

Hermiston Altrusa sees declining membership

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — When Altrusa International celebrated its centennial year in 2017, the Hermiston club, with 53 members, was one of the largest in District Twelve — which encompasses Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and British Columbia, Canada.

Altrusa International of Hermiston currently has 33 registered members. However, membership numbers don't provide the whole picture, said Debbie McBee, District Twelve governor-elect. McBee, a member of Altrusa International of Pendleton, sent an urgent email to the Hermiston club's membership.

"Only about eight members are keeping your club alive," McBee wrote. "As you can imagine, that is a huge undertaking for a small group."

McBee and Cathy Lloyd, newly-installed president of the Hermiston club, said the problem isn't unique to Altrusa International. Many service clubs and organizations, they said, are experiencing dwindling memberships.

Some members have died, while others have moved away or are traveling more, Lloyd said. Also, other organizations and commitments are vying for people's time.

"We see more and more families where both partners are working," Lloyd said. "They have to choose



East Oregonian, File

Members of Altrusa International of Hermiston spread bark chips May 1, 2021, in the landscaping at Hermiston's Belt Park. People can learn how to join and get involved with the service club during a meet-and-greet Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022, at Hermiston Starbucks.

what their priorities are and where to spend their time and energy."

Reengaging inactive members and recruiting new ones, McBee said, are key to increasing Altrusa's membership. She urged Hermiston Altrusans to reach out to potential members.

What is Altrusa?

Originally called Altrusa Institute, Mamie L. Bass founded the service organization in 1917 in Nashville. The name "Altrusa" is derived from combining altruism and USA.

Altrusa was originally established for female business owners, managers and professional women. It later expanded to include all women, as well as men.

McBee said Altrusans share their talents in "exem-

plifying the tradition of neighbor helping neighbor." The Hermiston club, she said, has a long history of impactful projects, even during the pandemic.

Seeking an opportunity to participate in community service, Lloyd joined Altrusa a decade ago. A bonus, she said, is the camaraderie among members.

"Anytime we get together, it's pretty fun," Lloyd said. "It doesn't seem like work when we get together and do a project."

Altrusa's goal is to make a positive difference both locally and across the globe. Lloyd said they focus on such things as literacy, education, environmental concerns and fundraising to provide support to projects and programs. Donating time and money, Altrusans work together to

HERMISTON ALTRUSA MEET-AND-GREET

WHEN: Tuesday, Aug. 2.
TIME: 5:30-6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Hermiston Starbucks, 990 S. Highway 395.
WHO: Men and women.
WHAT: Opportunity to get involved.
QUESTIONS: 458-206-6337, cloyd10@msn.com.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Tammy Malgesini/East Oregonian

Madison Pollock, along with her children, Clarabell, 4, and Lane, 1, pose for a photo on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at the Oxbow Trail in Hermiston.

Hermiston woman unearths bounty in treasure hunt

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Super sleuth Madison Pollock found the hidden medallion after just two clues during the National Night Out treasure hunt. Inside a small treasure chest, the bounty was hidden at a makeshift rock trading post under an information board at the Oxbow Trail.

After discussing the clues with her mother-in-law, Tracey Pollock, and her grandmother, Connie Ferranti, the Hermiston woman, along with her children, Clarabell, 4, and Lane, 1, headed out early in the morning on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, to search.

As the winner of the treasure hunt, the Hermiston Police Department and

city of Hermiston will host an ice cream social block party in her grandmother's East Quince Avenue neighborhood on Tuesday, Aug. 2 during Hermiston's National Night Out festivities.

Other community members are encouraged to organize neighborhood parties, cookouts or gatherings during National Night Out, an initiative that aims to connect communities with their neighbors and law enforcement. As available, city personnel and first responders will stop by and mingle.

Those planning a gathering are invited to provide time and location information to Cpl. Tim Mears at 541-667-5112 or tmears@hermiston.or.us.

M-F festival features Pro-West rodeo, live music

By BRITTANY ANDERSON
Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

MILTON-FREEWATER — The Milton-Freewater Pioneer Posse on Saturday and Sunday, July 30-31, hosts its second annual Pro-West Rodeo at the Posse grounds off Highway 11 in Milton-Freewater. The rodeo is among a variety of events taking place during the Weekend at the Blues festival.

At the rodeo, the Cook Shack will be open serving classic concessions like burgers and hot dogs and Dragon's Gate Brewery will host a beer garden.

The FrogHollow Band is slated to play at the after-party following the rodeo, which will feature drinks from Dragon's Gate Brewery and food by Kelly's

Restaurant and Lounge. The coinciding festival at Yantis Park is planned for July 29-30 and will feature musical acts and vendors.

This is a community affair, and the weekend will be full of fun activities for the whole family. A soccer tournament and camp and a city-wide yard sale are planned in addition to the Weekend at the Blues Parade, which starts at 11 a.m. July 30.

Sign-ups for these events and a map of yard sales can be found at the Weekend at the Blues website.

The Pro-West Rodeo is a lot like the one that takes place each year at the Walla Walla County Fairgrounds, but it features a different level of competition from the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, or PRCA. Locals and kids as young as 14 can enter this rodeo, so there

will be lots of local competitors along with professional cowboys you may recognize from the pro rodeo.

Some competitions are best left to the locals — the Calf Panty Pull is still open to entries, but a limited number of teams will be selected to compete. The rules are simple: the first team of two to drag the calf to the line, put on its panties, and bring it back to the starting line wins.

