

# New year brings ch ch changes

The new year is in full swing and with that, my life is full of change.

Whether it's good, bad or indifferent, one thing is for sure... it's different.

Finally catching up with the 2010s, I am now the proud owner of a flat screen TV and blu-ray player.

While the TV made its way into my house on Thanksgiving (yeah, yeah, I'm one of those who went shopping while the turkey settled), it didn't actually make it out of the box until after Christmas.

My husband, John, who successfully conquered my 4 Gift Christmas Challenge list, decided to go beyond the quartet of presents and slapped a bow on the boob tube and called it a gift. I'm not sure how right it is that an item I ventured out in the cold to get turned into my own Christmas gift. Wasn't it enough that I had to stand in line to see if I was lucky enough to get one of the last

remaining 40-inch specials at Wal-Mart?

But it's all good, the wait resulted in only one evening of frustration rather than two because on Christmas morning, I opened a package to reveal a blu-ray player. We messed with cords, input jacks, remote controls and on-screen instructions to update my daybed room entertainment set-up. Sure, technology is awesome, but gone are the days of merely plugging something in and pressing the on switch.

"How do people like my parents deal with stuff like this?" I exclaimed.

After what seemed like forever, I was finally able to kick back and enjoy the fruits of our labor.

Another recent change in my life has to do with what's in my cup. I've been a Pepsi fan for years. As a senior in college, among the "remember whens" was "Remem-

ber when Tammy Stockman didn't have a Pepsi in her hand?"

Disdaining the aftertaste of Diet Pepsi, I finally relented and began drinking Pepsi Next several years ago. With a third of the calories of regular Pepsi, my physician has still suggested I continue on the path leading to calorie-free soda.

Right around Christmas, I noticed a decline in the number of half-racks available on store shelves. Initially I thought maybe others were easing into a change to calorie-free soda as the new year approached.

Unfortunately, my switch in soda had nothing to do with a New Year's resolution. Due to declining sales, Pepsi quit producing Pepsi Next. I was sent into a panic. I didn't want to go back to the full-calorie product.

And the cost of Pepsi Next

was soaring on Amazon.com. At nearly \$90 a half-rack, that's like paying \$7.50 per can or 63 cents per swallow.

After much research and a few taste tests, I am now officially a drinker of Pepsi Max. According to the tag-line, the max stands for maximum taste.

However, I think it also has to do with more than twice the amount of caffeine. If my hands would stop shaking, I could read the label and tell you exactly how much additional caffeine is in the can.

"That's all you need — more caffeine," said Renee Struthers, our records editor.

Yup, ch ch changes for the new year. (RIP David Bowie.)

*Tammy Malgesini is the community editor. Her column, Inside My Shoes, includes general musings about life. Contact her at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539.*



**Tammy Malgesini**  
INSIDE MY SHOES

# Melonville provides stand-up fun

Annual comedy festival brings in trio of funny men

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
Community Editor

Over the years, nearly 100 comedians have appeared in Hermiston during the annual Melonville Comedy Festival.

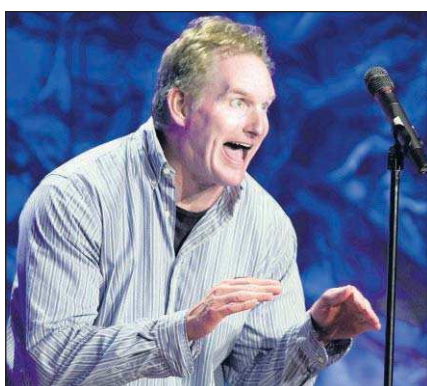
"The comics we bring in are some of the top performers in stand-up comedy," said Warren Smith, the show's producer.

This year's event features Greg Hahn as the headliner. Also set to tickle people's funny bones is Drew Barth, who is making his second appearance on the Melonville stage. And, rounding out the trio of funny men is Travis Nelson, who also will serve as the show's emcee.

The Melonville Comedy Festival is Saturday, Jan. 30, with the doors opening at 7 p.m. and the laughs starting at 8 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Tickets for the 21-and-over event are \$35 each. They are available at the conference center, [www.melonvillecomedyfestival.com](http://www.melonvillecomedyfestival.com) or by searching Facebook for "Melonville Comedy Festival."

Hahn and Barth, who have paid their dues in comedy clubs, are now primarily corporate comics, performing for events put together by Fortune 500 companies to entertain their executives, stockholders, clients and employees, Smith said. They perform a "clean" and funny show, he added.

