



Hermiston Herald

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2017

HermistonHerald.com

\$1.00



INSIDE

AUTO ATTACK

A UMATILLA MAN WAS STABBED IN A FRIEND'S CAR AND THEN THROWN OUT OF IT.

PAGE A3

COUNCIL CONTROVERSY

AN ECHO CITY COUNCILOR WAS CONFRONTED OVER A PAST CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CONVICTION.

PAGE A8

HOMELESS HOLIDAY

HERMISTON ADULTS AND YOUTH FACE HOMELESSNESS AS THE HOLIDAYS APPROACH

PAGE A11

BY THE WAY

By the way: Indian buffet coming to Hermiston

The former **Stockman's Steakhouse** building won't be empty for long. A combination steakhouse and Indian food buffet is planned for the building at 1530 N First St. in Hermiston.

Owner **Gaurav Bhatia** said the restaurant, **India Steakhouse and Kitchen**, should open near the beginning of January. He admitted the combination of foods was unusual but said it should provide something for everyone.

Bhatia also owns **East-side Market** in Hermiston. He said he has heard from many people in Hermiston that they would be interested in a local restaurant serving Indian cuisine.

...

Don't be alarmed if you see a man in a tent on the roof of **Fiesta Foods** in Hermiston — it's for a good cause.

Gaudencio Felipe, sta-

See **BTW**, Page A16

The five days of CHRISTMAS



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

People queue in a line with their children to see Santa Claus underneath the Christmas tree at the tree-lighting festival on Thursday in Hermiston.

Your guide to enjoying a Hermiston Christmas



Thursday: Enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas

The holidays come and go so fast it can be hard to catch your breath long enough to enjoy them.

As our gift to you, we've provided a day-by-day guide with pointers for getting the most out of Christmas week without packing too much in.

We've also asked people in the community about their own holiday traditions, which we've included with each entry.

We hope you have a merry Christmas.



PHOTO BY JADE MCDOWELL

Christmas decorations light up a yard on Southwest Seventh Street in Hermiston.

canes 15 times."

If you're looking to hit up a few of the more well-lit neighborhoods on your drive, try the Highland Summit neighborhood, surrounding Highland Park at 134 NE 13th St. A loop around the park and some of the side streets reveals several large houses decked from roof to ground level in lights.

Next, try driving down Southwest 7th Street heading south from Highland Avenue. The street features a number of colorful houses and several of the side streets

branching off are also particularly well-lit this year.

To liven up the tour, consider passing around Christmas cookies or peppermint bark in the car and singing carols together or listening to Christmas music while you drive.

For more pictures of decorated homes, see our Features on Page A15.

"We have the annual holiday football game. All the kids and all the adults, anyone who's over, we go out and throw around the ball."

— **Annette Kirkpatrick**, Hermiston Irrigation District manager, on a favorite family Christmas tradition that plays out in their backyard.

4 Friday: Popcorn, hot chocolate and a Christmas classic

As the weather gets chilly (temperatures expected in the teens this week!) Friday is a perfect day to settle in and enjoy a movie.

We did an informal poll of Hermiston Herald Facebook users to find out your favorite Christmas movies, and of the 20 or so mentioned, five were the overwhelming favorites. Here's a look at what's playing in your home this week with a suggestion of which one fits you.

• **"It's A Wonderful Life," for the soul searcher.** What better way to reflect on the holiday spirit than with a story about a man burned out, depressed and questioning his purpose on Earth? As George Bailey (played by James Stewart) works through his personal crisis with the help of an angel, the audience is given the perspective to face their own doubts and fears and remember what's truly important.



• **"How the Grinch Stole Christmas," for the cynical.** Everyone has a little Grinch in them sometimes, and the best way to get it out can be to revel in the mayhem. Be honest: Watching the green anti-Santa sneak from house to house to ruin Whoville's holiday does something for you, doesn't it? Whether it's in the original book by Dr. Seuss or the 1966 television special or the 2000 adaptation starring Jim Carrey, watching the Grinch's heart swell with love is all the payoff you need.

• **"Elf," for the inner child.** Will Ferrell, at the height of his comic powers, brings the child-like wonder of Christmas into the ultimate fish out of water story. Endlessly quotable and pure of heart, this movie brings Christmas cheer as well as singing loud for all to hear.

• **"A Christmas Story," for the nostalgic.** Whether you grew up in the 1940s when it was set, the 1980s when it was released, or any other generation, the film precisely describes the struggle between good and evil, played out in the mind of a boy. And of course there's the major award, the frozen flag pole, the pink nightmare and many more relatable and memorable moments that feel like they could be pieces of your own life.

• **"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," for the dysfunctional.** If Ralphie is the kid every American can relate to, Clark Griswold might just be his future self. His drive to create a perfect holiday for his family is constantly derailed by both them, his own ineptitude and pos-

sibly the gods themselves. It's a reminder that the chaos of Christmas is sometimes what it's all about.

"I don't know how it started, but on Christmas Eve we all sleep in the living room around the Christmas Tree together and then wake up together on Christmas. (My wife) Heather may have boycotted it a few times, but we've always done that as a family."

— **Tim Beal**, family ministries pastor at New Hope Community Church. He and his family also read the Jesus Storybook Bible each night from Dec. 1-25.



8 08805 93294 2