BRIEFS

Friday night fun set this week at EOTEC

You won't want to miss an evening of fun as Rec It Arena — Family Night returns to Hermiston. The event is Friday, Feb. 11, 4-7 p.m. at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston.

Coordinated by Hermiston Parks and Recreation, the cost is \$5 at the door (one parent/guardian free per paying child). Youths must be 10 or older to attend without a parent.

Activities include bounce houses, basketball, ping pong, pickleball, Mario Kart on the big screen and more. Also, concessions will be available for purchase.

For more information, 541-667-5018, contact parksandrec@hermiston. or.us or visit www.hermiston.or.us/parksrec.

Nazarene church hosts trafficking awareness training

A training to help people recognize signs that someone is being trafficked for sex is offered free of charge in Hermiston.

Open to youths in seventh grade through adults, Trafficking Awareness is Sunday, Feb. 13, noon to 2 p.m. at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave. The training includes a free lunch. Also, childcare will be provided by a staffed nursery.

Presented in conjunction with Mirror Ministries of Tri-Cities, those in attendance will gain information on how to report suspected cases to the authorities. For more information or to register, visit www.hermnaz. church. For questions, call 541-567-3677.

Altrusa seeks scholarship applicants

Scholarships for students looking to re-enter the job market or to upgrade work skills are being offered by the Altrusa International Foundation of Hermiston.

An award of up to \$3,500 can be applied for the fall/ winter or spring term. Scholarship funds will be deposited with the college or school to be applied toward tuition, books or lab fees.

The scholarship will be awarded to students who are approximately 2/3s through a post-high school program. Current high school seniors are not eligible to apply. Applicants must be residents of western Umatilla County or northern Morrow County, but may be studying elsewhere.

The application deadline for the Dorothy Juve Memorial Scholarship is March 11. The deadline for the Linda Gilleese Memorial Scholarship is Oct. 1. For more information, email Altrusa at hermistonaltrusa@gmail.com.



Ben Lonergan/Hermiston Herald, File

Gabe Anderson, left, and Vaso Tziouvaras wield inflatable pugil sticks during Rec It Arena on Jan. 22, 2022, at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, Hermiston. The family fun night returns Friday, Feb. 11 at EOTEC.

Library's Lego event offers building contest

Get ready for some Lego action as the Hermiston Public Library is teaming up with JB Brick Co. for a Lego Building Competition.

The event features two contests — Build at Home (bring the finished project to enter) and a 100 Brick Speed Challenge (to be held the day of the event). The Lego Build Challenge is Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. Build At Home entries will be accepted between 10-11 a.m. The speed challenge starts at 1 p.m. And awards will be presented at 2:30 p.m.

Advance registration is required to participate in either or both events. People can register at JB Brick Co. 295 E. Main St., Hermiston, or via www.jbbrickcompany.com/event.

Age categories include young builders, ages 9 and younger; intermediate, ages 10-17; and adults. Prizes will feature JB Brick Co. gift cards, gift baskets and goodie bags.

For more information, visit the event website. For questions, contact 209-756-9898 or jbbrickcompany@ gmail.com.

New Hope hosts free piano concert

A classical piano concert will be held at New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395 Hermiston.

Featuring Daniel Longhin,



church's pastor of Hispanic ministries, free event is Fri-

day, Feb. 18, 7 p.m. He will perform music by Chopin

and Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata."

For questions about the concert, call the church at 541-567-8441.

Schools cash in with BEO program

The Bank of Eastern Oregon school mascot debit card program contributed more than \$8,400 to participating area high schools in 2021.

"The school mascot cards provide much needed extra funding for these student body programs," Becky Kindle, the bank's execu-



Hermiston Herald, File

Julie Lara, JB Brick Co. owner, poses with a Lego project on Oct. 21, 2021. The Hermiston Lego store is teaming up with the Hermiston Public Library for the Lego Build Challenge Feb. 26, 2022. Those wanting to participate must register in advance.

tive vice president and chief operations officer, said in a press release.

Initiated in September 2013, the BEO mascot debit card program serves several high school associated student body programs, including Heppner, Riverside, Irrigon, Ione, Condon and Weston-McEwen.

