

# Our Community

E-mail your community news items to: [community@hermistonherald.com](mailto:community@hermistonherald.com)

## Yellow Brick Road leads to whirlwind in Wonderland

Children's theater to perform spring play

HERMISTON HERALD

The worlds of Oz and Wonderland will collide in a fantastically fun production presented by Hermiston Parks & Recreation.

Youths in third through 12th grade are invited to improve their acting skills while participating in classes that will lead up to a pair of performances of "Dorothy in Wonderland." Everyone who registers for the class will be included in the spring production as Dorothy Gale makes her way down the Yellow Brick Road.

Along the way, a whirlwind appears over the Emerald City, whisking the characters, including Dorothy, Toto, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Lion, to Wonderland. While Dorothy's friends try to help her find her way home, they run into many interesting characters, including Alice, the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter, the March Hare, the Cheshire Cat and more.

All participants in the Children's Community Theater will receive parts. Auditions will be held to determine the cast for performances. No acting experience is necessary to participate.

Rehearsals, which begin Feb. 17, are Monday and Wednesdays from 5:15-7:15 p.m. at Armand Larive Middle School, 1497 S.W. Ninth St., Hermiston. The registration fee, which is due by Friday, Feb. 12, is \$50 for Hermiston residents and \$63 for non-residents.

Sponsored by Desert Arts Council, the performances are Thursday, April 21 and Friday, April 22, also at Armand Larive. Each participant will receive two free tickets to share with family or friends. Regular ticket prices are \$2 for those ordered in advance and \$3 at the door.

For more information, visit [www.hermistonrecreation.com](http://www.hermistonrecreation.com). To register for the acting class, call 541-667-5018 or stop by the recreation office, 180 N.E. Second St., Hermiston.

### IN BRIEF

#### Murder mystery benefits Agape House

Dave Hughes is cooking up fun for another Agape House murder mystery dinner.

Hughes, Agape House executive director, participated in a cruise workshop teaching him the Jack Pachuta Murder Mystery Writing System. His latest effort, "The Murder of Handsome Jack," will be staged Saturday, Jan. 30 at 5:30 p.m. at Agape House, 500 Harper Road, Hermiston. The cost is \$35 per ticket, with \$20 tax-deductible. The price includes a prime rib dinner and dessert.

Each table of guests will serve as an investigative team for the murder mystery. After an introduction and case summary, the suspects will share their memories of Jack and any interactions they had earlier in the day prior to his death. During the dinner break, investigative tables may purchase additional clue packages of six for \$5, 15 for \$10 or 25 for \$15. During dessert, the crime lab and autopsy reports will be read. Audience members will have an opportunity to solve the mystery for a chance to win tickets to an upcoming murder mystery presentation.

All money raised from the event will go to support the missions of Agape House and Martha's House in helping those in need. For more information, call 541-567-8774.

#### Women's choir set rehearsals

Sisters in Song, a community women's choir, recently began rehearsals for its spring concert.

All new and returning singers are invited to the weekly rehearsals, which began Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Pendleton High School choir room, 1800 N.W. Carden Ave. Auditions are not required to join the choir.

Directed by Lezlee Flagg and is accompanied by Suzi Wood, the

mission of Sisters in Song is to learn and perform a variety of music, while striving for musical polish and beauty in an atmosphere of supportive and good-humored cooperation.

The spring concert is Sunday, June 12. For more information, contact Flagg at 541-969-0055, Cheryl Carlson at 541-429-0160 or [womensingpendleton@gmail.com](mailto:womensingpendleton@gmail.com).

#### First Draft features two poets

A pair of La Grande poets are included in the upcoming First Draft Writers' Series.

Featuring Nancy Knowles and Thomas Madden, the event is Thursday at 7 p.m. at Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. It's free and open to the public.

Knowles is a professor of English and writing at Eastern Oregon University and was the director of the Oregon Writing Project at EOU for more than 10 years. She publishes primarily literary analysis and articles on teaching English and writing and has been invited to read her poetry at the Roundhouse Reading Series and the Eastern Oregon Word Round-Up.

