

Artist Cale Moon preps for holiday gathering

The Pheasant hosts ugly sweater party

By TAMMY MALGESINI
COMMUNITY EDITOR

It's time to pull out the ugly Christmas sweaters — and party.

Nashville recording artist Cale Moon is helping people get warmed up prior to Saturday's (F)ugly Sweater Party at The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar & Grill, at The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston. Moon will perform from 6-9 p.m. and the party follows at 9 p.m. There is no cover charge.

After playing an October gig at The Pheasant, General Manager Deanne Jensen said they were thrilled when Moon contacted them as he was on his way back through the area. Jensen said the up-and-coming country musician brought a lot of energy and packed the house.

"Everyone seemed to love it," she said. "He's an amazing artist and we want to support someone who's local."

Moon said he feeds off the energy of the crowd. Also, shows in the Columbia Basin, he said, are extra special.

"This region is where my roots are, this is where my music began," Moon said.



Caitrin Gormley, Jasmine Stollar, Shelby Coggins, Reagan Deshane and Kimberlie Graffunder don ugly sweaters during a past holiday season at Nookie's Restaurant. The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar & Grill is hosting an ugly sweater party Saturday night in Hermiston.

HH file photo

"So, it's always great to come back, relive those old memories and make some new ones while we're at it."

His family sold their 1,700-square-foot Tri-Cities home more than a half dozen years ago — embarking on the road in a 40-foot recreational vehicle as Moon pursued his dream. He's pretty much been criss-crossing the country for the past seven years playing everywhere from small clubs,

main stages and rodeo arenas to wineries, beer gardens and cowboy churches.

"I love the road and everywhere it takes me," he said. "I can't imagine life any other way anymore."

Moon encourages people to come out — even if they caught his recent performance in the area. In addition to a number of his originals, Moon will tune up with traditional Christmas standards, such as "Jingle Bells"

and "Away in a Manger," as well as more recent holiday hits. In addition, Moon states he never plays the same show twice.

"My set list and banter is dependent on the crowd, so it's always changing, always fresh," Moon said.

As far as donning an ugly sweater, Moon says that's where the line is drawn.

"All my clothing is sponsored and Panhandle Western Wear just refuses to



Contributed photo

Nashville recording artist Cale Moon will perform Saturday at The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar & Grill in Hermiston. The evening also features the (F)ugly Sweater Party.

make anything ugly," he said with a laugh.

After the performance, get ready to celebrate during the (F)ugly Sweater Party, which includes DJ Diego spinning tunes until the bar closes. The evening features drink specials, Jell-O shots and an ugly sweater contest.

Jensen encourages people to have fun with it — the winners will be rewarded with a trophy and prizes.

"It will be a lot of fun. Come get (f)ugly with us," she said with a laugh.

For more information, call 541-567-3022 or search Facebook.

BRIEFS

Recreation department hosts movie marathon

Celebrate the Winter Solstice with a Christmas movies and cookies.

Hermiston Parks & Recreation is hosting the Christmas Movie Marathon. The free event is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. People are encouraged to bring their own comfortable seating.

Concessions will be available for purchase. In addition, people can decorate cookies for \$1 each.

For more information, including the movie schedule, call 541-667-5018.

All aboard, Polar Express departs Stanfield library

A Polar Express Adventure is planned at the Stanfield Public Library.

The special event is Saturday and Sunday at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the library, 180 W. Coe Ave. The free event is geared toward kids in elementary school.

With limited seating, people are encouraged to reserve tickets. Library director Cecili Longhorn calls the special event an "interactive story time that you will not want to miss."

For more information, call 541-449-1254 or search Facebook.

St. John's celebrates advent season

As part of the holiday season, St. John's Episcopal Church is continuing

special advent services.

The fourth Sunday of advent is Dec. 22 at 9 a.m. The service will include music and holy eucharist. Also, a Christmas Eve holy eucharist service is Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. The church is located at 665 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston.

For more information, contact Rev. Chuck Barnes at 541-567-6674 or chuckb@eotnet.net.

Santa left candy canes at the library

A drop-in activity at the Hermiston Public Library offers sweet success to those that participate.

Santa Claus is swinging by the library to hide candy canes — but don't fret, he is leaving clues to their whereabouts. Be sure to stop by the library Monday, Dec. 23 between 1-3 p.m. to find the clues to the candy canes. The library is located at 235 E. Gladys Ave.

For more information, call 541-567-2882 or visit www.hermistonlibrary.us.

BMCC serves 49th annual Christmas Eve meal

A holiday dinner is being served to the community by the Associated Student Government of Blue Mountain Community College.

In its 49th year, the free meal is Tuesday, Dec. 24 from 2-4 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate. Santa Claus will make an

appearance and will hand out gifts to kids. Anyone who wants to eat is welcome to attend.

For more information, to make a donation or to volunteer, contact Student Life Program Coordinator Austin Shick at 541-278-5967 or ashick@bluecc.edu.

Wrap up Oregon Blue Book for the holidays

The 2019-2020 Oregon Blue Book came out earlier this year.

The state's official almanac and fact book, the new edition of the Oregon Blue Book could make a great holiday gift for someone on your gift list. The paperback book costs \$18 and is available at bookstores across the state, at the Oregon State Capital and online at secure.sos.state.or.us/prs/shopBlueBook.do.

Since 1911, the Oregon Blue Book has been providing readers with important and fascinating facts about Oregon. Each edition of the book has a different theme, highlighting Oregon as a unique and fascinating place to live or visit. The 2019-2020 edition spotlights Oregon's local festivals and community celebrations, celebrating a wide variety of uniquely Oregon themes, from Portland's roses to McMinnville's UFOs.

This edition of the Blue Book was printed as a limited edition, with less than 1,000 still available for sale. For questions or to order by phone with a credit card, call 503-986-2204.

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