



Hermiston Herald

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YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

HERMISTONHERALD.COM

Former victim helps others break the cycle

Even in retirement, longtime advocate helping others as motivational speaker

BY SEAN HART
HERMISTON HERALD

As a survivor of domestic violence and sexual assault, Mickie Ebert used her experiences to help others emerge from similar situations.

After surviving four heart attacks in August, Ebert decided it was time to retire from the career she loved for almost 10 years as an advocate for Domestic Violence Services in Hermiston. The 65-year-old Umatilla resident still has plans to help people, however.

In the next chapter of her life, Ebert will spend more time with family and friends and a fishing pole, but she will also continue using her experiences to inspire others as a motivational speaker.

"I loved my job" she said. "I don't want to stop helping

SEE EBERT/A2

TODAY'S WEATHER



Sunny
High: 55° Low: 29°

OUTLOOK

- **THURSDAY**
 Mostly sunny
 High: 61° Low: 34°
- **FRIDAY**
 Mostly sunny
 High: 63° Low: 34°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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FOR LOCAL BREAKING NEWS

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PHOTO COURTESY ADDIE TUIA

STATE CHAMPS
 Members of the 2015 state championship Hermiston wrestling team pose for a photo at the 5A state wrestling tournament Saturday at Memorial Coliseum in Portland. The Bulldog wrestlers accumulated 161 points to defeat Hillsboro and Sandy. Sam Colbray was the only Bulldog to claim a state title, but seven others placed in their weight classes. To read the more about the state champions, see page 6. To see more photos from the tournament, go to page 8.

A FROTHY SUCCESS

Nookies' first Beerex Fest draws many to Hermiston

BY MAEGAN MURRAY
HERMISTON HERALD

Stanfield resident Wayne Jones considers himself somewhat of a beer connoisseur, so when he found out the Hermiston Brewing Company was hosting its own beer festival, he leaped at the chance to participate.

Jones said he has traveled all over the state to taste beers from a variety of microbreweries. Given that he could try a number of beers from throughout the region in one location, he said Saturday's Beerex Fest at Nookies was an opportunity too good to pass up.

"I think it is awesome," he said of the event. "I grew up here, and we haven't had anything like this before."

Jones said he got interested in the beer industry several years ago after making a trip to Big Horse Brew Pub in Hood River. He said, since then, he has developed his own rating system based on his personal taste. He has rated every beer he's tried based on flavor using a scale of one to five, with five being a perfect score. He records all that data in a notebook he carries with him to each brewery and beer event.

Jones said he added a few new ratings to his notes after tasting more than 13 beers Saturday. He said, of the more than 40 brews featured at the event, a couple of beers from Prodigal Son in Pendleton were his favorites. Of those, he



MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTO

Nookies Restaurant and Sports Bar employee Logan Taylor pours a tasting cup of beer Saturday during the establishment's first Beerex fest.

liked "Triple-J," an India Pale Ale, the most, giving it a 3.5 rating on his personal scale. His second and third favorites were "Beer Named Sue," a golden ale from Prodigal Son, and "Owyhee," an amber ale from Beer Valley Brewing Company out of Ontario, both of which ranked in the three-range.

Even though he didn't find his perfect five at the event, Jones said he had a great time and hopes the event will continue through the years.

"I think that Hermiston Brewing Company did an outstanding job," he said.

Nookies General Manager Moni-

SEE BEEREX/A12



MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTO

The 'Golden Growler' people's choice award for the Hermiston Brewing Company's Beerex Fest went to D's Wicked Cider Saturday afternoon.

HHS principal finalists introduced

BY MAEGAN MURRAY
HERMISTON HERALD

The consensus Tuesday after community members and teachers met with the two finalists for the Hermiston High School principal position was that district administrative staff have a tough decision to make.

Current Principal Jocelyn Jones announced her retirement earlier this year, which will take effect at the end of the school year. To replace her, two finalists were selected from a pool of candidates for a final meet and greet, interview and school tour Tuesday.

During the meet and greet, staff and members of the public asked the two finalists questions to get to know them a bit better and gave their feedback on who was their favored candidate.

SEE FINALISTS/A12

Community members 'wowed' by student-built house



MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTO

Umatilla High School student Cody Boggs shows Hermiston resident John Lauck the insulation students in the Columbia Basin Student Homebuilders program used in construction Monday afternoon during an open house.

BY MAEGAN MURRAY
HERMISTON HERALD

Columbia Basin Student Home Coordinator Curt Berger has been saying for weeks that community members would be "wowed" by what the Columbia Basin Student Homebuilders program students were doing.

On Monday night, during an open house for the program, residents were just that after touring the home, 895 W. Angus Court, adjacent to Armand Larive Middle School in Hermiston.

Linda Rodriguez, who is the grandmother of Elizabeth Herrera, a student in the home building program, had nothing but good things

to say about the students' progress. "They have done such a good job," she said. "I am so proud of them all. I can't see anything that they would have shorted. It just looks so nice."

Rodriguez and her husband, Tereso Rodriguez, said they were astonished that students had a hand in building something so solid and to the best of standards.

"Who would have thought that teenagers could do this?" she said with a laugh.

Residents from the area trickled into the 2,050 square-foot home Monday afternoon to see how the students have worked to construct

SEE HOUSING/A2

Hermiston Herald \$1.00

