

# Jehovah's Witnesses move convention online

HERMISTON HERALD

For the first time since 1897, Jehovah's Witnesses have moved their annual convention to a streaming platform. Congregations, families, and guests have been viewing the program during July and August, according to a news release, out of concern for the health and safety of local communities.

Attendees from northeast Oregon were expecting to travel to the Toyota Center in

Kennewick, Washington.

The first convention in the Tri-Cities area was in 1992. Since then, thousands from Central and Eastern Washington and Eastern Oregon have attended the three-day event. An English-language convention was scheduled for July 31-Aug. 2 and a Spanish-language convention was scheduled for Aug. 7-9. The decision to cancel the conventions came in early April after the outbreak of the novel coronavirus.

"Our worship is centered on mutual love for God and each other, irrespective of where we are physically," Robert Hendricks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses, said in a news release. The two Christian principles guiding the Witnesses' historic decision are respect for the sanctity of life and love of neighbor.

"As much as we long to meet together, life is far too precious to put at risk," he said.

The move to an online format will enable many more to view the program and organizers are anticipating a higher than ever "attendance." The convention is also being streamed in over 500 languages. All these changes are taking place to ensure the safety of attendees and the community during the pandemic.

The theme of the 2020 convention is "Always Rejoice!" and it comes at a time when many are struggling with how to find happiness amid the changing world scene. "To be able to have inner joy based on our faith, our relationship with our Creator, our relationship with our neighbor, and our families that is true joy that can be sustained," said Hendricks.

The convention explores questions like: What contributes to finding and sustaining joy? How can you cultivate joy in the family? How can you remain joyful in difficult

times? A key feature will be a Bible-based drama that considers the life of Nehemiah and how he helped the ancient nation of Israel find joy in their worship of God.

The virtual program is being released online in six installments from the weekend of July 11-12 through the weekend of Aug. 29-30. Those interested in viewing the convention can find the program on [jw.org](http://jw.org). There is no charge for viewing the convention.

## Rotary Club performs service projects at namesake park



Photo contributed by Kimberly Rill

Members of the Hermiston Rotary Club's Satellite Club and Noon Club pose for a photo on July 28 after completing a service project. The Satellite Club has committed to maintaining the informal "Rotary Park" comprised of the walking trail and landscaping along the west side of Highway 395 between Orchard Avenue and Locust Avenue. They spent an evening doing so, catered by Tacos Xavi, and plan to spread bark chips at the site during their work meeting in August.

## Mosquito control district warns against West Nile virus

HERMISTON HERALD

The West Umatilla Mosquito Control District is conducting its annual targeted aerial mosquito control spraying, including spraying that took place the weekend of Aug. 9 over 5,000 acres north and east of Hermiston.

According to the news release, mosquito control operations are designed to decrease the spread of West Nile virus that some mosquitoes carry.

While the virus mostly affects birds, mosquitoes can also pass it on to humans or horses when they bite.

The risks of the virus are low and most infected people do not become ill or develop mild flu-like symptoms, but in rare cases West Nile virus may cause dangerous swelling in the brain, known as encephalitis.

The district recommends seeking medical attention for unusual, severe headaches.



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan, File

Andrew Ross (left) and Rylie Smith use dip cups to check a small body of water for mosquito larvae near Hermiston in 2019.

Things people can do to help reduce mosquito populations are to get rid of opportunities for standing water on their property, such as old tires or clogged gutters, and flush ornamental ponds, horse troughs and

other needed water sources regularly.

People should also protect themselves from mosquito bites by wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants outdoors, using mosquito repellent and main-

taining screens on windows and screen doors.

Area residents can report mosquito infestations and dead bird sightings to the West Umatilla Mosquito Control District at 541-567-5201.

## Head Start offers several programs for area residents

Umatilla County Head Start offers a variety of programs to children ages birth to 5 and pregnant mothers. Eligibility for federal and state-funded programs is based on income, with other programs considering higher income levels.

Educational settings include part- and full-day Head Start preschool, dual language classrooms, thera-

peutic, programs, child care partnerships, prenatal home visits and more. All programs provide fun learning environments, meals, transportation, health screenings, and advocacy.

For information about programs offered in your area, stop by the Head Start administrative office at 110 N.E. Fourth St., Hermiston, call 541-564-6878 or visit [www.umchs.org](http://www.umchs.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](http://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](http://WWW.LIFEWAYS.ORG)

### FAMILY DENTISTRY

#### COMPREHENSIVE CARE

A Better Way to Oral Health



541.567.8161  
995 Orchard Ave.,  
Hermiston, OR  
RYAN M. WIESELER,  
D.D.S., P.C.  
[www.desertdentalsmiles.com](http://www.desertdentalsmiles.com)

### DENTURES

#### BLUE MOUNTAIN DENTURE CENTER

Affordable Care in Eastern Oregon since 1991

**TROY STEWART**  
Licensed Denturist

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](mailto:jjewett@hermistonherald.com)

### PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY



Call Today! **541-289-5433**  
1060 W. Elm, Suite #115, Hermiston  
(across from Good Shepherd Medical Center)  
[www.apd4kidz.com](http://www.apd4kidz.com)  
Office hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm  
CareCredit Patient Payment Plans VISA Facebook