Madden believes that good poems grow out of the imagination's intersection with both personal and cultural history, as well as landscape. He is especially interested in the role of his poetic imagination as it encounters his own European heritage and the impact of that heritage in the United States. He's been a reporter, a college writing and journalism instructor and playwright. He is writing a third collection of poems, tentatively titled "The Silas Chronicles."

After readings by the featured writers, audience members may participate in short open mic sessions to read their own original poems or stories.

For more information, call 541-278-9201 or visit [www.pendletonarts.org](http://www.pendletonarts.org).

## Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back: Relay for Life kicks off 2016

Cancer sucks. Most of the time, my column is light-hearted. However, when it comes to cancer I have a tough time. Between 2011-2013, three people important to me were diagnosed with cancer — two of them have since died from the disease.

That's why Relay for Life has become so personal for me. It's not a faceless disease. It has taken my friends and afflicted my pops. Actually, I don't think there are very many people out there that haven't been touched by cancer in some way.

The premise behind Relay for Life is to Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back — Celebrate those who have beaten cancer, remember those who have lost their lives to the disease and fight back by raising awareness and money for cancer research in pursuit of a cure.

Hermiston Relay for Life is kicking off its 2016 event with a rally Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave. The event will feature information tables — including how to start a team, fundraising ideas and general information about cancer. Also, food will be available for purchase and there will be a silent auction. There is no fee to register a Relay for Life team. The actual Relay for Life is June 25 at the Umatilla County Fairgrounds.

Lynn O'Halloran, one of my old college roommates was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2011. She died just over two years later. Lynn was a great friend — a Coke drinker, yet she always



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CAROL GREENE

Judy Hayes, center, walks during the opening lap of the 2012 Hermiston Relay for Life. A former Hermiston resident, Hayes died of cancer Dec. 15, 2015. A fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, the kick-off event for the 2016 Hermiston Relay for Life is Thursday at the Hermiston Church of the Nazarene.

had Pepsi on hand when I visited.

She kept her sense of humor throughout her fight with cancer. Back in our college days, I had several friends by the name of Lynn. To keep them straight, my mom called her "long-haired Lynn." My mom still referred to her with this moniker even after Lynn cut her hair. And, when she lost her hair from chemotherapy, Lynn suggested my mom could call her "no-hair Lynn."

My pops was diagnosed with prostate cancer in November 2013. He had surgery the following January. While the waiting was the hardest part, the doctor said it was best to reduce the risk of infection after the biopsies. He continues to do well and is turning 78 this weekend.

Diagnosed with lung can-

#### Relay for Life kick-off

**WHEN:** Thursday, Jan. 21  
**TIME:** 6-7:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Hermiston Church of the Nazarene  
**ADDRESS:** 1520 W. Orchard Ave.  
**INFO:** Miranda Hunt  
541-720-0369, [mlhunt06@gmail.com](mailto:mlhunt06@gmail.com)

cer in May 2012, Judy Hayes participated in the following month's Hermiston Relay for Life for the first time. I was privileged to be able to walk with my friend during the opening lap.

At one point it looked like she had beat the cancer and some of the herd gathered to

celebrate with Dairy Queen ice cream cake. We got a good laugh about the inscription on the cake, "Cancer sucks Judy."

Judy died Dec. 15, 2015. During this year's Relay for Life, I will walk in her memory.

For more information about Hermiston Relay for Life, contact Miranda Hunt at 541-720-0369, [mlhunt06@gmail.com](mailto:mlhunt06@gmail.com) or visit [www.relayforlife.org/hermiston](http://www.relayforlife.org/hermiston).

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



**Tammy Malgesini**  
INSIDE MY SHOES

**Rachel Dagley**  
Business Health Farm Life  
ISU One Responsible Source  
541/276-2302 • 800/225-2521  
**The Stratton Agency**  
Pendleton / Hermiston • [stratton-insurance.com](http://stratton-insurance.com)

**Murder Mystery Dinner**  
AGAPE HOUSE PRESENTS:  
Murder of Handsome Jack  
**PRIME RIB DINNER**  
Where: 500 Harper Rd. • Altrusa Room  
When: January 30th @ 5:30pm  
Cost: \$35 per person (\$20 deductible)  
For tickets, call Dave @ 541-567-8774

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**  
Worship with us!

**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  
"Casting 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

**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

**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 Ledard, Priest. PH: 567-6672

**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 Loredo  
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