The Pro-West Rodeo took place at the Posse grounds for the first time in 2021 and was a standalone event. The plan is to expand each year and make Weekend at the Blues Milton-Freewater's new annual family festival. So far it's shaping up to be a success, with several additional events this year and even more mapped out through 2025.

Putting on a Pro-West

rodeo is no small task, so the community has come together to make it happen. The McLaughlin High School FFA and Athena-Weston alumni are among the groups pitching in to make the rodeo a great experience. Proceeds from ticket sales go to local school clubs and programs, like sports and Mac-Hi FFA.

Tickets for the rodeo and after party are available online and prices vary depending on which events are included in the ticket package. There are discounts for current military, veterans, and first responders. Children 5 years and under can attend the rodeo free.

To find tickets and read more about the festival, go to wpwposserodeo.com or weekendattheblues.com

Alexander William Jackson

October 13, 1943 - July 25, 2022

Alexander William Jackson of Hermiston, Oregon, passed away in Hermiston on July 25, 2022, at the age of 78.

He was born Oct. 13, 1943, in Seattle, Washington, the son of Larry and Ruby (Soboleff) Jackson. Alexander grew up in Angoon, Alaska, completing high school at Juneau Douglas High. He served in the U.S. Army and National Guard, receiving an honorable discharge.

He began working in Juneau, Alaska, as a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. He then moved his family to Oregon where there was more opportunity and he could attend college.

In the early 1970s, he chose a career with the Northwest Iron Workers. He then located to Irrigon, Oregon, where he worked as an ironworker until later retiring in Hermiston, Oregon, in 2006.

Alexander was a talented musician and guitar player. He enjoyed fishing, traveling and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Judy; daughters, DeAnn (Marty) Kristo and Cheryl Jackson.

No services will be held. A private burial will be in Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Oregon. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.



Roma Lee Alder

December 7, 1935 - July 25, 2022

Roma Lee Alder, former longtime Hermiston, Oregon, resident of Kennewick, Washington, was born on Dec. 7, 1935, in Beaver, Utah, to parents, Albert and Myrtle Mary Woolsey Powell. She passed away peacefully on July 25, 2022, in Richland, Washington, at the age of 86 years.

Her two older brothers, Albert and Gene, adored her. She was sickly much of her early life as well as her later life. Their family later adopted a little girl named Barbara, so she finally had a sister.

Roma was very active in high school. She took Hawaiian guitar lessons and voice lessons. She performed in operettas and music festivals and preferred singing in small groups and trios. She loved to dance and enjoyed dance festivals as well as youth church dances.

Roma and Allan Alder have been friends ever since they were young. They would play together while their mothers were at ward choir practice. They started officially dating in high school and did so until he left on his mission.

It might be considered scandalous today, but Roma and Allan's sister and mother went and picked him up from his mission. Roma and Allan were soon married on Oct. 30, 1957, in the Idaho Falls Temple. They have seven children: Robert (Debbie), Michael (Sharon), David, Diana (Jed), Karen (Aaron), Eric (Nova) and Steven (Cher). They have 36 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Roma loved her service in the church. She was a great teacher and enjoyed teaching children and youth. Her most

rewarding ward calling was when she taught early morning seminary. She loved it when past seminary students called or visited. Roma was always a faithful visiting teacher. She knew how to minister to others.

Roma and Allan served a mission together in the Family History Salt Lake City Mission for 15 months and soon thereafter were called as ordinance workers in the Portland Temple. In 2001, they were called to be president and matron of the newly constructed Columbia River Washington Temple by President Gordon B. Hinckley where they served

for three years, which was one of the highlights of their lives.

Roma enjoyed life. She loved being around her children and grandchildren. She made birthdays and holidays fun and memorable. She even made getting new shoes special and would sing to us and our children the "Brand New Shoes" song every time. She had a great sense of humor and we spent lots of time laughing and playing together. She loved playing games, telling stories and found lots of ways to share her testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at 2 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1035 E. Ninth St., Hermiston, Oregon, with viewing from 1-1:45 p.m. at the Relief Society room.

Burial will follow at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

Please share memories of Roma with her family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.



Watermelon Festival

Irrigon, Oregon
July 30, 2022

Melon Sponsor: **Bellinger Farms**

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Lots of games (with prizes),
The National Guard Climbing Wall & More,
Sheriff Boat Rides
Face Painting
Lip Sync Contest
Teach Dance and light show in the grass
9-10:00

FOOD FOOD FOOD

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs & French Fries
Hosted by Community Women
Fresh Cut Watermelon & Cantaloupe
From Sponsor Bellinger Farms
Pies & Ice Cream
Hosted by Family Worship Center
BBQ Chicken, Corn, Baked Potatoes and Coleslaw
Sponsored by NW Metal Fabricators and Hosted by Irrigon High Cheerleaders

BREAKFAST 6:30-9:30

hosted by: Columbia View Church
Coffee, Juice, Pancakes, Biscuits & Gravy, Ham, Sausage, and Eggs

DOWNTOWN PARADE

at 10AM

BEER GARDEN

4-8:30PM

MAIN-STAGE ENTERTAINMENT

Gems & Gents Cheerleading
Irrigon High Cheerleaders
Community Lip Sync Contest
Zach Grooms | Olivia Harms
The Sky Dogs
Street Dance with Desert Sounds Entertainment

ANNUAL CAR SHOW

at the PARK

Sponsors: Umatilla Electric, Tillamook & Calbee American Entertainment Sponsored by: Morrow County Unified Recreation District & Huwe's Rentals

Melon Sponsor: Bellinger Farms