



# Hermiston Herald

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YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

HERMISTONHERALD.COM

## Local temps to jump

National Weather Service issues warning

BY SAM BARBEE  
HERMISTON HERALD

So far, June has been a rather mild month in terms of temperature, but that's about to change.

Today, local temperatures will climb into the 90s, and a high of 99 is expected on Monday. Daytime high temperatures will hover between 92 and 99 until next Thursday, when they're expected to drop back to a relatively cool 87. Overnight lows will drop down to the upper 50s and low 60s.

The National Weather Service issued a Special Weather Statement, warning residents of Northeast Oregon and Southeast Washington of quickly warming temperatures. Locations from La Grande to Yakima, Washington, to Redmond to Dufur are all listed on the Special Weather Statement. It noted a few locations could see triple-digit temperatures. Thursday's high was 80 degrees.

The National Weather Service also warned local residents about finding refuge in area rivers when

SEE WEATHER/A14

## TODAY'S WEATHER



Mostly sunny  
High: 95° Low: 60°

### OUTLOOK

- SUNDAY Sunny High: 100° Low: 64°
- MONDAY Cloudy High: 103° Low: 64°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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## First responders prep for mass casualty



Eight local agencies participated in Thursday simulation

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

Fortunately, it was only an exercise as emergency personnel responded to a call of a fire engine colliding with a school bus full of children Thursday.

Before the call was made, makeup was applied to about 35 volunteers from Hermiston High School and Blue Mountain Com-

munity College simulating blood, bruising, broken bones and other injuries to help first responders prepare for a real-life scenario.

Units from Hermiston, Stanfield, Umatilla, Echo and Pendleton worked with Umatilla County Dispatch and Umatilla County Emergency Management to transport the acting victims for care at

SEE PREP/A2

SEAN HART PHOTO

First responders from a variety of local agencies participated in a mass casualty exercise Thursday in Hermiston to help prepare for real-life scenarios. Makeup simulated blood, bruises, broken bones and other injuries.

# PREPARING TO SAVE LIVES



SEAN HART PHOTO

Hermiston Recreation Supervisor and pool manager Dan Earp, second from right, trains lifeguards how to stabilize victims with head and neck injuries using a backboard at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center Wednesday. The pool opens for the summer today.

Lifeguards ready for aquatic center to open today

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

The Hermiston Family Aquatic Center opens today, and 55 lifeguards have been training to keep attendees safe this summer.

Hermiston Recreation Supervisor and pool manager Dan Earp said he has been working with groups of lifeguards every evening since the pool was filled May 21.

Each lifeguard must complete a Red Cross certification course. Earp teaches the course and said the lifeguards learn what to look for and how to respond to a variety of situations. He said they learn about water

## Months of work precede pool opening

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

The end of the school year marks the beginning of the pool season, but work to prepare the Hermiston facility began in April.

"This facility is very high maintenance," pool manager Dan Earp said. "It's a big project every year to get this thing operational."

The entire facility is cleaned, and maintenance and repairs are performed on the pumps, pipes,

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SEAN HART PHOTO

Thousands of gallons of water pump into the multi-use pool at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center Wednesday. Pool manager Dan Earp said it takes about 12 hours to fill each pool at the center from a fire hydrant.

rescues, breathing emergencies, cardiac arrests, CPR, choking victims, defibrillator use and head, neck and spine injuries.

"I think they get a little overwhelmed in the beginning, thinking I could potentially have people's lives in my hands," Earp said. "Then we teach

them what they're looking for. We teach them how to rescue in certain situations, and they gain

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## Hermiston pool details

The Hermiston Family Aquatic Center offers public swim time from 1:10 p.m. to 6 p.m. the first week of the season, today through June 14, and the last, Aug. 17 through Aug. 23.

During the regular season, June 15 through Aug. 16, public swim time is from 1:10 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and from 11:10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays through Sundays.

Public swim daily entry rates are \$4 for ages 0 to 12, \$5 for ages 13 to 17 and 55 and older or \$6 for ages 18 to 54. Public swim season passes cost \$50 for ages 0 to 17 and 55 and older or \$60 for ages 18 to 54.

Family rates are also available for a maximum of two adults and four children: \$20 for daily entry or \$150 for a season pass. The pool offers a variety of fitness classes, swim lessons, swim team, lap swim, private group rentals and open swim water volleyball. For times, details and rates, visit [hermistonpool.com](http://hermistonpool.com).

## Science teacher enjoys sharing love of world with students

BY JESSICA KELLER  
HERMISTON HERALD

Sandstone Middle School seventh- and eighth-grade science teacher Lisa McElroy didn't always want to teach youth.

When she was in middle school, she wanted to train dolphins at Sea World. Later, she wanted to be a dentist and an astronaut.

"And then I decided I wanted to make a difference, at least try to," McElroy, who wrapped up her

13th year as an educator Friday, the last day of school for teachers in the district.

Her love of science, however, has been constant in her life. McElroy, who grew up in Hermiston and Umatilla, said her interest

in the subject was nurtured by her father, Steve Johnson, who taught her how to identify trees as a child. He was also McElroy's middle school science teacher.

She said he got her interested in the subject of science, but her pas-

sion developed through the years.

"I think it was the love of nature and the natural world," she said, adding her parents taught her to question everything.

McElroy, who received a Crystal Apple Award in May for her work in the Hermiston School District, said a love of learning is central to her job, and she hopes to impart that love of learning to her students, as well.

*"... I decided I wanted to make a difference ..."*

— Lisa McElroy

Sandstone Middle School science teacher

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