



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan  
**Michelle Morrison straightens folded ballots after removing them from their envelopes at the Umatilla County Elections Division in Pendleton Tuesday afternoon.**

**By The Way**

Continued from Page A1

comedy with zombie battles, musical numbers and backup dancers as **Hermiston High School** presents “**The Hamlet Thrill-Ma-Geddon.**” Written by playwright **Don Zolidis**, the production will be staged Nov. 15-16 & 22-23 in the HHS auditorium. See next week’s **Hermiston Herald** for a story and photos.

•••  
**The Hermiston School District** announced Friday that the fifth home built by the **Columbia Basin Student Homebuilders** was sold for \$404,000.

The home, with 2,376 square feet, is in the **Fieldstone Crossing** subdivision. It was sold to Hermiston resident **Denny Whitsett**, according to a press release from the school district.

Students from Stanfield, Umatilla and Hermiston participate in every aspect of homebuilding for the student-built homes, including design.

Proceeds from each home sale go to the next homebuilding project. Construction for the sixth house in the **Fieldstone Crossing** subdivision is currently underway, and expected to be complete in Spring 2020.

•••  
**The National Weather Service** extended its air stagnation advisory for the region through Wednesday at 4 p.m.

The federal agency’s office in Pendleton released the advisory during the weekend, covering much of Umatilla and Morrow counties as well as nearby areas in Washington and through the Columbia River Gorge. **Marc Austin**, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Pendleton, said the extension came after checking with state and regional partners.

“It’s just looking like this weather pattern is going to hold into the weekend,” he said.

The poor air quality may cause issues for people with respiratory problems. The air stagnation advisory indicates pollution

levels will increase during this period due to lack of air movement.

Air quality agencies recommend not to burn outdoors during the stagnation and limit residential wood-burning as much as possible. People should check with their local burn agencies for restrictions in their specific areas.

Austin said the Pendleton office will continue to monitor the conditions and adjust the advisory as needed.

•••  
 Thursday’s menu for the **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** is meat loaf, au gratin potatoes, green beans and dessert. Friday is clam chowder, coleslaw, garlic bread and dessert. Monday is meat loaf sandwich, salad and dessert. Tuesday is baked chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables and dessert. Next Wednesday is pigs in a blanket, baked beans and dessert.

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



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan  
**Samantha Cobarrubias, 17, prepares chicken for a teriyaki dish during an evening event highlighting Hermiston High School’s Career and Technical Education program Monday night at the high school.**

**CTE**

Continued from Page A1

According to Roger Berger, CTE coordinator at the high school, these mishaps are part of a much bigger picture.

“The focus of CTE is on careers which would be high-wage and high demand,” he said. “It’s kind of a proud tradition that we have these technical programs.”

Berger said that CTE programs have been with the district since before he started teaching there around 19 years ago. But if someone were to survey the room Monday night, they’d notice some technologies that were still in their infancy or not yet on the market back then.

That includes a welding simulator that allows students to practice metalworking virtually and a 3D printer that kids can program to print custom products. The district is also considering purchasing a construction simulator, but Berger said they’d like to consult more local professionals in the construction industry before investing in that.

“Some people might ask if we really need some of this stuff,” Berger said. “There is a real need.”

He said that CTE programs prepare the students not just for higher learning, but also for careers right after high school if they so

choose.

The goal is to get students to feel perfectly comfortable around new technology or complicated tasks, so that when they’re settling into their first jobs, they’re not surprised.

“The main thing is that kids are confident,” he said. “Some of these kids, they’ve built a house. They’re not afraid.”

Berger was referring to the **Columbia Basin Student Homebuilders** group, which builds houses in Hermiston using a CTE grant. The group is currently working on their sixth student-built home.

There are also the students in the **Advanced Business Procedures** class, who work to run the school’s coffee shop, **Java Dawg**.

**Nazly Chavez, 17**, is a human resources manager at the shop. She took courses in business, accounting and hospitality before taking on the role for class credit.

“I have to make sure all the workers are trained,” she said. “Every day I find something new I need to work on.”

