

Hermiston Herald

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OFFICE CLOSED
HERMISTON HERALD WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY FROM 9:30 A.M. UNTIL 1 P.M. FOR A FUNERAL AND ALL DAY MONDAY FOR MEMORIAL DAY.

BY THE WAY

Clean up, slow down and hurrah graduates

Simmons Agency is leading the charge in sprucing up downtown today. Activities include weeding, laying bark, planting flowers and taking down lights from the street's trees. They will be working from the morning through the afternoon, and the street will be closed off block by block so that volunteers can work. The cleanup will start at 8:30 a.m. at the Roemark building.

Slow down! The Hermiston Police Department's traffic officer will be switching from a motorcycle to a "quasi-unmarked" car, according to Police Chief Jason Edmiston. The car will still bear the logo of the Hermiston Police Department on the side, but will not be as immediately recognizable as a police car.

Hermiston is losing

See BTW, A16

Back to the chalkboard

Hermiston School Board looks at reasons for bond failure, how to move forward

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
Staff Writer

The Hermiston School District's \$104 million bond failed decisively in last week's election, prompting questions from district employees, board members and the community: why did it fail, and what's next for the schools?



Sherman

All told 3,950 people cast their votes on the bond, with 640 more votes (58 percent) going against the bond than in favor. County-wide, voter turnout was low, with only about 26 percent of eligible voters submitting ballots.



Maiocco

The bond's failure was a departure from Hermiston's history of passing school bonds. Since the mid-1990s, the community has passed four school-related bonds to address a growing student population. The most recent bond passage was in 2008, when the board rebuilt Sunset and West Park elementary schools, and Armand Larive Middle School.

Board discussions

On Monday, the Hermiston School Board met for the first time since the election to discuss the vote and its next steps.

See **SCHOOL, A16**



HERMISTON HERALD FILE PHOTOS

Above: Fifth-grade teacher Daylee Lathim helps a student navigate a tablet while teaching in one of the modular classroom units on the first day of the 2016 school year at Rocky Heights Elementary School.

Main photo: Signs supporting the school's bond measure were prevalent in Hermiston during the campaign.



Farmers' market gears up for change in venue, fresh ideas

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
Community Editor

The excitement is almost palpable on the new Facebook page for the Hermiston Farmers' Market.

A new logo has been created. And a new face — BeAnn Smith — is overseeing the weekly event. A planning meeting is set for

Saturday, June 3 at 10 a.m. at Hermiston City Hall, 180 N.E. Second St.

"I want it to be a place where you want to be on a Saturday morning — where you come to make new friends and try new things," Smith said about her vision for the market.

The market, which has

mostly shared McKenzie Park with other events the past few years in addition to setting up in downtown Hermiston during special events, will find a new home this season. It will be held on Hermiston's proposed festival street on Northeast

See **MARKET, A16**

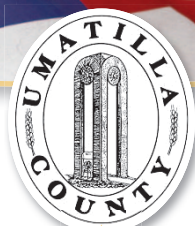


FILE PHOTO

Fresh onions line a table as Naomi and Ildfonso Zuniga of Finley's Fresh Produce ring up customers at a past Hermiston Farmers' Market. This year's market opens Saturday, June 17 in the proposed festival street by city hall.

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