

# Hermiston Herald

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**Hermiston park leading at the buzzer**

An official winner has not yet been announced, but the Moda Assist Program competition to bring a new playground to Sunset Park ended Monday night showing Hermiston about 4,000 votes in the lead.

Moda and the Portland Trail Blazers have pledged to donate \$10 for every assist made by Blazers team members during regular-season games toward an all-abilities playground for the community with the highest online vote tally — a pledge expected to bring in about \$20,000.

After making sure the rules allowed for multiple votes by the same person, the Hermiston parks and recreation department sponsored contests and drawings to encourage people to keep up the voting, resulting in a tally of more than 19,000 votes for Sunset Park by the deadline.

A representative of Moda said the official winner will be announced today.

**Sanitary Disposal hosts cleanup week**

Sanitary Disposal in Hermiston is hosting its annual spring cleanup week April 1-7. During the week, cash customers using the Sanitary Disposal Transfer Station in Hermiston will receive a discount of up to \$14 off each load.

During cleanup week, loads measuring up to 2.5 cubic yards with a maximum weight of 454 1/2 pounds can be disposed of free of charge. This includes all acceptable solid waste with the exception of tires, which will be charged at the regular rate.

The transfer station is located two miles north of Hermiston on the west side of Highway 395, and is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and week-ends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call Sanitary Disposal at 541-567-8842.



Choir students Colton Hollis, Yanira Garcia, Babali Peterson (Ione), Julia Fernandez and Natalie Sherman (Echo) are all traveling to Hawaii to sing in a choir with students from around the Pacific Rim.

STAFF PHOTO BY JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN

## Local bands, choirs travel to Hawaii

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
Staff Writer

Several students from Echo, Ione, Irrigon and Stanfield will soon get to travel to Hawaii to share their musical talents.

Fifty students and 20 adult chaperones will spend spring break at the Pacific Basin Music Festival in Honolulu. The choir and band festival is in its 32nd year and brings high school and junior high students

together from nations in the Pacific Rim, such as Canada, Australia, Japan and the U.S., for a week of learning and performing classical music.

“They’ll perform with oth-

er groups,” said Stanfield band director Deborah Wryn. “There are adjudicated activities. Our band will meet and rehearse with a band from Perth, Australia.”

The students, 10 of whom

are singing with the choir, and the rest of whom are in band, had to commit to the trip last school year, and since then have been rehearsing once a month.

Each group is learning a collection of songs, from different genres of music, which they will perform with another band or choir. They will also perform a few songs with the entire group of students attending the event.

The trip was open to any

*‘It’s pretty exciting. For my senior year, it’s cool to get to do something like this.’*

– Jenny Stanger, Student

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Ione music teacher Bryan Bates directs band students in a rehearsal leading up to their trip to Hawaii, where they will meet and perform with students from several different countries.

STAFF PHOTO BY JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN

## Del’s Feed and Farm Supply closing its doors

Del’s Feed and Farm Supply is closing its doors in Hermiston this fall.

The store’s parent company, Tractor Supply Company, announced Thursday that it had made the decision to close the Hermiston location and all other Pacific Northwest locations later this year.

John Logan, regional vice president for Tractor Supply Company, said in a statement the decision was based on “many business factors” after “much analysis.”

He and Hermiston store manager Jeremy Miller both thanked customers for their support.

“On behalf of the entire Del’s team, we are extremely grateful to our Hermiston customers for

their many years of patronage,” Miller said.

Tractor Supply Company also



*‘On behalf of the entire Del’s team, we are extremely grateful to our Hermiston customers for their many years of patronage.’*

owns and operates Petsense, which recently opened a new location in Hermiston.

Despite the loss of Del’s, and the loss of Pendleton Grain Growers’ retail store in late 2014, Hermiston will gain another “rural lifestyle” retail store in Ranch & Home, which plans to build on south Highway 395 this year.

Del’s Feed and Farm Supply was founded in 1972 in the Seattle area. The company has had up to 21 stores in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Hawaii. Many of the Washington state stores have been rebranded as Tractor Supply Company stores.

Del’s Feed and Farm Supply is located at 2055 N. First St., north of Theater Lane on the west side of Highway 395.



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