



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

Cory Kautz Jr. reacts with excitement playing Bingo during the 2017 Pancakes with Santa.

Santa serves flapjacks and fun

By TAMMY MALGESINI
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Santa Claus is making a special stop in Hermiston this weekend prior to hitching up his reindeer to deliver packages on Christmas Eve.

The annual Pancakes with Santa will feature a breakfast of flapjacks and sausage. Kids will have a chance to be creative and enjoy a tasty breakfast as a variety of toppings will be available. Sponsored by Rogers Toyota of Hermis-

ton and Hermiston Parks & Recreation, tickets must be purchased in advance to attend.

The event is Saturday from 9-11 a.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. The cost is \$10 for ages 16 and older, \$8 for children 2-15 or \$30 for a family of four (\$5 each for extra children). For more information or to buy tickets, call Hermiston Parks & Recreation at 541-667-5018 or stop by their office at the community center.



HH file photo/East Oregonian

Volunteers Taylor Greene, Karree Lucas and Bryan Virgil, all of Hermiston, prepare to-go meals during the Thanksgiving Community Fellowship Dinner in Hermiston.

Free dinner serves up Christmas spirit

By TAMMY MALGESINI
COMMUNITY EDITOR

A holiday meal featuring food and fellowship is available free of charge in Hermiston.

The Christmas Community Fellowship Dinner offers ham with all the trimmings. Everyone is invited to enjoy the free meal, which is served Tuesday, Dec. 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the main commons at Hermiston High School, 600 S. First St. Also, transportation to the meal, food delivery service and take-out orders are available by calling the First Christian Church at 541-567-3013 or leaving a message at 541-371-9772.

Gary Humphreys, CFD

board chairman, said volunteers are still needed to help with the event. A cooking and set-up party is Monday, Dec. 24 at 8 a.m. People also are needed to assist with the meal Tuesday beginning at 10:30 a.m. In addition, Humphreys said a post-event clean-up effort takes place Wednesday, Dec. 26 at 10 a.m. Any and all help is welcome and needed, he said.

Although there's an age limit for those working directly in the kitchen, there are tasks available for children and youths. Assistance is needed for everything from greeters, servers or deliveries to meal prep, the hot line or clean-up. While walk-ins are welcome, Hum-

phreys said it's helpful for planning purposes if volunteers register in advance.

"We like having people come in and being social and being a part of the fellowship."

Gary Humphreys,
CFD board chairman

The event started with about 30 people in the mid-1980s as a way to offer a holiday meal to those who might be alone for the holiday. The twice-yearly dinner has grown over the years to feed upwards of 700-900 people. Humphreys said the num-

ber of deliveries and to-go orders have exploded over the past few years. While the meal ministry will continue to offer those services, Humphreys hopes people will still participate in the spirit of the event.

"We like having people come in and being social and being a part of the fellowship," he said.

For more information or to volunteer, contact 541-371-9772 or cfdhermiston@gmail.com. Also, information about the meal is available by searching Facebook for "Community Fellowship Dinner." Financial donations can be sent to Community Fellowship Dinner, P.O. Box 1551, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Hermiston chamber changes banquet date

The 49th annual Distinguished Citizens Awards Banquet has been changed to Wednesday, Feb. 20 at the Hermiston Community Center.

The Hermiston Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for man and woman of the year and the merit award, which was previously called the community service award. The nominations must be submitted by Friday, Dec.

21. The form is available at www.hermistonchamber.com. Other organizations will be announcing nomination deadlines for other awards.

Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased from the chamber or its website. For more information, contact 541-567-6151, kelly@hermistonchamber.com or stop by the chamber office at 1055 S. Highway 395, Suite 111.

BRIEFS

United Grain celebrates with grand opening

In celebration of its new location, a ribbon-cutting and grand opening is planned at United Grain.

The ceremony will include Jason Middleton, United Grain regional manager, the Umatilla Chamber of Commerce board of directors, Mayor Daren Dufloth and City Manager David Stockdale. The public is invited to attend Thursday from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at 775 Beach Access Road, located in the Port of Umatilla Industrial Area.

United Grain relocated its regional office to Umatilla this past spring after assuming grain distribu-

tion services from Pendleton Grain Growers. The location was selected in part to maximize proximity to the grain storage and grain barge services at the port.

For more information about the celebration, contact Kacie Evans, chamber executive director, at 541-922-4825 or kevans@umatillaorchamber.org.

Tickets on sale for Jackalope Jamboree

The inaugural Jackalope Jamboree, a country rock and Americana music festival, recently opened early bird ticket sales.

Musical acts include American Aquarium, Shane

Smith & the Saints, Carson McHone and Tylor & The Train Robbers. More artists will be announced. The early bird ticket pricing, which starts at \$35, went on sale Friday at www.brownpapertickets.com. Kids 12 and under are admitted free with a paying general admission adult.

Other ticket options include reserved sections at \$45 and box seats for \$55. Recreational vehicle and tent camping also is available. Pricing is subject to change.

The event is Saturday, June 29 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at the Happy Canyon Arena in Pendleton. For more information, contact info@jackalopejamboree.com, visit www.jackalopejamboree.com or search Facebook.

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EAST OREGONIAN Hermiston Herald

EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Christmas deadlines:
Wed., 12/26 East Oregonian - Fri., 12/21
Wed., 12/26 Hermiston Herald - Thurs. 12/20

New Year's deadlines:
Wed., 1/2 East Oregonian - Fri., 12/28
Wed., 1/2 Hermiston Herald - Thurs. 12/27

Holiday Hours for both offices:
Christmas Eve: 8am-Noon
Closed Christmas Day

New Years Eve: 8am-Noon
Closed New Years Day

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