

# THANK YOU VETERANS

Saluting Our Veterans: In today's edition is a special six-page section honoring local veterans of U.S. military service of all generations

# Hermiston Herald

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## ABOUT TOWN

### Commissioners seek more oversight of EOTEC finances

Umatilla County Board of Commissioners is moving to have more input and control over the finances of the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center.

Commissioners voted last week to have the county give \$600,000 to the ongoing creation of the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center in Hermiston.

County commissioners this week discussed having the county budget officer Robert Pahl serve as a non-voting member on the EOTEC board and as its treasurer.

Pahl said he used to handle the EOTEC books for about a year. Commissioner Larry Givens said the county would gain some "internal policy standing."

Givens and Port of Umatilla general manager Kim Puzey would remain as the county's voting members on the board. Commission chairman George Murdock said he would like to see the county budget officer serve as a voting member if there was an opening, and he wanted a county policy specifying a sitting commissioner must serve on the board.

Givens also said the county wants EOTEC to provide a comprehensive business plan, and Murdock added that should include a rainy day fund.

Commissioner Bill Elfering said the EOTEC would be self-sustaining and a rainy day fund would be good business. Murdock said the issue is EOTEC has nothing in writing to establish such fund.

County counsel Doug Olsen said he would draft proposals for commissioners to consider.

— PHIL WRIGHT

### Agape House hosts parking lot sale

Bargain hunters can find furniture, clothing, knick-knacks and more at the Agape House parking lot sale.

Winter coats are free, other clothing is priced at three items for \$1, furniture is as marked and knick-knacks are you name the price. The sale is Saturday from 8:30-11 a.m. at 500 Harper Road, Hermiston. Donations are accepted through Friday.

Agape House serves the needs of low-income residents in the community. For more information, call 541-567-8774.

## ONE OF THE LUCKY ONES



STAFF PHOTO BY SEAN HART

World War II veteran Ray Morgan, Umatilla, grabs a flag that once flew over the United States Capitol, which he received during an Honor Flight in September to Washington, D.C.

### WWII-era vet describes duty, training and the guilt of coming home

By SEAN HART  
Staff Writer

Umatilla resident Ray Morgan said it was his duty to enlist in the Army when he graduated from high school in 1943 during World War II.

He trained on a bomber crew for two years. He earned the rank of second lieutenant by the age of 19. His unit was scheduled to depart for Saipan, an island about 120 miles north of Guam, for operations in the Pacific Theater.

But Before Morgan was able to join the battle, the histor-

See MORGAN, A18



STAFF PHOTO BY SEAN HART

Umatilla resident Ray Morgan, 90, shows his War Department identification card when he was 19 in the U.S. Army air corps during World War II.

## Pot ordinance stalls again

Council can't get fifth vote to send issue to residents

By JADE McDOWELL  
Staff Writer

Hermiston City Council will have to take another run at sending a marijuana dispensary ban to the voters.

Councilors thought they had passed the ordinance putting dispensaries on the ballot after a 4-2 vote Monday but were reminded that at least five councilors must vote for an ordinance for it to pass.

An ordinance that doesn't receive five votes in either direction will automatically appear on



JOSHUA BESSEX/EO MEDIA GROUP

Jars of marijuana sit on shelves at Sweet Relief Natural Medicine, a medical marijuana dispensary in Astoria.

See POT, A18



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