

IN BRIEF

Tourism conference seeks auction items

Area businesses are encouraged to donate auction items for the Governor's Conference on Tourism. The event brings hundreds of people in the travel and tourism industry to the area and a donation will help promote your business.

The event is April 24-26 at Wildhorse Resort & Casino. For more information, call Carole Astley at 503-967-1563, Kendra Perry at 503-967-1561 or visit www.traveloregon.com.

Fashion show brings out style

Fun Fashions Boutique is hosting a Spring/Summer Fashion Show.

The public is invited Sunday from 2-5 p.m. at 165 W. Coe Ave., Stanfield. Owned and operated by Kathy Baker, the boutique features new and gently used clothing for women and teens.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP to ensure there's enough refreshments at www.facebook.com/events/1725982040980912 or call 541-571-6388.

Echo rolls out the sidewalk

Antiques, vintage and handcrafted artisan creations, door prizes and treats are featured during an upcoming event in Echo.

The Spring into Echo: Main Street Sidewalk Sale & City Wide Yard Sales is

Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Echo. Maps to yard sales can be picked up at Echo Station and Gathered over Time.

For more information, contact vintageshops@echo-station.com, 541-371-2110 or visit www.facebook.com/events/585441624955634.

Banner Bank honors two Hermiston employees

Two Banner Bank employees in Hermiston have been selected for recognition within the company.

Lisa Pederson, operations support manager, and Anabel Rodriguez, Hermiston branch teller, each received the 2015 Banner's Best award for providing outstanding customer service and exceeding their individual professional goals last year.

Only five percent of all employees qualify for this award, which recognizes employees who demonstrate excellence within their professions. Recipients are selected by members of executive leadership.

"Every Banner's Best recipient exceeded the high standards set for our employees to add value to both the bank and our clients," said Mark Grescovich, Banner Bank President and CEO.

Banner Bank is a Washington-chartered commercial bank that conducts business from more than 200 locations in Washington, Oregon, California, Utah and Idaho.

Eastside Market sells 2 jackpot winners (so far) this spring

News of winners increases lottery sales

By **JADE McDOWELL**
Staff Writer

Lottery ticket sales at Eastside Market are up since the store sold two major jackpots in two months, totaling \$125,000 in winnings for Hermiston residents.

The first ticket was in early March, when they sold a \$25,000 jackpot on Jackpot Scratch-its, according to a news release by the Oregon Lottery. Then on April 9, Cindy Storie stopped at the Eastside Market to get a Diet Coke and decided to purchase a \$10 Scratch-it that turned out to be worth \$100,000.

"So I get home and I am scratching it and realized I won, but I hadn't scratched off the prizes yet," Storie said in the news release. "When I started scratching I couldn't believe it. I thought I won \$100 and it was \$100,000!"

To say Storie and the clerk who sold her the ticket were excited would be an understatement. Eastside Market owner Joe Thompson said everyone was "hysterical" when they called him at home with the good news.

"Cindy is a regular customer to the market, so it was crazy to hear both of them hysterical," Thompson said. "It's a very good thing."

"On Tuesday he said people were still coming in to buy lottery tickets in the hopes of cashing in on the market's seeming hot streak. There has been a \$500 ticket



STAFF PHOTO BY JADE McDOWELL

The banner at Eastside Market announcing a \$25,000 jackpot will soon be replaced with one announcing the sale of a \$100,000 winning ticket.

and an unusual number of \$100 and \$50 prizes since then.

"It's still going," he said.

Thompson has run Eastside Market since 1985 and the business has been in his family since the 1970s. According to the Oregon Lottery, it was one of the lottery's first retailers in the state.

Stores that sell a winning ticket get a 1 percent commission, and Thompson said for big wins he pays out a portion as a staff bonus and puts the rest back into the business.

Storie said she is still deciding what to do with her winnings.

"My sister is going on a



STAFF PHOTO BY JADE McDOWELL

Eastside Market in Hermiston sold two winning Scratch-it Jackpot tickets in the last two months.

cruise this summer and she wants me to go with her, I guess I could do that now," she said. "I am big believer in karma and doing good things, this really came back around."

The Oregon Lottery

office said prize winners of more than \$50,000 should contact the office to schedule an appointment to claim their prize. Players should always sign the back of their tickets.

Fialka, Bracher retiring from HEF

By **JENNIFER COLTON**
East Oregonian

Two long-time and instrumental leaders in the Hermiston Education Foundation will retire this month, leaving openings on the nonprofit board.

Ann Fialka and Judy Bracher have served on the HEF Board of Trustees for 13 and 12 years, respectively, and have each submitted a notice of retirement.

"We really feel like the Ed Foundation is in a good place. It's right on the brink of long-range planning, and it's time to let the next generation take over," Fialka said Friday.

The Hermiston Education Foundation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation aimed at enriching student experiences in the Hermiston School District. Although the group serves the Hermiston School District, it is its own entity.

The board of trustees, which governs the foundation, represents a cross-section of the Hermiston community and is a mix of district employees and community members. Bracher is the current chair of the foundation's board of directors; both Fialka and Bracher have served as past chair as well.

"It really is a working board," Bracher said. "You have to be a worker bee."

The organization provides grants to teachers within the



EO FILE PHOTO

Hermiston Education Foundation board member Judy Bracher restocks food during the 2014 "Beach and Beef Dinner" at the Hermiston Conference Center.

district twice a year as well as providing volunteer efforts and projects. Fialka has been on the board for almost every one of the organization's 24 grant cycles, and the Spring 2016 grants will be announced Wednesday during a special reception.

"I can remember the first grant cycle when we had a couple thousand dollars and we were looking at the applications, trying to figure out how to best be good stewards of the money," Fialka said. "Now we're looking at \$25,000 in grants a cycle, \$40,000 a year."

Both women have been instrumental in organizing the foundation's annual events: the HEF Beach & Beef crab feed in February and the HEF Fun Run in October. While the crab feed brings in the bulk of the organization's

funding, the fun run was originally started just for commu-

nity recognition. When they joined the board, both Fialka and Bracher decided to focus on two pieces: community recognition of what the foundation was and being good stewards of the funding.

"I think our years have been very productive and enjoyable," Bracher said with a laugh. "I think we've established a good rapport with the community, and they're willing to support us and what we do. We have a great community."

Both women will continue to volunteer with events and

are active in other community organizations.



Fialka

"I'll miss being in contact, having a sideline seat to what's happening in the district, but it's time," Fialka said.

Fialka and Bracher are two of the longest-serving board members, second only to Karen Sherman, who was one of the founding members. With the retirements, the board is now looking for about four individuals to fill its ideal size of 15, according to Fialka and Bracher.

Anyone interested in join-

ing the HEF board of trustees is asked to contact Briana Cortaberria at the Hermiston School District for an application packet and contact information. Fialka said the ideal board member is someone passionate about "making good things happen" and being involved in the community.

The HEF board meeting this month will be the last for each Fialka and Bracher. The board will elect a new chair.

"It's been an amazing experience," Bracher said. "It was a great ride. It really was."

EAST OREGONIAN Herald BUTTE CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2016

5K RUN, 5K WALK, 10K RUN, KID'S BUTTE SCOOT

All races begin & end at Hermiston's Butte Park

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