

Youth theater set for new season

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Ahoy matey, the Children's Community Theater program is gearing up for a barrel of laughs.

Director Jenny Walker said the play, "Fearsome Pirate Frank," provides an opportunity for a fun and amusing production.

"The storyline is hilarious," she said. "I think it will be laugh-out-loud funny for our audience members."

Budding young scallywags are invited to participate in the Hermiston Parks & Recreation program, which includes staging the comedy. Participants ages 9-18 will gain information on stage presence, voice control and acting techniques. No experience is

necessary, Walker said.

The class will meet Oct. 2 through Nov. 15 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:15-7:30 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395. A pair of performances are planned Saturday, Nov. 18, at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. at Armand Larive Middle School.

The cost to register for the class is \$50 for Hermiston residents or \$63 for non-residents. The registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 15.

Walker said having a variety of ages in the class and production is beneficial to both younger and older participants. The younger kids, she said, can look up to some of the teenagers who have been involved

with the program longer. In addition, it provides those with more experience with an opportunity to mentor or teach younger cast members.

The play centers around the star of a popular pirate play. A Shakespearean actor, Fearsome Pirate Frank is a teen heartthrob. However, he can't seem to remember his lines. Adding to the confusion, the cast is kidnapped by actual pirates.

Laughs will be plentiful with the narrators and a stream of hilarious sign-carriers. The zany spoof also features pop culture, including an appearance by Spider-Man.

The pirate theme, Walker said, appeals to a wide range of potential partici-

pants. In addition, she said the play provides more substantial speaking parts for a larger cast.

Walker, who has been involved with the youth theater program for several years, enjoys watching the transformation of participants. She said kids go from being nervous during auditions to expressing pride when they perform in front of family and friends.

"I love seeing the kids' excitement," Walker said. "It's a lot of fun when you see that spark of, 'Now I see why we do what we do.'"

For more information, visit www.hermistonrecreation.com, call 541-667-5018 or stop by the recreation office at 180 N.E. Second St., Hermiston.

Senior center blooms with garden club donation



CONTRIBUTED BY AMANDA MILLS WOODLEE

The Umatilla/Hermiston Garden Club recently presented a donation with money raised from its annual plant sale to the Hermiston Senior Center. Representatives during the check presentation were Alberta Wilkerson, garden club member; Barb Chadwick, garden club president; Irene Miller, senior center president; Virginia Beebe, senior center vice president.

Wambeke & Friend close out park series

HERMISTON HERALD

John Wambeke and Eric Jepsen will perform during the final concert of the Music in the Park series in Heppner.

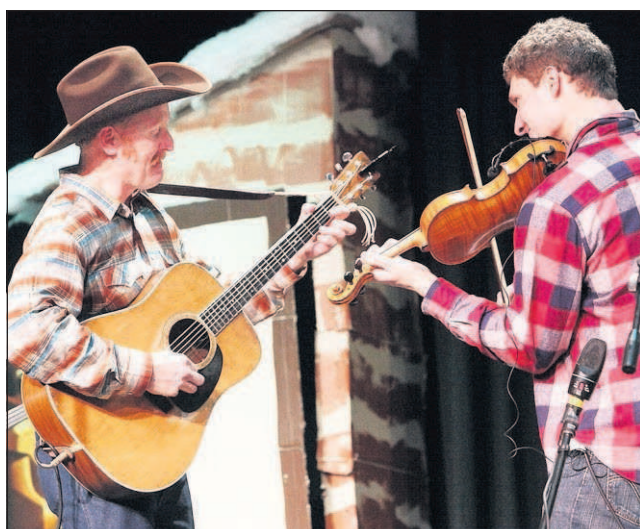
Wambeke, a longtime Hermiston resident, and Jepsen, a Morrow County native, have shared the stage numerous times over the years. Jepsen is among the featured "friends" during the annual Cabin Fever Concerts presented by Wambeke & Friends in Hermiston. Seasoned performers, the pair offers an evening of music and fun.

The free event is Sunday from 5-7 p.m. at

Heppner City Park, 444 N. Main St. In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to All Saints parish hall, 460 N. Gale St.

Also, people are encouraged to come with an appetite. Pulled pork sandwiches will be available by donation. The Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church is raising money for well-building efforts through Living Water International.

For more information, contact the Heppner Chamber of Commerce at 541-676-5536 or heppnerchamber@centurytel.net.



CONTRIBUTED BY LUKES PHOTOS

John Wambeke and Eric Jepsen perform during a past Cabin Fever concert. The duo closes out the Music in the Parks series Sunday in Heppner.

