



Hermiston Herald

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YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

HERMISTONHERALD.COM

Two men charged with burglary

Victims reported finding people in their homes

BY SEAN HART
HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston and Umatilla residents recently reported returning home and finding people in their residences, and two men have been arrested and are facing burglary charges from separate incidents.

According to Umatilla County Sheriff's Office arrest records, Joseph Arthur Manning, 28, was arrested Monday and is facing second-degree burglary charges, and Jason Thomas Payton, 32, was arrested Sunday and is facing first-degree burglary, unauthorized use of a vehicle, credit card fraud, criminal possession of a forged instrument, identity theft and second-degree kidnapping charges.

SEE BURGLARY/A7

TODAY'S WEATHER



Partly cloudy
High: 61° Low: 34°

OUTLOOK

- SUNDAY
Mostly sunny
High: 56° Low: 30°
- MONDAY
Sunny
High: 53° Low: 28°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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FOR LOCAL BREAKING NEWS

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Gov. John Kitzhaber to resign

Local leaders concerned about the water proposal fate

BY SEAN HART
HERMISTON HERALD

Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber announced Friday his intention to resign, and local leaders hope his departure does not derail a water infrastructure proposal in his budget.

Following ethics inquiries and



Kitzhaber

calls for his resignation from other state leaders, Kitzhaber said in a statement that he will step down from office Wednesday when Secretary of State Kate Brown will re-

place him.

Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum is investigating allegations of ethical misconduct surrounding Kitzhaber and his fiancée, Cylvia Hayes. Hayes has

SEE WATER/A6

Superintendents 'cautiously optimistic' on future of education

BY MAEGAN MURRAY
HERMISTON HERALD

Following the announcement Friday of Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber's intention to resign, many area superintendents are waiting to see how the decision will impact the education system, especially since, under the current

governance structure for the state, the governor serves as the superintendent of public instruction for Oregon.

Umatilla Superintendent Heidi Sipe, who is also the Oregon Association of School Executives president, which operates under the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, said it is still too early to tell whether or not Kitzhaber's resignation will impact the state education system, either positively or negatively.

"Depending on what governor

SEE EDUCATION/A6

LITERARY 'WAX MUSEUM'



MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTOS

Rocky Heights Elementary School fourth-grader Stephanie Booher recites a speech she prepared while in character as Laura from 'The Year of the Book,' during an event where students pretended to be wax figures before coming to life as their characters from Battle of the Books selections.

Rocky Heights fourth-graders bring books to life

BY MAEGAN MURRAY
HERMISTON HERALD

Rocky Heights Elementary School fourth-grade student Ismael Arceo stood perfectly still Thursday afternoon in the school library as a group of fellow classmates approached.

When one student pushed a small red button to Arceo's left, the boy sprang to life.

"I need that card back,"



Rocky Heights Elementary School fourth-grader Lilly Mendoza recites a speech she prepared for the living wax museum Thursday morning.

he exclaimed in character as Griffin Bing from the book "Swindle" to a fellow student. "That Swindle

stole my Babe Ruth card. You have been chosen to assist me because of your special skills to do some-

thing (that) needs to be done."

Arceo was one of several student performers who made up Rocky Heights' literary wax museum, where as living "wax figures," they were brought to life at the push of the button portraying one of their favorite characters from one of more than a dozen Battle of the Books selections.

Hermiston Librarian Kristi Smalley said, unlike other Battle of the Books competitors, who mostly prepare for competition by reading books by themselves, students in Susan Frink's fourth-grade

skills class pretended to be their characters for an hour. The goal of the activity, Smalley said, was to give students the chance to fully immerse themselves in characters from the books so that they better understood and remembered what they had read for the Battle of the Books competition.

"With this group, they have taken it to a whole other level of expectations," Smalley said. "Other students can come in and watch what they are doing. It also allows these kids to work on their public speak-

SEE BOOKS/A16

Hermiston couple celebrating 65th Valentine's Day together

Crawfords reflect on their lifetime together

BY MAEGAN MURRAY
HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston residents Delmer and Francine Crawford have been married for 65 years, but for this year's romantic holiday, they don't have any specific plans and will most likely reflect on their lifetime together today.

Through the years, the Crawfords, who now reside at Sun

Terrace Assisted Living Community, celebrated Valentine's Day by going out to dinner as a couple or doing something else special with one another. The couple said the day has held a certain amount of significance for them, especially when their children were growing up.

The Crawfords said they will likely just celebrate today with a small group of their favorite people.

"We'll probably just be here and the family will all get together," Delmer Crawford said



MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTO

Delmer and Francine Crawford pose for a photo in their home at Sun Terrace Assisted Living in Hermiston. The couple have been married since 1949 and are celebrating their 65th Valentine's Day today.

SEE CRAWFORDS/A16

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