Our Community

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IN BRIEF

Hermiston woman receives 25-gallon pin

The April American Red Cross blood drive at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston was cause for celebration as Ronita M. Jones received her 25-gallon pin.

Patti Perkins said hitting the milestone is quite an accomplishment.

"This is 200 donations, which takes at least 33 years of donating," she said. In all, the drive collected

38 units, which exceeded the goal of 33. However, Perkins said blood products are always in high demand — especially as the summer months approach. A donation, she said, can help save the lives of up to three people.

The canteen during the April 17 blood drive was provided by the Emblem Club. Volunteers to provide canteen duties for the December drive are still needed. For more information, call Perkins at 541-571-5372

The next blood drive at Good Shepherd is Monday, May 15 from 12:30-6 p.m. For information about upcoming blood drives throughout the region, visit www.redcrossblood.org/ give. While walk-ins are welcome, people are encouraged to make an appointment by calling 800-448-3543.

Hospital auxiliary sets Collective Goods sale

A variety of books and gifts at affordable prices are available for purchase during the Collective Goods sale.

Hosted by the Good Shepherd Hospital Auxiliary, the event is Thursday and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Conference

and medical equipment for Good Shepherd.

Membership in the auxiliary is open to all who are interested in volunteering at Good Shepherd Medical Center. Applications can be picked up at the hospital in the gift shop.

SAGE Center to show 'Sing'

Matthew McConaughey and Reese Witherspoon are featured during the upcoming SAGE Center movie event.

Nominated for several Golden Globe Awards, "Sing" is an animated flick about animals banding together to save the town's theater by hosting a singing competition. Rated PG, the family-friendly movie will be shown Friday at 7:15 p.m. and Saturday at 2:15 p.m. at the center, located at 101 Olson Road, Boardman

Admission is \$3 per person and includes a free bag of popcorn. Bottled water and other concessions are available for purchase.

The SAGE Center is an interactive visitor center that highlights the region's history, industries and sustainability practices. For more information, call 541-481-7243 or visit www.visitsage.com.

Service features singing of old hymns

Food, fun and fellowship are featured in the upcoming Hymnspiration.

The public is invited to share in the singing of old hymns with new and old friends. The event is Sunday from 5-6 p.m. at Victory Baptist Church, 193 E. Main St. Hermiston.

For more information, call Chris Finely at 541-571-2516.

Meeting highlights veterans benefits

Rural Veterans and Their Families Tuesday, May 9 at 10 a.m. at the Irrigon Library meeting room, 500 N.E. Main St.

Participants will receive updated information about VA benefits and a presentation about local services by CAPE-CO. Spouses, families and loved ones of veterans are encouraged to attend. There is no admission fee, but those planning to attend are asked to call 541-922-6420.

Jim Doherty to speak at Irrigon luncheon

For an update on Morrow County happenings, be sure to attend the upcoming Irrigon Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Jim Doherty of the Morrow County board of commissioners will speak at the event. The public is invited to the no-host luncheon, which is Wednesday, May 10 at 11:45 a.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. The cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members.

For more information, contact irrigonchamber@irrigonchamber. com or 541-922-3857.

Head Start celebrates dudes

Dads, grandpas, uncles, older brothers and other male role models in the lives of children were celebrated during an event hosted by Umatilla-Morrow County Head Start.

A Day for Dudes held March 21 at Rocky Elementary Heights School in Hermiston included wood-building activities and dinner. A total of 45 "dudes" and 59 children participated in the event. In addition, each child received a free book and an entry for a chance to win a bike. Jonny Badillo, family advocate and co-organizer of the event expressed appreciation to Smitty's Ace Hardware, Home Depot and Dickey's Barbecue Pit of Kennewick for contributing to the event's success. Erin Richards, family education and support director, said dads and male caregivers have an opportunity to make a huge impact in their child's life. She cited studies that indicate children with highly involved fathers were 43 percent more likely to excel in school. For more information about programs and workshops, call Badillo at 541-564-6878 or visit www.umchs.org.