Ag calendar features student artwork

HERMISTON HERALD

Drawings by a pair of local students were winners in the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Calendar Art Contest.

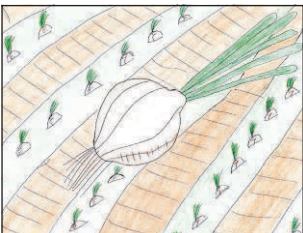
With more than 2,000 submissions, the work of Briseida Mendoza and Erick Orellana-Amaya were among the 13 chosen for the calendar. The students were invited to an Aug. 27 reception at the Oregon State Fair in Salem.

Mendoza, who attends McNary Heights Elementary School in Umatilla, was inspired by local pro-

duce. The fourth-grader drew watermelons because she loves to eat them in the summer.

A fifth-grader at Windy River Elementary School in Boardman, Orellana-Amaya drew onions, which grow plentifully in Eastern Oregon.

In addition to having their artwork published in the calendar, each winning student received a \$50 award and a certificate. The winning artwork was on display during the Oregon State Fair, which ran through Monday. Calendars are free to Oregon



CONTRIBUTED BY OREGON AITC

A drawing of onions by Erick Orellana-Amaya, a fifth-grader at Windy River Elementary School in Boardman, was among the winners of an Oregon AITC art contest.

teachers, and can be purchased by others for \$5 at www.oregonaitc.org/shop.



CONTRIBUTED BY OREGON AITC

Tammy Dennee and Jessica Jansen, of the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, congratulate Briseida Mendoza, McNary Heights Elementary School fourth-grader at the Oregon State Fair in Salem.

IN BRIEF

Inland musicians keep beat with U.S. Bank grant

HERMISTON HERALD

The U.S. Bancorp Foundation recently presented the Inland Northwest Musicians with a \$1,000 grant to help sustain the organi-

zation's music programs.

The presentation was made Aug. 17 in Hermiston. Those present included R. Lee Friese, INWM conductor/music director; Ra Niel Dunn, INWM program manager; Janizee Serrano, U.S. Bank representative; Lori Johnson, program facilitator; and Kara Taylor, branch manager at U.S. Bank in Hermiston.

Salli Ketchersid, publicity coordinator for INWM, said the bank foundation has given \$28,000 to the nonprofit organization since 2008.

Formed in 1999, ensembles of the Inland Northwest Musicians offer free live performances throughout Eastern Oregon and southeast Washington. The organization's mission is to provide an atmosphere

to support musicians in developing their talent — no auditions are required.

For more information, contact 541-289-4696, inwm@machmedia.net or visit www.inlandnorthwestmusicians.com.

IN BRIEF

Hermiston church launches kids clubs

The Hermiston Assembly of God Church is resuming its weekly children's program.

The Boys & Girls Clubs Launch Night is Wednesday, Sept. 6 from 6:30-7:45 p.m. at 730 E. Hurlburt Ave., Hermiston. Open to kids through fifth grade, participants don't have to be affiliated with the church to attend. The weekly event includes games, crafts, snacks and much more.

Transportation can be arranged. For more information, call 541-567-5831 or visit www.facebook.com/hermistonassembly.

Knights of Columbus host spaghetti dinner

A fundraiser for the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program features a spaghetti dinner.

The event is Friday from 6-9 p.m. in the parish hall at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church, 565 W. Hermiston Ave. The meal, which costs \$10 for adults, \$5 for children or \$30 for a family of six, includes spaghetti, soup, salad, garlic bread and dessert.

For more information, call 541-567-5812.

Class of 1962 holds reunion activities

Members of the Hermiston High School class of 1962 are gearing up to celebrate 55 years since turning the tassel.

The no-host gathering is Friday, Sept. 8 from 5 p.m. to midnight at Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/pg/midway1750/events.

AAUW hosts potluck, membership meeting

The public is invited to a gathering to learn more about the American Association of University Women.

The group is hosting a potluck and membership meeting Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Vert Clubroom, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton. People are encouraged to bring a dish to share. Beverages and tableware will be provided.

The AAUW works to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. The Pendleton affiliate is the closest group in the region.

For more information, contact Kathy Chaney at cecil296@aol.com.

Sun Terrace plans for Grandparents Day

In celebration of National Grandparents Day, the Old-Time Fiddlers will perform at Sun Terrace.

The public is invited to stop by to visit, tap your toes to the music and enjoy a tasty treat. The event is Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at 1550 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston.

For more information, call 541-564-2595.

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Back to School Health Fair at Family Health and Fitness Day

Date: Saturday September 23rd, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: Hermiston High School

- ✓ NO Appointment Needed
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- ✓ Complete an exam and get a free gift card!
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