



# Hermiston Herald

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YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

HERMISTONHERALD.COM

## Plan to improve Hermiston's appeal complete

BY SEAN HART  
 HERMISTON HERALD

A year of work by Hermiston's Community Enhancement Committee to enhance the city's aesthetic appeal may soon come to fruition.

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan said the Enhance Hermiston plan, which contains a list of priority projects, will be reviewed by the Hermiston City Council in June.

"It's just getting all these projects in concept onto a plan, so as funding and opportunities come available, we have some at least preliminarily vetted projects," he said.

The projects include a downtown entryway, pedestrian pathways throughout the city, rail crossing visual buffers, repainting the south water tower, directional signs, assuming management of the Maxwell Siding railroad museum display and enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the median on Highway 395 south of town.

In the preliminary budget for the fiscal year starting in July, \$40,000 is allocated to repaint the water tower, and \$100,000 is allocated to community enhancement projects.

Morgan said the \$100,000 would probably

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## TODAY'S WEATHER



Mostly sunny  
 High: 80° Low: 54°

## OUTLOOK

- SUNDAY  
 Mostly sunny  
 High: 84° Low: 55°
- MONDAY  
 Partly cloudy  
 High: 82° Low: 54°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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FOR LOCAL BREAKING NEWS

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## Landscaping ordinance to go before council

### Community Enhancement Committee signs off on document Tuesday

BY SEAN HART  
 HERMISTON HERALD

The Hermiston City Council will review a newly created landscaping ordinance at its first meeting in June after the Community Enhancement Committee signed off on it this week.

After soliciting public feedback, Hermiston's Community Enhancement Committee finalized its recommendations for a landscaping ordinance at its Tuesday meeting.

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan said City Council members will consider the landscaping ordinance at the June 8 meeting. At that time, he said they will determine whether to abandon the landscaping requirements, to refer the document to the Planning

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SEAN HART PHOTO  
 Hermiston Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter designed the new landscaping in front of the Hermiston police and fire stations to comply with a proposed landscaping ordinance for new developments in the city.

# HONORING THE FALLEN



SEAN HART PHOTO

Hermiston High School football players place flags near the grave of Civil War veteran James T. Davie at Hermiston Cemetery Friday. More than 600 flags were erected in honor of Memorial Day.

## Local man hopes people research their family trees for vets this Memorial Day

BY SEAN HART  
 HERMISTON HERALD

A local family history researcher says many people have ancestors who died in wars, whether or not they even know it.

Ken May, Hermiston, said remembering the sacrifices of veterans is

important, and he hopes people will pay their respects on Memorial Day, Monday.

"(I want to) get people a little bit more aware of their family history and some of the sacrifices that their families went through in lost family members and time away from their families, even

if it may have been over 150 years ago," he said. "Having done about 18 years of family research, I found numerous direct ancestors, as well as those within the tree, that definitely lost their life in the Civil War."

May, who has a long history of military service in his family, said a variety of new technological tools are available that people can use to

SEE VETS/A18

## Cemetery to host Memorial Day observance

HERMISTON HERALD

Local veterans organizations are busy preparing for ceremonies on Monday to remember the service and sacrifice of those who died while in military service to our country.

The Memorial Day holiday has a long his-

tory, dating back nearly 150 years to the post-Civil War period. Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day was first observed May 30, 1868.

The day was initially designated to place

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## Dewey's key leadership skills taking her to FCCLA nationals

BY JESSICA KELLER  
 HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston High School Family Career and Community Leaders of America adviser Susie Cobb has seen a lot of changes in Laura Dewey since she joined FCCLA her freshman year.

Under Cobb's guidance, Dewey's participation and leadership has grown noticeably, and the junior will be representing Hermiston High School at the Family Career and Community Leaders of America 2015 National Leadership Conference competition July 5 through July 9 in Washington D.C.

"I'm really excited," she said. "I can't wait."

She said last year she attended the FCCLA national conference but just observed. This will be her



JESSICA KELLER PHOTO

**Hermiston High School junior Laura Dewey holds the portfolio she created to demonstrate her leadership skills she has developed in FCCLA. Dewey will represent HHS at the national FCCLA Leadership Conference in July.**

SEE DEWEY/A8

## Hermiston Ag Communications Team hopes to continue success

BY JESSICA KELLER  
 HERMISTON HERALD

Last year, Hermiston High School's FFA Agriculture Communications team went to the national competition, and, while that team didn't place, HHS graduate Zach Vandehey claimed top student honors in the nation among 40 teams for that event.

This year, the Ag Communications team, including Zach Vandehey's sister Emily, will try to build on that success when they compete at the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky, this fall.

"So, they kind of have a legacy to follow," FFA adviser Leah Smith said. "It's kind of some big shoes to fill, but I think they're excited to go back."

Juniors Vandehey and Claire Wilson, senior Shandie Britt and sophomore Shasta Jundt only had a month to prepare their Career Development

Event project for state, but they have until October to expand upon and perfect their project before the national competition.

Their project centered around American Farmland Trust, which is an organization that works to preserve the nation's farm and ranch land while also focusing on important issues, such as water. They were tasked with developing a media plan to promote America Farmland Trust, focusing on increasing target audience participation, diversifying social media platforms used to communicate and coming up with ideas on education action plans.

In their portfolio, they identified different platforms for raising awareness, including electronic newsletters, newspaper and press releases, bumper stickers, radio announcements and a more traditional website.

SEE FFA/A8

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