"We have been after Greg (Hahn) for several years, he stays booked up on the corporate circuits," Smith said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**Greg Hahn is the headliner for the Melonville Comedy Festival Jan. 30 at the Hermiston Conference Center.**



**Barth**



**Nelson**

Hahn, a favorite on the Bob and Tom Radio Show and Mornings on 97 Rock, has appeared on Late Night with Conan O'Brien, Comedy Central and most of the major networks and then some.

After some time in the corporate world, Hahn decided to take work less seriously, pursuing a career in comedy. He landed a gig as the emcee for a theme park show. Shortly thereafter, he was a stunt man in the Wild Wild West Stunt Show at Universal Studios, according to his website's biography.

"For \$20 an hour I'd run out, fall down a few times, then get whacked in the head with a stick — dream job!"

Heading to New York City, Hahn gained more exposure and success before landing in Los Angeles where he currently resides.

Born and raised in Seattle, Barth headed to Los Angeles after making the finals in the Seattle International Comedy Competition. Performing in the top clubs in Los Angeles, Barth later returned to his roots in the Emerald City, where he continues his craft as a comedian, actor and voice-over artist.

Hailing from Hoquiam, Washington, Nelson now resides in Seattle. Described as "cynically sarcastic and uncommonly sincere," Nelson is an up-and-coming comic who has toured across the United States and Canada.

Producing shows as far back as high school and college, Smith cut his teeth arranging for national acts at the Umatilla County Fair in the late 1980s. He also worked on entertainment for the Umatilla Speedway, as well as outside promotions for KOHU.

The comedy festival started out in 1994 as a fundraiser for the fair. When the fair board discontinued the event, Smith took it on and has continued bringing top comedians to town.

"I guess I'm a junkie without rehab," Smith said. "My biggest thrill is to stand in a line at Safeway and hear people that I do not know visit with excitement about going to a show that I am working on."

For more information, contact Smith at [For more information, contact Smith at 541-561-7488 or melonville-comedyfestival@gmail.com](mailto:For more information, contact Smith at 541-561-7488 or melonville-comedyfestival@gmail.com).

IN BRIEF

## Library displays art masterpieces

A selection of American art masterpieces will be on display throughout the month at the Hermiston Public Library.

Provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the collection seeks to introduce Americans to their artistic heritage and inspire them to become more informed citizens. The organization carefully selected the masterpieces as a starting point to learn more about our nation's artistic legacy. Well known artists such as John James Audubon and Norman Rockwell are among the many American artists whose works are included in the collection.

The library is open Monday through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Friday and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's located at 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. For more information, call Marie Baldo or Jodi Hansen at 541-567-2882.

## New club focuses on photography

Shutterbugs of all skill levels are invited to join the Hermiston Public Library's photography club.

Anyone with a passion for photography or an interest in improving picture taking ability is invited to attend the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.

There will be photo assignments, guest speakers and field trips. The club is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Jodi Hansen at 541-567-2882 or [jhanzen@hermiston.or.us](mailto:jhanzen@hermiston.or.us).

## Hospital auxiliary provides volunteers services

The Good Shepherd Medical Center's hospital auxiliary meets the second Thursday of each

month.

The volunteer organization provides services at the hospital and participates in fundraising projects for student scholarships in nursing/medical careers and medical equipment for the medical center.

New members are welcome and applications are available in the hospital gift shop. For more information, contact June Rosenberg at [juner1942@gmail.com](mailto:juner1942@gmail.com).

## Eastern Oregon Forum to be rescheduled

Anna King of Northwest News Network was scheduled to discuss "Daughters of Hanford" during the Jan. 12 Eastern Oregon Forum.

However, due to King being called to cover the standoff situation in Harney County, the forum was postponed. It will be rescheduled for a date later this month.

The Eastern Oregon Forum is a collaborative effort among leaders from Blue Mountain Community College, InterMountain Education Service District, the East Oregonian, American Association of University Women and Harriet Isom, former United States ambassador.

For more information, call Karen Parker at 541-966-3177.

## Nazarene church offers marriage class

A six-week marriage class at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene will help participants learn to grow closer to God.

God's Dream for Your Marriage begins Thursday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the church's Ministry Center, 1520 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Child-care and snacks are provided. A small donation is requested to assist with supplies.

For more information, call 541-567-3677.

## Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Oregon Public Utility Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$14.80-\$16.80 per month and business services are \$26.00-\$30.50 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless telephone. A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95\* per month for the first 12 months of service. Please call 1-866-541-3330 or visit [centurylink.com/internetbasics](http://centurylink.com/internetbasics) for more information.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-888-833-9522 or visit [centurylink.com/lifeline](http://centurylink.com/lifeline) with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

**\*CenturyLink Internet Basics Program** – Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and requires remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the first full month of service billed in advance, prorated charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of 60 months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during that time. Listed High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for first 12 months of service (after which the rate reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 48 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either lease a modem/router from CenturyLink for an additional monthly charge or independently purchase a modem/router, and a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modem/router. **General** – Services not available everywhere. Have not have subscribed to CenturyLink Internet service within the last 90 days and are not a current CenturyLink customer. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposits may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** – All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at [centurylink.com](http://centurylink.com). **Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges** – Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a carrier Universal Service charge, carrier cost recovery surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates.



## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Worship with us!

### NEW BEGINNINGS

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP  
Worship Service 10:30 AM  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Pastor J.C. Barnett  
Children's Church & Nursery Available  
700 West Orchard Avenue  
P.O. Box 933  
Hermiston, Oregon  
**541-289-4774**

### Echo Community Church

21 N Bonanza Street  
Echo, OR  
Phone: (541) 376-8108  
Sunday School.....9:30 am  
Worship.....10:45 am  
Children's Church.....11:15 am  
Potluck & Communion ~  
First Sunday of the Month

### Oasis Vineyard

A COMMUNITY OF HOPE  
1255 Hwy. 395 S. • 567-5834  
[oasisvineyard.us](http://oasisvineyard.us)  
Worship 10:00 AM  
"come as you are"

### Seventh-day Adventist Church

Saturdays  
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
**567-8241**  
855 W. Highland • Hermiston

### The Full Gospel Home Church

235 SW 3rd  
Phone 567-7678  
Rev. Ed Baker - Rev. Nina Baker  
Sunday: Sunday School.....10:00 am  
Worship.....11:00 am  
Evening Service.....7:00 pm  
Wednesday Service.....7:00 pm  
\*Caring all your care upon him;  
for he careth for you.\*  
1 Pet. 5:7

### First United Methodist Church of Hermiston

Rev. Dr. James T. Pierce, Pastor  
Open Hearts, Open minds,  
Open doors  
191 E. Gladys Ave.  
Sunday Worship at 11am  
(541) 567-3002

### First Christian Church

"Proclaiming the Message of Hope, Living the Gospel of Love"  
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH 11:00 AM  
Nursery Provided  
**567-3013**  
775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

### St. Johns Episcopal Church

All People Are Welcome  
Scripture, Tradition and Reason  
Family service 9am Sunday  
Gladys Ave & 7th Hermiston  
Fr. Dan Lediard, Priest, PFE. 367-6672

### Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church

565 W. HERMISTON AVE.  
DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday  
.....English 7:00 am  
THURSDAY.....Spanish 6:00 pm  
SATURDAY.....English 5:00 pm  
.....Spanish 7:00 pm  
SUNDAY.....English 9:00 am  
.....Bilingual 11:00 am  
.....Spanish 1:00 pm  
OFFICE.....567-5812

### Grace Baptist Church

555 SW 11th, Hermiston  
567-9497  
Nursery provided for all services  
Sunday School - 9:30 AM  
Worship - 10:45 AM  
6:00 pm  
Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM  
"Proclaiming God's word,  
growing in God's grace"

### HermNaz

the best thing about Sundays  
1520 W ORCHARD AVE  
Sunday Worship Service  
10:30 am Classes for kids @ 9:15 am  
SEEKING JESUS, SHARING LIFE, SERVING PEOPLE  
[www.hermistonnazarene.org](http://www.hermistonnazarene.org)

### LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH

125 E. Beech Ave. • 567-3232  
Pastor David Dever  
Sun. Bible Classes.....10:00am  
Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am  
Sun. Evening Worship.....6:00pm  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study...6:00pm  
[www.hermistonlmbc.com](http://www.hermistonlmbc.com)

### NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston  
Sunday Worship Services  
English- Pastor Dave Andrus  
9:00 & 10:45 am  
Spanish- Pastor Genaro Loredó  
9:00 & 10:15 am  
Classes for kids during all services  
For more information call  
**541-567-8441**

### THE COUNTRY CHURCH

Pastor James Becker  
32742 Diagonal RD  
Hermiston OR 97838  
Sunday School 10 am  
Worship 7 am  
Evening Service 7 pm  
Bible Study Wednesdays 7 pm  
Firestarter Youth Ministry  
(Ages 12-17)  
Monday @ 6 pm

To share your worship times  
call Amanda Jacobs  
**541-278-2683**