752-7459).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30 p.m., United Methodist Church, 191 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30 p.m., 248 S.W. 3rd St., Pendleton.

HEPPNER MIRACLES OPEN AA MEETING, 8 p.m., St. Patrick’s Church parish hall, 525 N. Gale St., Heppner. (800-410-5953).

OPEN AA MEETING, 8 p.m., 680 Harper Road, Hermiston. (800-410-5953).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 8:45 p.m., 811 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

SUNDAYS
HUNGRY SPIRIT OPEN AA MEETING, 8:30 a.m., Roosters Restaurant, 1515 Southgate, Pendleton (800-410-5953).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30 p.m., 811 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

OPEN AA MEETING, 7 p.m., Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center, 73265 Confederated Way, Mission (800-410-5953).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30-9 p.m., Hermiston United Methodist Church, 191 E. Gladys Ave.

OPEN AA MEETING, 8 p.m.,

680 Harper Road, Hermiston. (800-410-5953).

MONDAYS
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 6-7 a.m., St. Anthony Hospital conference room 3, 3001 St. Anthony Drive, Pendleton. (Ed 541-207-2548).

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP, 1 p.m., Desert Lanes Bowling Alley, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston. (Carol and Charles 541-720-4256 or 541-567-9420).

PENDLETON PARKINSON'S SUPPORT/TELEHEALTH FAMILY, 2-4 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Sue Peterson 541-276-4569).

ALZHEIMERS AND DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP, 5:30 p.m., Good Shepherd Medical Pavilion room M1, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. For families and support members of people with dementia diagnoses. (Cathy Lloyd 541-390-1158). Last Monday except for May 18.

AL-ANON, 6:30 p.m., United Church of Christ, 114 S. East St., Condon. (800-410-5953).

HOPE FOR HEALING SUPPORT GROUP, 6-7:30 p.m., Good Shepherd Medical Office Plaza meeting room, 620 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Bereavement support group dealing with loss and grief issues. (541-667-3543). Second and fourth Monday

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP, 6:30-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Medical Office Plaza meeting room, 620 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. English and Spanish. (Karen 541-561-6522, Shari 541-561-7404 or Esmeralda 541-720-7595). Third Monday

EASTERN OREGON DOWN SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP, 6:30-7:30 p.m., The Arc Building,

215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. (Angela Bonzani 541-720-7880).

Third Monday
OPEN AA MEETING, 6:30 p.m., Echo Methodist Church, 21 Bonanza Street. (541-571-6257, 800-410-5953).



11/26 - 11/29

Cineplex Show Times

\$5 Classic Movie

12/2 12:00 PM

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

THE GOOD DINOSAUR (PG)

2D: 11:40* 4:20 6:40

3D: 2:00* 9:00

SPECTRE (PG13)

12:50* 3:50* 6:50 9:50

CREED (PG13)

1:10* 4:10 7:20 10:10

HUNGER GAMES

MOCKINGJAY PART 2 (PG13)

1:00* 4:00 7:00 10:00

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (PG13)

11:50* 2:10* 4:40 7:10 9:40

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UPCOMING SERVICES

FRIDAY, NOV. 27

SCHUENING, ROSEMARY — Viewing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, 131 S.E. Byers Ave.

SATURDAY, NOV. 28

FRENCH, WILLARD — Memorial service with military honors at 2 p.m. at Ione Community Church, 470 E. Main St.

JAMES, CHARLES — Community celebration of life from 1-3 p.m. at 3 Bears Cafe, 414 Riverside Ave., Winthrop, Wash.

RUUD, LESTER — Memorial service at 3 p.m. at the Walla Walla City Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2133 S. Howard St., Walla Walla.

SCHUENING, ROSEMARY — Celebration of life at 1 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 210 N.W. Ninth St., Pendleton.

SNYDER, MICHAEL JR. — Graveside service at 1 p.m. at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon.

OBITUARY POLICY

The East Oregonian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include small photos and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style.

Expanded death notices will be published at no charge. These include information about services.

Obituaries and notices can be submitted online at www.eastoregonian.com/obituaryform, by email to obits@eastoregonian.com, by fax to 541-276-8314, placed via the funeral home or in person at the East Oregonian office.

For more information, call 541-966-0818 or 1-800-522-0255, ext. 221.

MEETINGS

MONDAY, NOV. 30
NIXYAAWII COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD, 4:30 p.m., Nixyaawii Community School, 73300 July Grounds Lane, Pendleton.

ATHENA - WESTON SCHOOL DISTRICT WORK SESSION, immediately following the executive session at 5:30 p.m., Athena Elementary School, 374 S. Fifth St.

MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT, 6 p.m. dinner with providers, 7 p.m. regular meeting, Pioneer Memorial Hospital, 564 E. Pioneer Drive, Heppner.

TUESDAY, DEC. 1
PENDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT WORK SESSION, 8 a.m., Pendleton School District office, 1100 Southgate Suite 8.

UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT, 1:30 p.m., Hermiston Fire Station No. 3, 78760 Westland Road. Shawn Halsey 541-966-3774).

WESTON LIBRARY BOARD, 5:30 p.m., Weston Public Library, 108 E. Main St.

IRRIGON PLANNING COMMISSION, 6 p.m., Irigon City Hall, 500 N.E. Main St.

MEACHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, 7 p.m., Meacham Fire Department, Meacham. (541-786-2069).

BOARDMAN CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Boardman City Hall, 200 City Center Circle.

PENDLETON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall council chambers, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave.

PILOT ROCK CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., council chambers, 143 W. Main St.

STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., council chambers, 150 W. Coe St.

UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2 MORROW COUNTY COURT, 9 a.m., Pioneer Annex conference room, 150 Rock St., Heppner.

UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT, 11:30 a.m., West Umatilla Vector Control District office, 3005 S. First St., Hermiston.

HERMISTON AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, 4 p.m., Hermiston Airport lounge, 1600 Airport Way.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BOARD OF EDUCATION, 6:30 p.m., TBA

CONDON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Condon City Hall, 128 S. Main St.

UMATILLA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, 7 p.m., 305 Willamette Ave., Umatilla (McNary). An executive session will be held during the regular meeting to discuss employment-related subjects.

HELIX SCHOOL BOARD, 7:30, Helix School library, 120 Main St.

THURSDAY, DEC. 3 ADAMS PLANNING COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m., Adams City Hall, 190 N. Main St.

PENDLETON PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall council chambers, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave.

FRIDAY, DEC. 4
No meetings scheduled

SUBMIT FAITH NEWS

Friday's faith page features local, national and international faith-related news. Send information about local faith-related news and events, including concerts, special speakers and activities to community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

LOTTERY

Wednesday, Nov. 25	Lucky Lines
Megabucks	01-06-12-14-FREE-17-22-28-30
29-30-32-33-36-48	Estimated jackpot: \$41,000 million
Estimated jackpot: \$1.8 million	Pick 4
Powerball	1 p.m.: 6-4-9-7
16-29-53-58-69	4 p.m.: 6-7-8-2
Powerball: 21	7 p.m.: 7-4-7-3
Power Play: 2	10 p.m.: 6-3-7-6
Estimated jackpot: \$100 million	Thursday, Nov. 26
Win for Life	Pick 4
19-32-41-45	1 p.m.: 0-8-8-9



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