

# Surf's up with annual Beach & Beef dinner

Feb. 1 fundraiser benefits Hermiston students

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
COMMUNITY EDITOR

The Hermiston Education Foundation's annual Beach & Beef Fundraiser recently returned to its roots.

Board member Karen Sherman said during the initial years of the event, a number of the items on the auction block featured artwork, including the creative talents of Hermiston School District students. As time went on, Sherman said the focus shifted to the crab and beef dinner and general auction items.

The theme of last year's event was "Follow Your Art," which will continue with this year's 11th annual HEF benefit, Sherman said. Students from grade school through high school have been busy creating items for a portion of the auction. The artwork of community members also is featured



Known for his culinary skills, Tom Spoo serves up Melissa Sotelo during a past community event. He will again head the kitchen crew for the 11th annual Hermiston Education Foundation Benefit. Tickets are now on sale for the Feb. 1 Beach & Beef dinner and auction.

HH file photo

during the event.

"That was very successful last year," Sherman said.

The auction, she said, will include other items as well — with many donated goods and services from generous individuals and local businesses. In addition,

the event will feature a card auction with the winner receiving 100 gallons of gas from Heller & Sons. At a cost of \$20 each, only 52 raffle cards will be sold.

The event is Saturday, Feb. 1 at Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road. The doors open at 5 p.m., offering a chance to mingle and place bids for the silent auction. The dinner, which includes all-you-can-eat crab and steak kabobs, starts at 5:45 p.m. The live auction kicks off at 7 p.m.

High school principal Tom Spoo is once again heading up the kitchen crew. Sherman attests to his culinary skills. "Whatever Tom makes is always really good," she said.

Students from the district also are taking part in the fundraising event. The Kindness Club from Armand Larrive Middle School will assist with table decorations. And, CommuniCare advisor Liz Marvin will oversee a crew of students involved in bus-

sing tables and other tasks.

In recent years, the fundraiser has netted from \$30,000 to \$35,000. A separate entity from the Hermiston School District, the nonprofit foundation uses money to provide grants to district staff for projects or equipment to enhance the educational experience of students. In addition, Sherman said a scholarship program has been developed.

Initially, HEF awarded four scholarships. And last year, Sherman said eight students each received \$2,500 to assist them in pursuing further academic endeavors.

"We've been able to do that because of the community support," Sherman said.

The cost is \$40 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.hermistoneducationfoundation.org](http://www.hermistoneducationfoundation.org). Tickets also are available at the district office, 305 S.W. 11th St., or the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce, at Cornerstone Plaza, 1055 S. Highway 395, Suite 111.

## BRIEFS

### Robert Burns Supper serves Scottish traditions

Scots from throughout the region will gather at Condon for the annual Robert Burns Supper. The event celebrates Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns, and the area's Scottish roots.

In its 23rd year, the gathering is Saturday from 2-5 p.m. at the Condon Elks Lodge, 117 S. Main St. Tickets are \$17 each or \$30 for a couple. They can be purchased at the *Condon Times-Journal* office or at the door.

The celebration features the music of the Highland pipes and drums, performed by some of the region's premier musicians, readings and recitations of Burns' writings, a meal of "haggis, neeps and tatties," Scotch eggs and a popular Scottish shortbread contest. The event, which coincides with Burns' birthday, has evolved into a celebration to honor the area's Scottish heritage and families who came from the Old Country.

For more information, contact Mac Stinchfield at [macandjan76@gmail.com](mailto:macandjan76@gmail.com).

### Deadline looms for teacher of the year nominations

Time is running out to nominate teachers for the 2021 Oregon Teacher of the Year.

Each year, exceptional teachers are honored in up to 19 regions across the state. The Oregon Teacher of the Year is selected from regional finalists. Nominations close Friday, Jan. 31.

The program was created to recognize exemplary public-school educators — those who inspire students and make a positive impact in their communities. The award celebrates knowledge, dedication, innovation and leadership.

Thanks to the Oregon Department of Education's partnership with the Oregon Lottery, the Oregon Teacher of the Year receives a gift award of \$5,000, as well as funds to cover travel

costs for the year. Also, a matching gift of \$5,000 goes to the teacher's school. The winner also receives gifts and recognition from the Council of Chief State School Officers, founder of the National Teacher of the Year Program. Finalists and their schools also receive \$2,000 cash awards, and regional winners each receive \$500.