The printing facility, dubbed “**Dawg Tags**,” is also run by business students. Both facilities were funded with a state grant over a decade ago.

**Senior Jazlyn Romero, 17**, said she just started working at **Dawg Tags** at the beginning of this school year. Monday night, she

was helping people print letters onto lanyards as part of a demonstration.

“We learn a lot pretty fast,” she said.

**Romero** spent hours outside of class printing t-shirts for the school’s **ASB** leadership. She said that the more work you put into the program, the higher the chances you’ll be awarded a scholarship.

Other programs featured Monday night included a community mural from the visual arts department, a walk-through of caring for infant-simulators from students in the teaching program and concessions from **Boomer Bites**, which is run by the **Generation College Club**.

They use the concession funds to fuel college visits and pay for college applications.

Last year, 150 students graduated after completing one or more of **Hermiston High School’s 10 CTE** programs. The district is currently working to add a health science program to the list.

“We have great students with great big dreams and this is a way to get started without being intimidated,” Berger said.

The High School will continue its CTE showcase on Wednesday from 4:30-8:30 p.m.

“We want people to know what’s going on, and for everyone to feel good about what we’re doing here,” Berger said.

**City**

Continued from Page A1

Library Board or Parks and Recreation Committee, meet once a month to discuss recommendations for the city council on their allotted subject. Others, like the Budget Committee, meet once a year for a specific purpose. And some committees, such as the **Rebuild Funland Committee**, exist only temporarily to see a specific project through.

Often committees do the legwork for the city council in researching and developing projects, before asking for the council’s approval on the plan. One of the city’s most influential committees is the **Planning Commission**, which rules on zoning, conditional use permits, plats and other land use decisions that can make or break a building project.

Volunteering to sit on a committee can be a good way to step up participation in local government — somewhere in between

“votes once a year” and “running for mayor.” Often candidates for city council started out on a city committee, and those who win a seat on the council can continue to sit in on that committee as a council liaison.

“I think if people volunteered more, they would have more knowledge of city happenings,” **Alarcon-Strong** said.

Mayor **David Drotzmann** said committees help bring a diverse perspective to the city council and increase transparency, creating the opportunity for input from 50 to 60 people instead of just eight city councilors and the mayor.

“We vet a lot of concepts and ideas through these committees,” he said.

He said joining a committee is a great way to have an influence on city government without taking the “heat” that the city council does on high-profile decisions.

City committee openings are kept up to date on the city’s website at [hermiston.or.us/volunteer](http://hermiston.or.us/volunteer), and application forms can be printed off of there or picked up from city hall. The city performs a background check on applicants. If more than one person applies for the same seat on a committee, the Committee to Review Committee Vacancy Applications will interview candidates before making a recommendation to the city council.

Hermiston isn’t the only city that is continuously working to fill seats on committees. Pendleton also has a wide range of committees, listed on the city’s website. Some, like the **Planning Commission**, are universal to cities in Oregon. Others such as the **Arts Committee**, **Historic Landmarks Committee** and **Air Quality Commission** are different than Hermiston’s chosen committee topics.

Information about each committee and forms to apply for committee vacancies can be found online at [pendleton.or.us/committees-boards-commissions](http://pendleton.or.us/committees-boards-commissions) or picked up at city hall.



Hearing loss can sometimes make the holidays feel isolating or stressful. Make the most of your time with family and friends this holiday season. Contact us and let us help you hear what you are missing.

**CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DERMATOLOGY PLLC**

**MEET THE NEWEST MEMBER TO OUR HERMISTON TEAM!**



**JEREMY PECK, MD**

**SPECIALIZING IN MOHS AND SKIN CANCER SURGERY**

- Skin Cancer Surgery
- Full Body Skin Exams
- Mole and Cyst removal
- Mohs Surgery
- Allergy Patch Testing
- Mole Mapping
- Photodynamic Light Therapy

541.289.4601 | 1050 W. Elm Ave #220, Hermiston, OR 97838



**Renata Anderson, MA**



**Pam Wagenaar, Administrative Assistant**

2237 SW Court, Pendleton • 541-276-5053  
[www.renataanderson.com](http://www.renataanderson.com)