

Valentine's dance will share the love with veterans

By TAMMY MALGESINI
COMMUNITY EDITOR

An evening of dancing, socializing and honoring area veterans and Gold Star recipients is being organized by the auxiliaries of both the Hermiston VFW and American Legion.

Hearts for Veterans is Saturday, Feb. 15 from 6-9 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 45 W. Cherry Ave., Hermiston. The evening includes music by Wires & Wood. The local veteran-led group plays country, bluegrass and gospel music, said Cathy Stolz, vice president of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Thanks to the generous support from the community during recent events hosted by the groups, admission is free for all veterans and Gold Star recipients. The fee for others is \$9 per person.

"We want to honor our veterans," Stolz said. "We have nothing but respect for our veterans and this is a small way to thank them for their service."

The evening begins with fun games — think Monty Hall and "Let's Make A Deal" — and prize giveaways. Donations of gift items and prizes from individuals and businesses are being sought, Stolz said.

Non-alcoholic beverages will be available. Also, the women of the auxiliary will serve up some delectable desserts — including a chocolate fountain — and hearty appetizers.

"We're going to have hero sandwiches because every veteran is our hero," Stolz said.

A special dance floor will be laid in place to encourage people to kick up their heels. Wires & Wood features Les McMasters, Curt Clough-



Photo contributed by Cathy Stolz
Angie Kile of Hermiston, who provided musical entertainment during the November USO Night, will again take the stage during Hearts for Veterans. The Feb. 15 event will be held at the VFW Hall in Hermiston.

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Hearts for Veterans
WHEN: 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15
WHERE: VFW Hall, 45 W. Cherry Ave., Hermiston.

ton, Rusty Roe, Bill Myers and Bob Emert. Several of the members play with the old-time fiddlers, Stolz said.

Also, Leanne McMasters accompanies on keyboards. While Wires & Wood takes an intermission, Angie Kile will continue to offer

entertainment. The Hermiston woman was a big hit during the November USO Night event held at the Union Club.

"She had everyone in the palm of her hand the whole night. She just belts out the songs," Stolz said. "Even if you don't dance, you will be entertained by her. She hits all the notes."

For more information, search Facebook for American Legion Post 37 or VFW Desert Post 4750. For questions or to make a donation, contact Stolz at 541-571-5816 or cathystolz@gmail.com.



Photo contributed by Stanfield Baptist Church
Members of Stanfield Baptist Church use an assembly line method to fill boxes this past fall for Operation Christmas Child.

Hermiston volunteers help wrap up shoebox gifts for needy children

HERMISTON HERALD

Dana Williams of Operation Christmas Child recently expressed appreciation to Hermiston-area residents for sharing the true meaning of Christmas with children in need this past holiday season.

Because of the generosity of donors in Hermiston and across the United States, the Samaritan's Purse project collected more than 8.9 million shoebox gifts in 2019. Combined with those collected from partnering countries, the ministry sent 10,569,405 shoebox gifts to children worldwide.

The Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were packed with toys, school supplies and hygiene items for children in need. Each gift provided a tangible expression of God's love, Williams said, and it is often the first gift the children have ever received.

"These simple gifts, packed with love, send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten," Williams said.

The project has collected and delivered more than 178 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories since 1993. While drop-off locations in the

Hermiston area are closed until Nov. 16-23, 2020, there are year-round volunteer opportunities. For information, visit www.samaritanspurse.org/occ or call 253-572-1155.



WORSHIP COMMUNITY

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Children's Church 10:45 am

567-3013

775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

Seventh-day Adventist Church
Saturdays
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.
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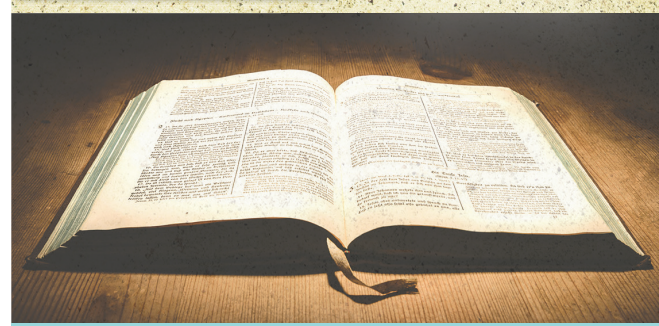
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1 Pet. 5:7

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DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday
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SUNDAY.....English 9:00 am
.....Bilingual 11:00 am
.....Spanish 1:00 pm
Office.....567-5812



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BRIEFS

Deadline looms for health-related project grants

Qualified organizations with projects that are designed to improve the quality of life and health needs of people in the local area are invited to apply for a Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation grant.

Eligible entities should be within the service area of Good Shepherd Health Care System. The deadline to submit a 2020 spring grant is Friday, Jan. 31.

The foundation awards grants each spring and fall. Grants are not typically allocated for building rent, utilities or employee salaries.

For more information or a grant application, visit www.gshealth.org/foundation/awards or call the foundation office at 541-667-3419.

People encouraged to speak out

A start-up meeting for #Stand On Every Corner is planned in Hermiston.

The upcoming gathering is Saturday at 2 p.m. at Veg Out, 140 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. A nationwide effort, people are gathering in communities across the United States to protest and speak out on a variety of matters. Whether it's the environment, government, education, healthcare or other concerns, the idea is to express concerns as well as share inspirations to help each other in need of support.

The goal is to provide an avenue for people to get involved. All ages are welcome.

For more information, contact Bernie Sanderson 541-626-9189, cln42da87@yahoo.com or search Facebook.

Hermiston schools seek input from public

The Hermiston School District is soliciting feedback from staff, parents, students, and community members about district priorities.

District communications officer Maria Duron said the Oregon legislature has provided increased funding to school districts throughout the state through the Student Success Act. As part of the process, Duron said the school district is requesting input regarding how to provide the best education to Hermiston students.

People can share their thoughts regarding priorities at www.hermiston.k12.or.us. For questions, contact Maria Duron at 541-667-6036 or maria.duron@hermiston.k12.or.us.

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