

**PENDLETON**  
**Round-Up**  
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### ABOUT TOWN

## Area mosquitoes test positive for West Nile virus

HERMISTON HERALD

More mosquitoes have tested positive for West Nile virus in Morrow County, this time at a collection site near Irrigon.

Health officials say people in the area should take precautions against mosquito bites to avoid possible infection. West Nile virus is usually spread by mosquitoes that have fed on infected birds and pass on the disease to humans.

This is the second mosquito pool to test positive for West Nile in the county, with the first being detected Aug. 10 in the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge. Greg Barron, manager of the North Morrow Vector Control District, said they will continue to spray for mosquitoes using truck-mounted sprayers and, if necessary, aerial spraying by helicopter.

In the meantime, people can protect themselves from mosquito bites by eliminating sources of standing water where the insects breed, wearing mosquito repellent and avoiding outdoor activities at dusk or dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

Of all people infected with West Nile, only 20 percent will come down with mild flu-like symptoms, including fever, headaches and nausea. In rare cases, the virus can lead to more serious complications and encephalitis, or swelling of the brain.

Health care providers can contact the Morrow County Health Department at 541-676-5421 for more information on West Nile testing services offered by the Oregon Public Health Lab.

## Worship event remembers 9/11

A prayer and worship service is planned in conjunction with the anniversary of Sept. 11.

Remembering America is Friday, Sept. 11, at 6 p.m. at McKenzie Park, 320 S. First St. The time of prayer will focus on our states, counties, towns, neighbors, families, churches and schools.

The public is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Erin Lovett at 541-376-5559 or [eilovett@live.com](mailto:eilovett@live.com).

## Red Cross shares blood needs

The American Red Cross is in urgent need of O-, A-, B- and AB blood donors.

All eligible donors are encouraged to give blood to potentially help save lives. People need to be in good health, at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds.

While walk-ins are welcome, donors can make an appointment at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or by calling 800-733-2767.

Local blood drives in September include:

- Tuesday, Sept. 15, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Stafford Hansell Government Center, 915 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston.
- Friday, Sept. 18, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Hermiston Seventh-day Adventist Church, 855 W. Highland Ave.
- Monday, Sept. 21, 12:30-6 p.m., Good Shepherd Medical Center, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston.
- Tuesday, Sept. 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., PGE Coal Plant, 7334 Tower Road, Boardman.

# MUSIC TO THE PEOPLE



R. Lee Friese conducts the Inland Northwest Orchestra. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY DAVE GIBSON

## Inland Northwest Musicians group began in 1999

TAMMY MALGESINI  
Community Editor

Kyle Ketchersid said participating in the Willow Creek Orchestra has increased his musical abilities.

"It seems I've excelled much faster than my peers," the 15-year-old Hermiston High School freshman said.

Ketchersid, who has played bassoon in the preparatory orchestra of the Inland Northwest Musicians since seventh grade, started playing the instrument at the urging of his middle school music teacher, Jon Boysen.

Playing the alto saxophone since the sixth grade, Ketchersid also performs with the Hermiston High School marching band.

Ralph Werner, conductor of the Willow Creek Orchestra, views the ensemble as another opportunity for musicians to perform with their instruments.

"Eventually, we've had members play with the Inland Northwest Orchestra," Werner said. "That's kind of cool."

The preparatory orchestra isn't just for kids, Werner said. Adults who are picking up their instruments again after many years may start in the orchestra before playing with the "bigger orchestra," as Ketchersid calls it. Ketchersid has played in four concerts with the Inland Northwest Orchestra.

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Kyle Ketchersid of Hermiston plays the bassoon during a spring educational concert of the Willow Creek Symphony. FILE PHOTO

## Ministry hopes to establish homeless shelter

'He gave his life to the Lord on a taco Tuesday'

By SEAN HART  
Staff Writer

Jason Estle said a sign from God led him to open a ministry in Hermiston, and now he's hoping divine providence will help him establish a homeless shelter.

In late 2013, Estle was installing a tile floor in a rental property on East Main Street. He and a friend, Jeff Wood, were interested in helping others and prayed for guidance. Estle said the two for rent signs in the windows fell to the ground, and both men felt it was a sign. They rented the building and established Desert Rose Ministries.

The name was determined in



STAFF PHOTO BY SEAN HART

Founder Jason Estle stands at the podium of Desert Rose Ministries, 512 E. Main St., Hermiston, on Tuesday. Estle will present information and lead a discussion about the needs of the homeless community and a possible shelter at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Lanham Room in the basement in the Hermiston Public Library.

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