To nominate a teacher, visit [www.oregonteacheroftheyear.org](http://www.oregonteacheroftheyear.org). For questions, there is a link at the website.

### Echo, Stanfield libraries host reading contest

The public libraries in Echo and Stanfield are hosting the 2020 Alphabet Reading Challenge.

Pick up your bookmark at the Echo (20 Bonanza St.) or Stanfield (180 W. Coe Ave.) public libraries and start reading. Participants will need to read 26 age-appropriate books in the 52 weeks between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31. Each book title should begin with a different letter of the alphabet — excluding "A" and "The."

Titles may be read in any order — just enter the title and author next to the letter provided. Print, eBooks and audiobooks are all eligible. To enter the drawing, be sure to turn in a completed reading log to library staff.

Drawings will be held for Barnes & Noble gift cards for ages 6 and up (\$100, \$50) and kids 5 and under (\$50, \$25).

### Hermiston library display features Smithsonian exhibit

A traveling poster exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution is now on display at the Hermiston Public Library.

The public is encouraged to stop by and view the display, which is titled "World War I: Lessons and Legacies." The library also plans to host future Smithsonian exhibits.

The Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.

to 8 p.m. and Friday/Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about this exhibit or other library programs, call 541-567-2882 or visit [www.hermistonlibrary.us](http://www.hermistonlibrary.us).

### Hermiston church postpones Pursuit conference

Rev. Terry Haight of the Hermiston Assembly of God Church recently announced that the annual Pursuit conference has been postponed.

Haight said it wasn't an easy decision to make but in order to strengthen the event, the team decided to take a year off. The conference, which started seven years ago, features live music, inspirational speakers and top-notch performances.

People are encouraged to be on the lookout in the coming months about planning for Pursuit 2021. For questions, contact Haight at 541-567-5831, [pastorterry@eotnet.net](mailto:pastorterry@eotnet.net), or go to [www.hermistonassembly.com](http://www.hermistonassembly.com).

### Hermiston Elks set membership open house

The Hermiston Elks Lodge is hosting a membership open house.

The event is Saturday, Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The lodge is at 480 E. Main St. Appetizers and beverages will be available.

People are invited to learn more about how they can make a difference in the community.

According to a press release from the local Elks, members of the organization make investments in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, meet the needs of today's veterans and improve the quality of life.

The Hermiston Elks Lodge is seeking people willing to make a commitment of their time and skills in order to continue serving the community.

For more information, call David Downing at 541-571-1089.



## NEW BEGINNINGS

### CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Worship Service 10:30 AM  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Pastor J.C. Barnett  
Children's Church & Nursery Available  
700 West Orchard Avenue  
P.O. Box 933  
Hermiston, Oregon  
**541-567-8441**

### Seventh-day Adventist Church

Saturdays  
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
English & Spanish Services  
567-8241  
Hermiston Jr. Academy  
1300 NW Academy Lane, • Hermiston

### St. Johns Episcopal Church

Join Us  
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With Jesus.  
Scripture, Tradition and Reason  
Family service 9am Sunday  
N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston  
PH: 567-6672  
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### LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH

125 E. Beech Ave. • 567-3232  
Pastor David Dever  
Sun. Bible Classes.....10:00am  
Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am  
Sun. Evening Worship.....6:00pm  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....6:00pm  
[www.hermistonlmbc.com](http://www.hermistonlmbc.com)

### First Christian Church

"Proclaiming the Message of Hope, Living the Gospel of Love"

Sunday School...9:15 am  
Worship Service...10:30 am  
Children's Church 10:45 am  
**567-3013**  
775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

### The Full Gospel Home Church

235 SW 3rd  
Phone 567-7678  
Rev. Ed Baker - Rev. Nina Baker  
Sunday:  
Sunday School.....10:00 am  
Worship.....11:00 am  
Evening Service.....7:00 pm  
Wednesday Service...7:00 pm  
"Casting all your care upon him;  
for he careth for you."  
1 Pet. 5:7

### Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church

565 W. HERMISTON AVE.  
DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday  
.....English 7:00 am  
Thursday.....Spanish 6:00 pm  
SATURDAY:.....English 5:00 pm  
.....Spanish 7:00 pm  
SUNDAY:.....English 9:00 am  
.....Bilingual 11:00 am  
.....Spanish 1:00 pm  
Office.....567-5812



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