

Juneteenth Celebration will offer family fun

By TAMMY MALGESINI
COMMUNITY WRITER

The public is invited to bring a big appetite and get ready to have fun as the Hermiston Cultural Awareness Coalition hosts a Juneteenth Celebration.

It will feature a barbecue, children's games and fellowship. The family-friendly event is Saturday, June 19 from 4-8 p.m. at McKenzie Park, 320 S. First St., Hermiston. There is no admission fee.

While there are picnic tables at the park, those planning to attend may bring their own chairs or blankets. People also can bring their favorite lawn games.

John Carbage, president of the coalition, said some area churches have partnered with them to coordinate the event. Juneteenth, sometimes referred to as Freedom Day, Liberation Day or Emancipation Day — is celebrated on June 19. It commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States.

"It's one of the most

important holidays after the Emancipation Proclamation," Carbage said. "Even though the slaves were free, it was 2 years later when all the slaves were really free."

Carbage said many Black people at the time couldn't read, so they weren't aware of the implications when President Abraham Lincoln issued the proclamation. Denying people education, Carbage said, is a way of continuing to control them.

The holiday, Carbage said, is important because if people aren't aware of history, they are doomed to repeat it. "That's why we have to keep challenging the status quo," he said. "We have to look forward and continue to make positive changes."

The Hermiston Cultural Awareness Coalition meets the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Hermiston United Methodist Church, 191 E. Gladys Ave. For more information about the celebration event or the coalition, contact Carbage at 541-701-7073 or jcarbage@yahoo.com.

Hermiston Rotary awards scholarships

HERMISTON HERALD

The Hermiston Rotary Club Foundation recently awarded 15 scholarships to local students for the 2021-2022 school year.

Recipients include: **Raymond Agosto**, \$750 for graphic design at Oregon State University; **Maria Alatorre**, \$1,500 for dental hygiene at Columbia Basin College; **Bryon Bonifer**, \$1,500 for plumbing or electrician apprentice at Blue Mountain Community College; **Tammy Gattis**, \$750 for an MAT in education at EOU; **Josie Goodrich**, \$1,500 for criminal justice and journalism at Washington State University; **Mya Hayden**, \$750 for recreation, sports and tourism management at University of Idaho; **Ashlyn Hofbauer**, \$2,000 for nursing at Montana State University; **Emmanuel Ibarra**, \$1,500 for instrumentation and industrial automation technology at Perry Technical Institute; **Ernst William Kern**, \$1,500 for business administration at OSU; **Jasmin Macias**, \$750 for law, societies and justice at University of Washington; **Carla Medel**, \$2,000 for a master's degree in mental health counseling at Western Oregon University; **Ismael Ochoa**, \$500 for an undecided major at Eastern Oregon University; **Wyatt Paschal**, \$1,500 for business administration at OSU; **Logan Sinor**, \$1,000 for social and behavioral sciences at

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Umpqua Community College; and **Erika Wells**, \$1,500 for English/writing at EOU.

All these students have demonstrated good academic standing and community service during their academic careers.

As a part of their application process, each of these students were asked to write a short essay on how the Rotary 4 Way Test could be incorporated into their lives. The test is the guide by which all Rotarians are challenged to live and manage their daily lives.

"The 4 Way Test: Of the things we Think, Say, or Do: First, Is it the Truth? Second, Is it Fair to All Concerned? Third, Will it Build Good Will and Better Friendships? Fourth, Will It be Beneficial to All Concerned?"

As a 501c3 charitable organization, the Hermiston Rotary Club Foundation accepts any donations for programs supported by the Rotary Club of Hermiston. Some recent projects include Funland Playground picnic shelter, Oxbow Trail Wayside enhancements, and EOTEC, as well as ongoing support for organizations and events, such as the Arbor Day tree giveaway, Christmas Express and Agape House.

HERMISTON HISTORY

City objects to employee union



Hermiston Herald, File

Val Pace plays in the Columbia River with her 4-year-old friend, Skyline Aylett, near Irrigon Marina Park in 1996.

25 YEARS AGO
June 18, 1996

An attempt by Hermiston city employees to form a union is being delayed by city officials.

Last month an attorney representing the city filed an objection with the Oregon Employment Relations Board to a petition by a labor union to represent 31 city employees.

According to Hermiston City Manager Ed Brookshier, the city objects to the make-up of the proposed bargaining unit.

