

Hermiston Herald



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2018

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INSIDE

GOOD CAUSE

Hermiston's agricultural community rallied together to send truckloads of potatoes to the Oregon Food Bank.

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EARTHQUAKE

Hermiston students spent time under their desks last week practicing for a natural disaster.

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LOCAL ARTIST

Jean Christofori Howton of Hat Rock has shown her art in galleries in the Pacific Northwest and Europe.

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BY THE WAY

Hermiston school board postpones appointing new member

The Hermiston School District has postponed its decision to appoint a new board member until its November board meeting. **Mark Millard** had applied for the position, but due to a work commitment could not be at the group interview earlier this month. The board allowed Millard to come back at Monday's meeting and have his interview. He was asked the same questions posed to other candidates, which spanned his interest and vision for the district, and his views on what the role of a board member in the community should be. The existing board members will appoint a new member on Nov. 12. The other candidates are **Kris Lerten**, **Brent Pitney**, **Trish Rossell** and **Mike Todryk**. The board is filling a position vacated last month by **Jason Middleton**.

Local nonprofits are invited to a nonprofit board training hosted by the **Greater Hermiston Area Chamber of Commerce** and sponsored by the **Hermiston Holiday Inn Express** on Tuesday,

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Raising Halloween Spirit

WITH CANDY, COSTUMES AND HOLIDAY CHEER



Sisters Alexis Smith (Thing 1) and Hailee Smith (Thing 2) enjoy candy they received from a nearby shop during Treats on Main on Halloween last year.

HH FILE PHOTO

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Costumes featuring everything from super heroes and princesses to pirates and dinosaurs will be featured as Halloween offers several area safe trick-or-treating opportunities, community parties and other frightfully fun activities next week.

HERMISTON

•Put on your dancing shoes for the annual The Arc Halloween Dance. Groove to the sounds of Desert Sounds Mobile DJ Sunday from 2-3:30 p.m. at The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave. Admission is \$5 and includes snacks. People are invited to wear costumes.

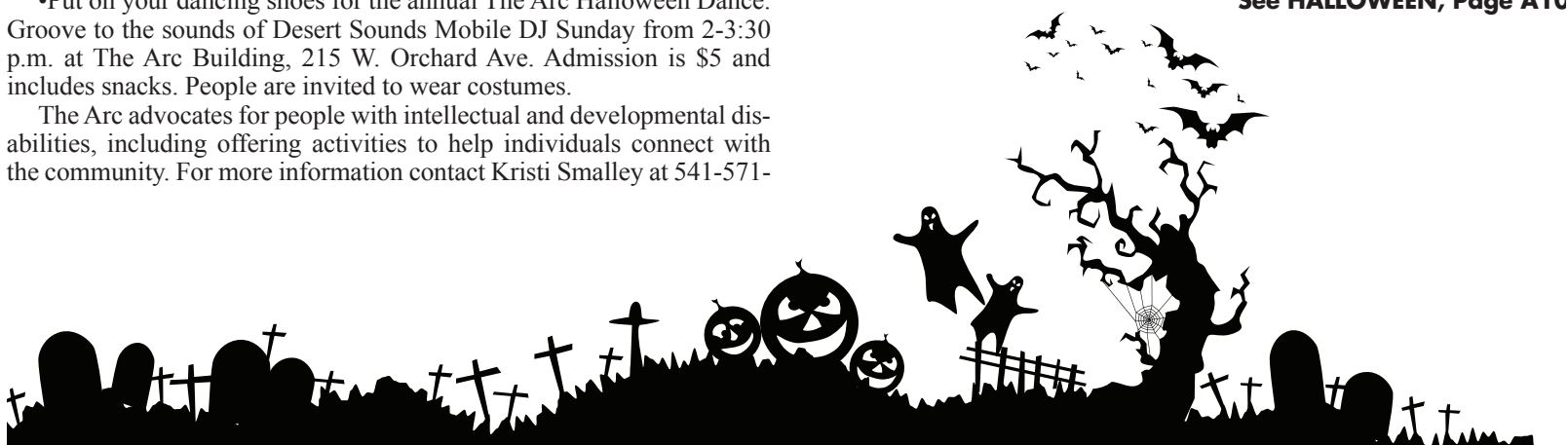
The Arc advocates for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including offering activities to help individuals connect with the community. For more information contact Kristi Smalley at 541-571-

0997 or smalleys@eotnet.net.

•Follow the specially marked pumpkin path on Halloween for Treats on Main & Beyond. Kids can collect a cache of candy as downtown Hermiston businesses provide safe trick-or-treating from 3-5 p.m. Participating establishments with signs in their windows welcome little ghouls and goblins.

And, after all the candy has been collected, go "Beyond" as the fun continues from 4-7 p.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Hermiston Parks & Recreation invites kids of all ages to par-

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Students quiz Wyden on issues

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
STAFF WRITER

In his two-hour town hall meeting with students and staff at Hermiston High School, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden said there wasn't a specific issue that drove the session, but it all boiled down to one idea.

"They feel it's more important than ever before that government be accessible," he said.

The Tuesday morning event drew about 250 students and 30 community members, and was open to all residents in the area. Unlike Wyden's last visit to Umatilla County in April, where students overwhelmingly wanted to discuss gun control, there wasn't a focused line of questioning at this meeting. Instead, students

and community members asked him about his stance on issues such as immigration, health care costs, graduation rates, and some of his specific votes in the Senate.

When a student asked him point-blank his opinion of Donald Trump, Wyden acknowledged that he has some gripes with the president, but steered clear of bashing him.

"I agree with him on some issues," Wyden said. "The question of fighting those who cheat on international trade — I agree with him on that."

He frowned on Trump's praise this week of Montana Rep. Greg Gianforte, who body-slammed a reporter while on the campaign trail last year.

"I'm for freedom of the press —



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

Hermiston High School senior Alexis Perez asks U.S. Senator Ron Wyden about high school graduation rates on Tuesday during a town hall meeting at Hermiston High School.

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