



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Gabriel Montero, 3, leaps from the edge of the pool while playing at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center on Tuesday, July 7, 2020.

BACK IN THE SWIM OF THINGS

Hermiston Family Aquatic Center adjusting to new rules

By JADE MCDOWELL
NEWS EDITOR

Operations at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center look different this year thanks to the pandemic, but recreation supervisor Brandon Artz says things are going “pretty well” so far.

“We’ve gotten into a new, good routine, so things are pretty efficient to get you checked in and into the pool as soon as possible,” he said.

Inside the confines of the aquatic center, lifeguards wear masks and patrons wear colored wristbands that match the people they came in with. The plan had originally been to divide people into zones, but Artz said they’re letting people have the run of the pool as long as they stick with the unit of people they came in with and don’t get within 6 feet of someone with a different colored wristband.

“We are required to have a social distance monitor, but people have been pretty good about staying apart on their own,” he said.

They started with opening the main, rectangular pool for playing and lap swimming, but on Wednesday, July 8, they plan to open up the multi-use pool with the lazy river as well. That pool includes water slides and fountains, but Artz said they are still waiting to get clarification from the county health department on whether turning those on would classify the pool as a “water park,” which is not allowed under Phase 2.

To help maintain cleaning and social distancing protocols, swimming is by reservation only, in 90-minute segments.

Artz said, so far, there have been openings left every day.

The online reservation system, available at bit.ly/hermistonaquatics, doesn’t allow same-day reser-



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Lifeguard McKenna Christensen watches over the pool at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center on Tuesday, July 7, 2020. Under state guidance, lifeguards and pool staff are required to wear masks.



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Signs advising maximum capacity and physical distancing of at least six feet adorn the plastic shields around the reception desk and the pool deck at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center on Tuesday, July 7, 2020.

ervations, but Artz said if online reservations are already closed for the day people can still call and make an appointment for later that same day.

He said they are excited to be open, and so far most swimmers have expressed appreciation instead of frustration at the new rules designed to help protect them from COVID-19.



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

New lifeguards, unable to be certified due to COVID-19 restrictions, practice individual drills to keep their skills up to date pending certification.

Community Counseling Solutions offers Frontline Program

HERMISTON HERALD

In an effort to provide support during the COVID pandemic, Community Counseling Solutions announced a pilot program offering free counseling services to those medical workers and first responders that live or work in Morrow, Wheeler, Grant and Gilliam counties.

The Frontline Program provides up to four free counseling sessions. There is no lengthy assessment and no diagnosis required. The program is based on the idea of offering brief supportive therapy. If further referrals or more in-depth treatment is desired, a clinician will work to make those connections.

Employees of any clinic or hospital, firefighters, emergency medical responders, law enforcement officers, and dispatchers all qualify. This program is open to all volunteers or paid staff. To

access, call and ask for the “Frontline Program”: 541-481-2911 (Boardman); 541-676-2961 (Heppner); 541-575-1466 (John Day); 541-384-2666 (Condon); 541-763-2746 (Fossil).

CCS offices remain open and are following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Oregon Health Authority to keep customers and staff safe. Other programs available through CCS include telehealth tools for those wanting to avoid in-person services; the David Romprey Warmline (800-698-2392), a peer-run program that is free of charge to anyone needing to talk; and free information on the novel coronavirus, tips for staying healthy during the COVID-19 outbreak, and a resource guide for a variety of local, state and national service, available at the CCS website, www.communitycounselingsolutions.org.



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

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

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

St. Johns Episcopal Church

Join Us
On Our Journey
With Jesus.
Scripture, Tradition and Reason
Family service 9am Sunday
N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston
PH: 567-6672
We are an all inclusive Church who welcomes all.

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
541-289-4774

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



To share your worship times call
541-278-2678

MEDICAL DIRECTORY

URGENT CARE

HERMISTON FAMILY MEDICINE & URGENT CARE

Family Care • Minor Injuries
Sports Physicals • Minor Surgeries
We accept Medicare & some Advantage Medicare plans
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
541-567-1137
236 E. Newport, Hermiston
(across from U.S. Bank)
Hours: Mon-Sat 7:30am-7:00pm

MENTAL HEALTH

LET US BE THE ONE THAT HELPS!

- Adult, Child & Family Therapy
- Psychiatric Evaluation & Treatment
- Mental Health & Crisis Services
- Confidential & Professional Care



CRISIS PHONE: 866-343-4473
HERMISTON: 595 NW 11th St. • 541-567-2536
PENDLETON: 331 SE 2nd St. • 541-276-6207
WWW.LIFEWAYS.ORG

FAMILY DENTISTRY

COMPREHENSIVE CARE

A Better Way to Oral Health
DESERTDENTAL
541.567.8161
995 Orchard Ave.,
Hermiston, OR
RYAN M. WIESELER,
D.D.S., P.C.
www.desertdentalsmiles.com

DENTURES

BLUE MOUNTAIN DENTURE CENTER

Affordable Care in Eastern Oregon since 1991
TROY STEWART
Licensed Dentist
UMATILLA, OR:
1300 6th St., Suite G
BAKER CITY, OR:
2194 Court Ave.
541-519-4696 • 541-523-4752

To advertise in the Medical Directory, please call
Jeanne
541-564-4531
email:
jjewett@hermistonherald.com

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Advanced PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
Call Today! 541-289-5433
1060 W. Elm, Suite #115, Hermiston
(across from Good Shepherd Medical Center)
www.apd4kidz.com
Office hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm
CareCredit Patient Payment Plans VISA Find us on Facebook