

VOLUNTEER

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working longer, caring for grandchildren.” She said. “The number of new volunteers is dwindling at a rapid pace.”

She said many of the volunteers operating food pantries are the same ones who were doing so 10 or 20 years ago, and are now in their 80s.

Dave Hughes, director of Hermiston’s Agape House, agreed that most service clubs are struggling to maintain membership.

Hughes said they always need people to help deliver items in the summer when the donation of household goods increases.

“There’s a lot from yard sales and people cleaning house, and we struggle finding enough people to help sort and pick things up,” he said.

Agape House tries to focus on helping younger people cultivate an interest in volunteering, Hughes said.

“If we can instill in them a spirit of being volunteers now, it’ll carry on the rest of their lives,” Hughes said.

They offer positions on their board of directors for juniors and seniors in high

school, or college students. But some of those board members recently left for college, and all those positions are now vacant.

Recruitment is also tough, Hughes said, especially in the summers when many public events tend to fall on the same day.

“For example, the golf tournament,” he said of Agape House’s fundraiser last Saturday. “It falls on the same day as Funfest. It stretches us pretty thin to have a presence at both.”

United Way of Umatilla and Morrow counties refers people to organizations that need volunteers and donations.

Director Cricket Nicholson said volunteerism has decreased, for a variety of reasons. Many of the people who used to be stay-at-home moms would volunteer, she said.

“Most are now in the workplace,” she said. “Even younger people — employers expect more of them. Or people have time, but they have their own things.”

Nicholson added that monetary donations have gone down as well.

“There are so many causes, and non-profits asking for money,” she said. “It’s almost like, who gets to the donors first.”

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Club and the Hermiston High School College Savings group have joined forces to raise money to upgrade the landscaping and art located at the intersection of Highway 395 and Highway 730.

On June 29 the students and their advisors met to talk about the project, and the Hermiston students presented an \$800 check to the Umatilla club for the project, according to Umatilla interim city manager **Tamra Mabbott**.

College Savings Group advisor **Liz Marvin** said that the club was grateful for the opportunity to invest in the community together.

“We have found this process to be empowering for the students through their planning, fundraising efforts and the grant decision making process,” she said in a statement. “The opportunity to be part of the 395/730 project is a source of pride for both communities.”

Umatilla Key Club advisor **Chris Early** said service is what their club is all about, and they looked forward to making the gateway between the two communities more beautiful.

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The city of Echo is rolling in the “dough-nations.” Recent gifts reported in the July edition of *The Echo*, the city’s monthly newsletter, included a season of “Frasier” and seven DVDs from **Caleb Jacobs** and six books from **Elsie Middleton**, which will be added to the collection at the **Echo Public Library**. Other donations included \$50 from **Charlotte Berry** for general beautification and **America in Bloom**, and \$500 of \$4,000 for public art by **Kent and Laura Madison**, and an anonymous donation of \$20 for **National Night Out**.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO BY TAMRA MABBOTT.

Liz Marvin and Chris Early hold a check for \$800 for the Highway 395-Highway 730 landscaping project surrounded by Grecia Mendez, Martin Heredia, Oliver Rodriguez Marvin, Elizabeth Loera, Yarectzy Carrillo and Elizebeth Burres.

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A pair of employees with **Umatilla County Community Corrections** recently graduated with the **77th Basic Parole & Probation Officer Class**.

Parole and probation officers **Patricia Arrington** and **Daniel Garcilazo-Madrigal** were among the classmates who were recognized by the **Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training** during a June 29 ceremony at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. **Ross Caldwell** of the **Oregon Criminal Justice Commission** served as guest speaker.

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Projects or groups that relate to literary endeavors, historical preservation, visual and performing arts, or humanities and cultural organizations are invited to apply for grants through the **Morrow County Cultural Coalition**, which are funded by the **Oregon Cultural Trust Foundation**.

The coalition is accepting funding proposal requests for the 2019 grant period for organizations or projects in Morrow County. The application must be submitted by Wednesday, Aug. 1. Proposals must include a time line with project completion no later than Oct. 15, 2019.

Grants awarded for 2018 included a **Heppner Art & Culture Club** guest instructor, **Lexington Grange** building preservation work, **Heppner High School Drama Club**, **Morrow County Historical Society Chronicles** and **Inland Northwest Musicians/Willow Creek Symphony**.

For guidelines and a grant application, contact **Gayle Gutierrez** at 541-676-5630 or ggutierrez@co.morrow.or.us. For more about the Oregon Cultural Trust Foundation, including project ideas, visit www.culturaltrust.org.

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Hermiston School Dis-

trict is hosting a wellness event at Hermiston High School on Aug. 1 from 2-6 p.m.

Sports physicals, vision and dental screenings will be available, as will help enrolling in the Oregon Health Plan. Students under 15 years old will need a parent or guardian with them. Students will be asked to provide insurance information, according to the school district’s news release, but no student will be turned away for not having health insurance.

The is made possible by **Advantage Dental**, **Columbia River Health**, **Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization**, **Lifetime Vision Source**, **Oregon State University Extension Service**, **Umatilla County Health**, and **Umatilla-Morrow Head Start, Inc.**

You can submit items for our weekly *By The Way* column by emailing your tips to editor@hermistonherald.com.

WHERE TO VOLUNTEER

Here are some local organizations that need volunteers:

- Agape House: 541-567-8774, www.agapehousehermiston.org
- Domestic Violence Services: 541-276-3322, www.dvs-or.org
- Hermiston Campus Life: 541-567-6003, www.bluemountain.yfc.net
- Lost and Found Youth Outreach: 541-276-3987, www.cnrstone.org
- Neighborhood Center of South Morrow County: 541-676-5024
- SMART (Start Making a Reader Today): 971-634-1614, www.getsmartoregon.org

For more volunteer opportunities, contact Umatilla-Morrow United Way at unitedwayumatillamorrow.org.



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SR5 DBL CAB V6 4X4 On Approved Credit

stk# 18H821. New 2018 Toyota Tacoma. MSRP \$35,563. \$1,000 Toyota Financial Service Rebate. 36month/12k miles per year lease = \$299/mo. \$350 disposition fee due at lease end. On approved credit. Net cap cost: \$35,504.88. Plus tax, title and \$75 doc fee. No security deposit required. Offer expires 7/31/18.



NEW 2018 CAMRY SE **\$296** /MO
On Approved Credit



stk# 18H682. New 2018 Toyota Camry se. MSRP \$26,774. \$500 Toyota Financial Service Rebate. 12k miles per year lease with \$0 cash down = \$296/mo. \$350 disposition fee due at lease end. On approved credit. Net cap cost: \$25,081. Plus tax, title and \$75 doc fee. No security deposit required. Offer expires 7/31/18.

ALL NEW 2018 RAV4 AND RAV4 HYBRIDS IN STOCK!

\$3,500 REBATES



Includes \$1,000 TFS Customer Cash plus \$2,500 Cash Back directly from Toyota Motor Sales On approved credit. Plus tax, title and \$75 doc fee. Offer expires 7/31/18.



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