

# The Arc resumes fundraisers, activities

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
Hermiston Herald

After waiting nearly two years, five dozen bowlers participated in a benefit tournament, raising \$4,703 for The Arc Umatilla County. The Jan. 15 event at Desert Lanes Family Fun Center in Hermiston, featured a two-game format, Kristi Smalley said.

Smalley, The Arc treasurer and tournament director, said the fundraiser originally was planned for the spring of 2020. The pandemic, she said, resulted in a washout worse than a 7/10 split. Special Olympics athletes and other bowling enthusiasts eager to support The Arc, Smalley said, were left with no choice other than to leave their balls in the rack. She said they were thrilled when the tournament was rescheduled.

"Many participants expressed their delight and were very happy to be able to experience an enjoyable activity benefitting a worthy cause," Smalley said.

A nonprofit organization serving Umatilla County for more than 50 years, The Arc advocates for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It focuses on improving services, supporting families and expanding oppor-



The team of Klint Mills, Lee Ozuna, Hoss Veliz, Mark Harris and Kyle Harris won The Arc Umatilla County bowling tournament with a total pin count of 1,698. The benefit event raised \$4,703 on Jan. 15, 2022, at Desert Lanes Family Fun Center, Hermiston.



The Arc Umatilla County bowling tournament participants Mikayla Herrera, Mary Jones, Jen Williams, Vivian McEachran and McKayla Thompson show matching shirts provided by team sponsor Krispy Klean. The team was among 60 bowlers that helped raise money for the nonprofit organization Jan. 15, 2022, at Desert Lanes Family Fun Center, Hermiston.

tunities for people with disabilities to connect with the community.

## B-I-N-G-O returns

Jan Schroth, immediate past president, was excited to celebrate The Arc Bingo's 44th year this past fall. After going dark since shortly after the onset of the global pandemic, the weekly games finally resumed in August 2021.

"Bingo is slowly starting back," she said. "We did lose a lot of our regulars over the past couple of years."

Schroth surmises that some of the older folks are staying home a little longer. In addition, she said several have died — includ-

ing 100-year-old Irene Miller, who passed away just last week. The centenarian, Schroth said, had been a bingo regular for many years.

However, Schroth was pleasantly surprised with 57 players showing up recently — the largest number since resuming the games. Often, she said, more players come when the progressive bingo is at a lower number and easier to attain.

To adjust for the smaller crowd and to ensure profitability for the fundraiser, Schroth said the payouts were lowered. She said otherwise, they might have to shut down the games. When discussing the dilemma

with regulars, Schroth said they were OK with the change.

"They said, 'We don't care, we just want to play bingo.' For a lot of them, it's their social life," she said.

Losing The Arc's major fundraiser for more than a year, Schroth said, took a toll on the nonprofit's budget. However, because of pandemic restrictions, she said they weren't spending as much for activities but needed to keep up with routine expenses.

"We've spent a large portion of our reserves," Schroth said. "The building is expensive to maintain and heat. And you still have to pay your insurance and

monthly bills that come."

Smalley expressed gratitude to the bowling alley for providing lane fees at a reduced rate for the recent tournament. In addition, Umatilla Electric Cooperative, Burns Mortuary of Hermiston and the Baumgartner family in honor of Russ Baumgartner were joined by lane sponsors and team sponsors to help support the fundraiser.

The Arc also announced several upcoming events hosted at The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Get ready to put on your dancing shoes for a family-friendly Valentine's dance Feb. 13, 2-4 p.m. Entry is \$5, which includes

bingo, refreshments and a goodie bag. Also, free Zumba classes are each Wednesday, 6-7 p.m.

And bingo is each Thursday with the doors opening at 6 p.m. and the first ball drops at 7 p.m. Schroth said to play one card in each game costs \$11. People may purchase as many additional cards as they would like.

"We're getting back to providing services and adding activities we have done in the past," Schroth said. "We're all excited and looking forward to doing the important stuff."

For information, call 541-567-7615 or search The Arc's Facebook page.

## Rec It Arena



Above, children play on an inflatable slide Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022, during Rec It Arena at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center in Hermiston.

At left, Gabe Anderson, left, and Vaso Tziouvaras wield inflatable pugil sticks also Jan. 22 during Rec It Arena at EOTEC.

Photos by Ben Lonergan/  
Hermiston Herald

## BRIEFS

### IMAC serves fundraising breakfast Saturday, Jan. 29

A hearty meal is available during the monthly Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center breakfast fundraiser.

The event is Saturday, Jan. 29, 7-11 a.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. The cost is \$4.50 per person.

Several years ago, a group of concerned citizens formed as the Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center. They are dedicated to preserving Irrigon's 1921 school building and developing a regional art venue.

For more information, call Peggy Price at 541-561-1737.

### Summer internship program offers more than 75 positions

Employers in Morrow County are offering more than 75 internship positions during the summer 2022 season. All positions

are paid and available in a variety of sectors.

Information about each internship and a link to apply is available via [www.columbiaworks.org](http://www.columbiaworks.org). The application period is open through April 1.

Columbia Works was established to link regional employers with high school and college students who are looking to gain experience in their prospective career field. Kalie Davis, director of workforce development at the Port of Morrow, said the goal of the program is to assist young professionals in connecting with industry partners who provide opportunities for professional growth and pathways to employment.

"We have seen so many wonderful outcomes from this program," Davis said. "Our hope is that they complete their summer internship and return to Morrow County when they are ready for a full time position."

For more information about the summer internship program, email [workforce@portofmorrow.com](mailto:workforce@portofmorrow.com) or call 541-945-2231.

### SNHU includes local students on 2021 President's List

Eight local students were named to the fall 2021 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University.

Those receiving the honor include Jenny Peters and Bailey Sitts, both of Pendleton; Holly Kress, Azuzena Ochoa and Jocelle Quinn, all of Hermiston; Jadyne Thomas, of Milton Freewater; Christian Haskell, of Pilot Rock and Johnathan Breshears, of Umatilla.

Students must earn a minimum of 12 credits and achieve a minimum GPA of 3.7 to receive the recognition. Both in-person and online students are eligible to be named to the list at SNHU.

SNHU, a private, nonprofit institution. For more information, visit [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).

— Hermiston Herald

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Sun. Evening Worship.....5:00pm  
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Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....5:00pm

[www.hermistonlmbc.com](http://www.hermistonlmbc.com)

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Tuesday-Friday.....Spanish 6:00pm  
SATURDAY.....English 5:00pm  
.....Spanish 7:00pm  
SUNDAY.....English 9:00am  
.....Spanish 11:00am  
.....Spanish 1:00pm  
.....Spanish 6:00pm  
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Martes a Viernes.....Español 6:00pm  
SÁBADO.....Inglés 5:00pm  
.....Español 7:00pm  
DOMINGO.....Inglés 9:00am  
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If interested please go to [fuzzballrescue.com](http://fuzzballrescue.com) and fill out an application. If you are not able to adopt, but would like to foster or donate, visit [fuzzballrescue.com](http://fuzzballrescue.com) or you can mail in donations to Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue, PO Box 580, Hermiston, OR 97838