A petition to represent the employees puts in motion the process to form a union within the city ranks. Employees to be included in the unit would participate in an election run by the ERB.

In a letter to the ERB, city attorney Bruce Bischoff said the city objects to the inclusion of water department and public works employees in the same unit as clerical and administrative workers.

50 YEARS AGO
May 27, 1971

What prompts a man to pack up his family, business and over 200 pets and move them over 200 miles — lock, stock and barrel?

The "pets" consist of a herd of registered Holstein dairy cows, and we use the word advisedly because the cows, most of them with long, unpronounceable names, are considered just that by their prideful owners, Don and Jean Anderson.

Lately of Brush Prairie, near Vancouver, Wash., the Andersons have just completed the move of their dairy operation from the area they've both called home all their lives.

"The population explosion around Vancouver finally got to us," explained Jean. "The ecologists are beginning to pressure the dairymen because they consider them 'polluters.' There are over 200 dairies in Clark County, and while we hadn't had any complaints personally, we decided it was time to move."

75 YEARS AGO
June 13, 1946

1) Secretary of the Interior Krug described the Pacific Northwest Tuesday as the "promised land" and said now was the "time to press its



Hermiston Herald, File

Andy Anderson shows off one of his classic cars in 1996.



Hermiston Herald, File

Hermiston residents visit the Maxwell Siding train museum in 1996.

100 YEARS AGO
June 17, 1921

development." After flying over part of the 1,200,000 acres of the Columbia Basin project which is to be irrigated by waters from Grand Coulee dam, Krug said in a press interview:

"We should finish our power and irrigation program as soon as possible. The whole area looks made to order for great industrial development."

Referring to the Columbia Basin, he said, "There's a terrible lot of land there to be without water, and we are going to press an accelerated program to see that water gets there.

2) John Zabransky of Irrigon brought in a hen's egg last Friday which holds a record for size, weighing 3/4 pound and measuring 7 1/2 inches in circumference.

We are advised daily by economists that by thrift we must restore the capital destroyed by war.

If thrifty, we are assured, we can make good, in 12 years, the total destruction of the great European conflict. The opportunity for thrift is here. The cost of living has gone down 30 to 40 percent in the last year.

The man who lived through war times, and still is in business, may now save a part of his income — if he wishes. He may buy the same things he bought a year ago, and at the end of the month have a surplus to put in the bank.

BY THE WAY

Four finalists make their case for BMCC president

Four finalists remain in competition to become **Blue Mountain Community College's** new president.

Mark Browning is currently vice president for college relations at the **College of Western Idaho** in Nampa.

Carmen Simone has been president of **Western Nebraska Community College** since 2019 and is a past finalist for president of BMCC.

Christopher Villa has worked in higher education for 40 years, most recently as president of **Portland Community College's** Rock Creek campus before PCC eliminated the position in 2020.

Luca Lewis has spent the past six years as the vice president of student services of **Whatcom Community College** in Bellingham, Washington.

For an article about the candidates and their interviews at a community forum, visit www.eastoregonian.com or see the June 13 **East Oregonian**.

Discounts on internet access available

US Cellular is participating in the **Federal Communications Commission's** temporary Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, according to a news release.

As part of the EBB program, created to help families access internet during the pandemic, US Cellular provides customer discounts who meet the requirements set by the FCC monthly discounts of up to \$50 per month, or up to \$75 per month if on tribal lands.

Qualified candidates are those who qualify for the Lifeline program, received free or reduced lunch benefits from the USDA's school lunch program during the 2019-20 or 2020-21 school year, received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year or experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020, with a total income in 2020 below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers.

For more information, visit uscellular.com/plans/emergency-broadband-benefit-program.

Senior meals include pork loin, turkey

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for Thursday, June 18, is pork loin, mashed potatoes, corn, salad and dessert.

The menu for Tuesday, June 22, is turkey sandwich, stuffing, cranberry sauce, fruit and dessert. For a Meals on Wheels delivery in Hermiston, call 541-567-3582 before 10 a.m. to place an order.

To pick up a meal from the center at 255 N.E. Second St., call the same number before 11 a.m. Meals are \$4 and can be picked up between 11:30 a.m. and noon.

The **Boardman Senior Center** now is providing meal delivery. Meals are \$4 paid upon delivery. Call 541-481-3257 to order.