

# Good Shepherd names lab services manager

Good Shepherd Health Care System recently appointed Martha Tibbs as manager of laboratory services.

Tibbs, a Pacific Northwest native, returned home in 2013 after a 26-year stint in the Midwest.

“Good Shepherd has a modern, well-equipped laboratory with highly-trained technical and phlebotomy staff,” Tibbs said. “The laboratory has a wide range of in-house capabilities equal to many larger-sized health-care systems. Laboratories are always undergoing change because of

technological advances; therefore, in the future, I have no doubt there will be opportunities to improve or expand our services to better serve the community.”

Jim Schlenker, chief operating officer for Good Shepherd Health Care System, said “Martha Tibbs comes to us with many years of lab experience, point of care supervisory experience, master’s level coursework in pathology, but most importantly a desire to provide the best care

possible for each and every individual the lab encounters.”



Martha Tibbs

Tibbs said the laboratory staff is caring, knowledgeable, and professional.

“We, as a team, want to continue to provide efficient, high quality laboratory services for our physicians to help them properly diagnose and treat, and for each individual patient that entrusts us with their care,” she said.

When not in the lab, you may find Tibbs taking advantage of the many area hiking trails.

“I have traveled throughout Washington and Oregon to hike new trails. This year I had an opportunity to hike in Alaska; no words can describe its beauty.”

*The Hermiston Herald accepts news announcements about job changes and promotions, business ownership changes, renovations, remodels, changes in business hours, new business openings, business owner retirements and related items. Submit your business news and photos to newsroom@hermistonherald.com.*

# Gas prices down, Hermiston lower than state average

Average retail gasoline prices in Oregon have fallen in the past week, averaging \$2.30 per gallon on Sunday, according to GasBuddy’s daily survey of 1,307 gas outlets in Oregon.

This compares with the national average that has not moved in the last week to \$2.03 per, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Gas prices in the Hermiston area are running lower than the state average, with the most common pump price listed as \$2.179 per gallon for regular unleaded at multiple stations. The lowest price listed Tuesday on GasBuddy.com was \$2.099 at the Space Age and Pilot travel centers near Interstate 84.

Areas nearby Oregon and their current gas price climate:

Including the change in gas prices in Oregon during the past week, prices Sunday were 62.9 cents

per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 8.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 18.5 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 63.2 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

“The U.S. average needs to fall just seven-tenths of a penny from its current \$2.032 per gallon (to \$2.025/gal.) to be the lowest since March 25, 2009,” said Patrick DeHaan, GasBuddy senior petroleum analyst. “As for the outcome of OPEC’s meeting late last week: OPEC is going to wait for production to resume from Iran before looking at oil production quotas again next year. While we wait and see what that next meeting might bring, high oil production will likely continue to boost already record high oil inventories, keeping gasoline prices somewhat subdued.”

# Hermiston fire department receives Wildhorse grant

The Wildhorse Foundation recently announced its third quarter grants, which included \$18,165 to Hermiston Fire & Emergency Services.

The money is earmarked for purchasing mobile reporting hardware to be placed in each ambulance. The devices allow staff to complete patient care reports during transport or shortly after to ensure accurate information is relayed to those giving care to patients.

The system provides precise time documentation when medication or procedures are done. The devices can be linked to cardiac monitors to download relevant patient vital signs and EKG rhythms. They also can readily provide medication information, medical proto-

cols and hazardous material guides for emergency medical technicians.

The quarterly awards given by the Wildhorse Foundation totaled \$201,447.33, which was distributed to 29 recipients. Other local entities receiving grants include: **UMATILLA/MORROW COUNTY:** SMART (Start Making A Reader Today), \$5,360 for pre-kindergarten program; 4-H, \$1,800 for Attitudes for Success-Multicultural Youth Development Program at 18 high schools and middle schools.

**BOARDMAN:** Boardman Park & Recreation District, \$10,000 for Community Recreation Center exercise stations.

The foundation manages a community benefit

fund established by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation from its gaming operation. The board considers quarterly grant applications in the areas of public health and safety, education, the arts, historic preservation, gam-

bling addiction services, salmon restoration, environmental protection and cultural activities.

For more information, visit [www.wildhorseresort.com](http://www.wildhorseresort.com) or contact Tiah DeGroff at 541-966-1628 or [tiah.degroff@wildhorseresort.com](mailto:tiah.degroff@wildhorseresort.com).

# Bazaar creates Main Street traffic

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
Community Editor

The Downtown Hermiston Christmas Bazaars came to fruition when a couple of women decided to take things into their own hands.

Two seasons after the now-defunct Eastern Oregon Festival of Lights — which included a holiday bazaar in Thompson Hall — GeorgeAnne Smith was hoping a collaborative bazaar setting would again be available in Hermiston. In 2014, one was housed at the Hermiston Senior Center.

When things fell through with talk of having one in the former Roemark’s building, Smith and downtown business owner Sharon Harvey started talking. The result is a two-location bazaar on Hermiston’s Main Street, which began last weekend.

“They have come about purely through the hard work of a couple of gals,” Smith said. “And faith that we can make a difference, one caring resident at a time.”

Bazaar locations and times, which runs week-ends though Dec. 19, are:

•Country Gourmet & BBQ, 235 E. Main St., Thursday (Dec. 10 only

from 4-7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from noon to 8 p.m.

•Grace & Mercy Lutheran Church, 164 E. Main St., Fridays from 5-9 p.m. and Saturdays from 3-9 p.m.

“We kind of create a little movement around downtown for customers of the downtown district,” Harvey said. “We just want to help people re-discover Hermiston’s downtown.”

Harvey and Smith encourage people to enter the Holiday Travel Pass contest. Get a pass and have it stamped at both locations and then enter it in for a chance to win a Christmas basket full of goodies, many donated from the artisans and vendors. The drawing will be held after the event ends Saturday, Dec. 19.

Between the two locations, vendors include a mixture of baked goods, handcrafted jewelry, quilts, glass creations, decorative wreaths, crocheted goods, woodworking creations and fine art.

“If people haven’t done all their Christmas shopping, they should come down and check it out,” Harvey said. “We will have Christmas cookies, too.”

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