



# HermistonHerald

## EOTEC board OKs center design

BY JADE MCDOWELL  
EO MEDIA GROUP

The details are in place for a major piece of the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center after the project's board approved a design for the event center Tuesday.

Choosing a final design this week kept EO-TEC on track for a March 2016 completion date.

The building will include a more than 12,000-square-foot exhibition hall, three large meeting rooms, a boardroom, a kitchen, offices and storage.

After examining plans drawn up by LRS Architects and G2 Construction, the authority did make a few changes while trying to stay within the building's \$2.7 million budget.

Vijay Patel convinced the other board members that a long hallway stretching the length of the exhibition hall needed to be expanded from 12 feet to 15 feet wide so the hall could be used to locate vendors, displays, buffet tables or other

SEE EOTEC/A2  
TODAY'S WEATHER



Partly cloudy  
High: 82° Low: 55°

OUTLOOK

- THURSDAY  
Partly cloudy  
High: 84° Low: 57°
- FRIDAY  
Partly cloudy  
High: 84° Low: 53°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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## Early results: People want to elect judge

BMCC measure passing

BY JESSICA KELLER  
HERMISTON HERALD

According to unofficial special election results posted by Umatilla County, Hermiston residents will continue to elect their municipal court judge.

As of 8:03 p.m., Hermiston residents overwhelmingly supported updating the city's charter, 73 percent to 27 percent, but they were not in favor of an amendment to allow the City Council to appoint the municipal court judge position, currently held by Thomas Creasing. They vote tally was not as close as that of the City Charter, but unoffi-

cial results indicate 45 percent were in favor of the amendment, with 55 percent opposed.

The city decided to update its City Charter last year after determining the document, which had not been amended since it was created 60 years ago, needed to be modernized. In some cases, provisions in the new document were revised to make them constitutional. Of more significance, the new charter changes the mayors term from two years to four years.

The item that drew the greatest attention was that of the municipal court judge, with some people questioning why the council wanted to set a new precedent by ap-

SEE ELECTION/A2

### Election results

**BMCC Bond Umatilla County votes**  
✓ Yes 52%  
No 48%

**Hermiston charter revision**  
✓ Yes 73%  
No 27%

**Hermiston judge appointment**  
Yes 45%  
✓ No 55%

**Port of Umatilla**  
Joseph Franell (38%)  
✓ Jerry Imsland (61%)

**Hermiston School Board**  
✓ Joshua Goller (58%)  
James T. Leach (41%)



✓ David W. Smith (67%)  
Rob Lovett (33%)

Note: Results are unofficial and are the latest Umatilla County results as of the Herald press time Tuesday evening. For more, go to www.HermistonHerald.com or see the Umatilla County Elections Division website at www.co.umatilla.or.us/Elections

# BARKING FOR A CAUSE

Fundraiser leads into Relay For Life in June

BY JESSICA KELLER  
HERMISTON HERALD

A bark can be a warning, it can be a greeting. It can mean stay away or let's play. And it may also help find new treatments or a cure for cancer.

Bark For Life organizer Jennifer Pittam began the event five years ago to raise money for cancer research and recognize the role dogs play in their owners' battles with cancer.

"The presence of a dog is so lighthearted and warming," Pittam said. "I think they contribute to people's general health tremendously."

She said Bark For Life honors canine caregivers, including service, therapy and diagnostic dogs, while advocating for people who have survived or are fighting cancer and raising money for cancer research. She said Bark For Life not only raises money for the American Cancer Society, it is a precursor for Hermiston's Relay For Life event, which will take place June 26-27 at the Armand Larive Middle School track.

"It helps get awareness out there for that and raise more money for that purpose," Pittam said.

Pittam said people can still donate to Bark For Life or to various Hermiston Relay For Life teams. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.



JESSICA KELLER PHOTO

Jennifer Mulhollan, left, Kennewick, right, ties a Bark For Life bandanna around the neck of her Cavalier King Charles spaniel Shirley, held by Miranda Hunt, Hermiston, at the fifth annual Bark For Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society Saturday at McKenzie Park in Hermiston.

Although Saturday's event at McKenzie Park in Hermiston failed to generate the \$4,000 to \$5,000 Pittam was hoping to raise, she said, between the \$2,600 garnered through Bark For Life and the other fundraising she and her Team Bud-Rich members are doing for Relay For Life, she thinks they will be able to hit their target.

Pittam said she became involved in Relay For Life

with her mother, Sherry, and the Bark For Life event was organized to raise money for their team. Pittam said she and her mother became involved because one of Pittam's grandmothers is a breast and lung cancer survivor, while another died from cancer.

"So it's something that my family, we've been affected by cancer in more than one way," she said.

Including dogs in the event not only recognized the value canines play in their owners' health, it also attracted people to Bark For Life, if only as a way to socialize their animals.

Andrew Barthel, Hermiston, attended with his family and his Irish setter/golden retriever mix Red Baron. Barthel said he has come for the past few years as a way to remember his friend Ryan Sherman, who

died of lung cancer at the age of 29. Barthel said Sherman frequently accompanied him and Red Baron on hunting expeditions even as cancer overtook his friend.

"Dogs, I believe, are a very essential part of a human's life," Barthel said. "They have so many things to offer."

Other people stopped by

SEE BARK/A10

## Sometimes it's good to be last

Hermiston pastor met British monarch during an internship in Scotland

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

In a humble position last in line, a Hermiston pastor had the chance to spend 15 minutes visiting with Queen Elizabeth II.

During a one-year internship as an assistant minister at Dundee Parish Church St. Mary's in Scotland in 1991, Bruce Sexton assisted with the festivities for the church's 800th anniversary, including a visit from the queen.

Sexton, who is now the pas-

tor of Faith Presbyterian Church in Hermiston, said dignitaries, including city and other church leaders, lined up outside the church to greet the queen as she arrived. Sexton said he and his wife were last in line to meet Queen Elizabeth and her husband, Prince Philip, so they were standing inside the entryway to the building.

Members of the queen's security team had not finished sweeping the building when she arrived in the entryway, so Sexton and his wife had a private audience as the queen waited there for about 15 minutes.

"My wife and I were the only two inside the building," he said.

SEE SEXTON/A10

## Committee opening doors for Latino students

New Hispanic scholarship foundation to seek tax-exempt status

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston businessman Eddie De La Cruz's family did not have the resources to send him to four years of college, and he hopes a scholarship foundation he is helping form will provide the opportunity to the younger generation.

De La Cruz, chairman of Hermiston's Hispanic Advisory Com-



Caption

mittee, announced the formation of the Eastern Oregon Hispanic Scholarship Foundation at the Monday meeting.

"When I wanted to go to school, my folks didn't have the dollars," he said. "... It's a decision that, if you can afford it, you go, but if your parents cannot afford it, you just hang around and hope there is some money coming over from somewhere."

The scholarship foundation has been a longtime goal for the

SEE FOUNDATION/A10