



FILE PHOTO

Members of the Hermiston High School boys' swim team perform a synchronized dance during a past talent show. A team fundraiser, the 2018 HHS Swim Team Talent Show, is Saturday, Jan. 6 in the school's auditorium.

Talent show dives into new year

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Members of the community are ready to make a splash as more than two dozen acts are featured during the Hermiston High School Swim Team Talent Show.

With high transportation costs to shuttle swimmers to and from practices at the Blue Mountain Community College pool, the team plunged in to help offset expenses by holding the annual fundraising event. Talent show organizer Lynne Hamblin said in addition to behind-the-scenes help with the sound booth and other activities to put on the show, several members of the swim team will take the stage.

In its seventh year, the talent show is Saturday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium, 600 S. First St. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$30 for a family.

In addition to dipping into the school district's budget, Hamblin said the Hermiston High School Sports Boosters have been "amazing" by diving in to help with the team's expenses.

Last year's talent show fundraiser brought in about \$3,500. Hamblin said they

are hoping to raise \$5,000 during the 2018 event. During the show's intermission, there will be a bake sale. Also, raffle tickets are being sold for \$10 each for a chance to win an iPad, a one-hour massage from Jodi Wrathall, a Cottage Flowers basket and an assortment of other themed baskets and gift cards.

Charlie Clupny will serve as the show's master of ceremonies. Swimmers who will take the stage include Max Rahm, who will sing, and Lindsay McCallister will play the piano. Hamblin said other acts are Dance Unlimited, and the foursome of Natalie Gray, Marti Plum, Hayden Larson and Schae Borrego will sing "Jolene." Also, fourth-grader Addison McClure will play "It's a Small World" on the piano.

In her fifth year of performing during the talent show, Mischa Meyer will be sing "Beautiful Thing." Also returning is Sidney Tovey, who will perform a violin solo, and the Polynesian Dancers. Sofia and Anna Rivera will also dance.

For more information, contact Hamblin at 541-571-5691 or lynne.hamblin@hermiston.k12.or.us.

Resolution Run kicks off 2018

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
STAFF WRITER

Hermiston High School senior Isaac Sanchez got his first run of 2018 in before noon on New Year's Day thanks to the annual Resolution Run at Riverfront Park.

Sanchez, a cross country and track athlete, was the first to cross the finish line at the bring-your-own-stopwatch 5K. The event brings together dozens of runners and walkers each year to help them kick off their fitness goals together. That usually includes members of the HHS cross country team.

"It's kind of been our tradition," Sanchez said.

Despite the Resolution Run moniker, Sanchez said he didn't have any official New Year's resolutions.

"I don't really believe in that," he said. "I figure, if you have a resolution, why wait until New Year's? You might as well get started on it right away."

Several other runners had a similar attitude, but Kimberlee Owens said she had a goal: to participate in at least



STAFF PHOTO BY KATHY ANEY

Isaac Sanchez, a Hermiston High School cross-country runner, led the pack during Monday's Resolution Run at Riverfront Park.

one 5K event per month this year.

Owens showed up at the Resolution Run with her sister Leslie Snyder. The sisters frequently do 5K runs together, whether by themselves around town or as part of an official community event.

"It gets us up off the couch," Owens said.

"We don't like being lazy bums," Snyder added.

The run/walk kicked off at Riverfront Park and followed the Oxbow Trail up to its ending across from Good Shepherd Medical Center and back again. Leggings and sweatshirts helped insulate participants from the below-freezing temperatures, and T-shirts printed with the date of the run and "Hermiston: You Can Run Here" were available. The slogan is an echo of the city of Hermiston's former slogan "You Can Grow Here."

Some athletes took to the trail with baby strollers, while others brought along their dogs. The first group of runners to return reported being greeted by a very excited stray dog partway through their run, and once they had rehydrated several of them took off for another run together.

Liz Sharon, who ran the trail with her daughter and her daughter's friend, said she felt the run went well and was a good way to start the new year.



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SAIF to host farm safety seminars

HERMISTON — Free farm safety seminars will be held in Hermiston on Jan. 9-10.

The half-day seminars, hosted by SAIF Corporation, are open to "anyone interested in ag safety and health" even if they are not insured by SAIF, Oregon's not-for-profit workers' compensation insurance company.

The Jan. 9 seminar is in English and will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S Highway 395. The Jan. 10 session is in Spanish and runs 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the conference center. Lunch is included both days.

According to a news release from SAIF, this year's topics include mechanical hazards, ergonomics, safety leadership, communication skills and the difference between safety and compliance. The seminar meets OSHA's instructional requirement for small agricultural operations, the Oregon State Landscaping Contractors Board's continuing education credits and the Department of Consumer and Business Services' producer continuing education credits.

For more information or to register visit www.saif.com/agseminars.

IN BRIEF

Altrusa looks for helping hands

Altrusa International of Hermiston is looking for "New Hands in the New Year." Altrusa clubs around the world are active in service in an effort to create better communities. Anyone interested in how they can become involved with the service club are invited to contact the local group via hermistonaltrusa@gmail.com, www.districttwelve.altrusa.org or search Facebook.

Good Shepherd accepts grant applications

In an effort to help in improving the quality of life and health of residents living in west Umatilla County and Morrow County, the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation funds worthy projects. Money is provided for projects that

assist in fulfilling health needs in the region. Typically, funding isn't provided for building rent, utilities or employee salaries. The foundation awards grants two times each year. The deadline for the upcoming grant cycle is Wednesday, Jan. 31.

For more information or an application, visit www.gshealth.org/foundation or call 541-667-3419.

Hymn service offers, singing fellowship

Fun, food and fellowship are featured during an old-fashioned Hymnspiration.

The public is invited to join in during the special service, which features the singing of old hymns. The event is Sunday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Victory Baptist Church 193 E. Main St., Hermiston. For more information, contact Chris Finley at johnchris_1@msn.com or 541-571-2516.