FILE PHOTO

The Ballet Folklorico dancers return for the 2017 Hermiston Cinco de Mayo celebration. The event is Saturday and Sunday at Butte Park.

Cinco de Mayo festivities doubles the family fun

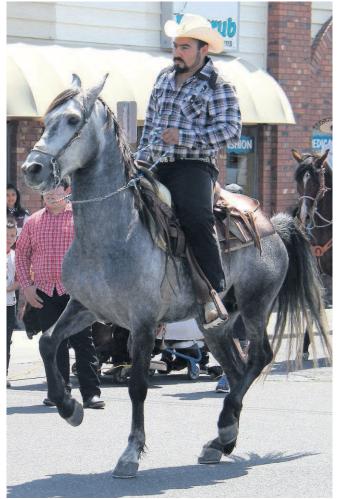
Carnival opens Friday at Butte Park

By TAMMY MALGESINI

Community Editor Organizers are gearing up for twice the merriment Saturday and Sunday as Hermiston's Cinco de Mayo celebration expands to two days.

People can register for the parade Saturday between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Oxbow Trail, located at 11th Street and West Elm Avenue. The parade will get rolling at 1 p.m., traveling east on Elm Avenue. It will head to Butte Park, 1245 N.W. Seventh St., the site of the event.

Cinco de Mayo committee chairwoman Clara Beas Fitzgerald invites people to dress their pets up in costumes for the parade — prizes will be awarded for the top entries. In addition, kids can decorate their bikes and other community members are encouraged to get creative and join the parade.



Room 1 at the hospital, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston.

Money raised from the event will be used to support scholarships for those pursuing a medical career

Morrow County Veterans Services will host Federal Benefits and Local Community Resources for



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Beas Fitzgerald said the parade's grand marshal is Francisco Maass, Oregon's Mexican consul general. He will speak Saturday at approximately 2 p.m.

"He will dedicate the ceremonies," she said.

Natali Armenta, Daisy Cardenas and Jaleslie Torres, who were recently elected as the Cinco de Mayo royalty court, also will be introduced. The trio of young ladies were chosen from a public vote on the event's Facebook page. Armenia is Señorita Hermiston Cinco de Mayo 2017, while Cardenas was chosen as Miss Photogenic and Torres was designated as Miss Charisma.

Also, for a chance to cruise home in a 2012 Dodge Charger, be sure to pick up a free entry form by Friday and deposit it at Fiesta Foods, 1875 N.

Juan Chavez placed second at the dancing horse competition during the 2015 Hermiston Cinco de Mayo celebration. This year's competition is Saturday from 2:30-4 p.m. at Butte Park.

First St., Hermiston. The drawing will be held Saturday night at 8 p.m.

Beas Fitzgerald said the vehicle, which is valued at approximately \$12,000, is being provided by Prestige Motors of Pasco. Entry forms will not be available at the Cinco de Mayo celebration, she said.

Also, the carnival will offer pre-event fun when it opens Friday from noon to 10 p.m., said Larry Fetter, Hermiston Parks & Recreation director. Presented by Rainier Amusements, it features rides, games and food booths. It also runs Saturday from noon to 10 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. Fetter said wristbands can be purchased for \$20 at Fiesta Foods.

After Saturday's official opening ceremonies, the Aztec Dancers will perform, followed by a dancing horse competition from 2:30-4 p.m. Food vendors will be plentiful at the park, Beas Fitzgerald said. The evening will crescendo with DJ music and dancing. A fireworks show, Fetter said, will fill the sky at 9:30 p.m.

Beas Fitzgerald said Sunday provides a full afternoon and evening of live entertainment, including the Mariachi Los Temerosos, Ballet Folkloric, Arkangel R-15, Band Koritas Musical, Inizzio Norten and Conquistadores 5.

"There will be lots of music," Beas Fitzgerald said. "These are big bands playing until 8 p.m.'

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ HermistonCincoDeMayo.