Use of the school mascot card generates 5 cents per transaction performed to that school's program. Also, the \$10 annual renewal fee for each card goes directly to the school's ASB.

For information about the Bank of Eastern Oregon, stop by a local branch or visit www.beobank.com.

American Legion has a heart for veterans

A sweetheart of an event is planned for area veterans. American Legion Post & Auxiliary Unit 37 is hosting

Hearts for Veterans. The free dinner and social for veterans and their guests is Saturday, Feb. 12, 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston.

A lasagna dinner will be served and Dance Unlimited will provide entertainment. Those attending are invited

to bring a dessert to share. The event also includes a silent auction featuring more than a dozen themed baskets. Money raised will help generate funds to be used for projects to support veterans.

For more information, contact Cathy Stolz, auxiliary president, at 541-571-5816 or cathystolz@gmail. com.

– Hermiston Herald

Umatilla leadership students encourage acts of kindness

Hermiston Herald

Umatilla High School students are taking to heart the saying, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

The school's Leadership Class has created a Kindness Campaign, according to a press release from the school district, that the whole school can get involved in.

First, there is a "Give what you can, Take what you need" Kindness Board, where students have two choices.

On a small, blank piece of paper, students write a kind, motivational or inspirational message and leave it there for someone, or they can take one of the messages others have written.

Second is the Motivational Tree, where students can leave heart-shaped messages with positive words and ideas for how to brighten someone else's day. Some of the examples on the tree are "Give a teacher a note of thanks" and "Tell someone to have a great day."



Umatilla School District/Contributed Photo

The "Give what you can, Take what you need" Kindness Board at Umatilla High School is ready for students to leave positive messages for others or to take one. The board is part of the school's Leadership Class's Kindness Campaign.

But the class is not done with the project, according to the release. Coming soon is a large cardboard mailbox where students can write a note praising someone for doing a great job, which Leadership Class students will deliver.

Students are also making TikTok kindness videos to share during advisory, making positive and funny signs to hang around the school and creating a painted rock garden to share kind words and artwork.

April Dirksen, vice principal at UHS, said in the press release the Kindness Campaign is the final project of the semester for the Leadership Class, but "the campaign also is a great way to make this time of year, with its cold weather and stress of the semester ending, a little happier for everyone."

MARC'S REMARKS

Marc

Olympics bring back memories

The 2022 Winter arship to either of these Olympics in Beijing will well be underway at the time this column is published. Millions of future Olympic hopefuls throughout the world are watching as their favorite Olympians vie for a much-coveted medal.

I remember watching on television as the 20th Summer Olympics took place in Munich, Germany, during the months of August and September in 1972. I was a collegiate wrestler back then, and just about to enter my sophomore year in high school. High hopes played out in my mind as I dreamt of someday becoming an Olympic wrestler myself.

During my junior year of high school, I placed third in my weight class in a Washington State freestyle wrestling tournament. Both the University of Washington and Oregon State University had excellent wrestling programs back then, each placing in the top 10 in the NCAA championship tournaments from 1971-1974. The thought of getting a wrestling schol-

schools in 1975 was preempted due to my

being selected for a student exchange program sponsored Rotary Interby national. Instead of wrestling from 1974-1975, I found myself immersed in a cultural exchange

experience in the Philippines during my final year of high school.

What might my chances have been, to become an Olympic athlete, if I hadn't decided to study abroad as a senior in high school? Extremely slim. According to some statisticians, the odds that one could be selected to be part of an Olympic team are 0.0013%.

Many of the Olympic athletes competing today have been mentored and coached for much of their life. Years of rigorous study and training are necessary to even make it on the international level of competition. I've read that the typical Olympian plays their preferred sport for anywhere from eight to nineteen years before reaching the Olympics.

The costs associated with training and competing can be restrictive, as well. When one adds up the expenditures for coaches, training, equipment, entry fees, travel and more, financing one's journey to compete for an Olympic medal can be more than daunting. According to a study done by Forbes magazine in 2012, athletes hoping to make it to the Olympic Games back then could expect to pay as much as \$25,000 a year and anywhere from four to 15 years in training, depending on the chosen sport. Considering inflation from that time until now, annual costs associated with preparing for the Olympics today could be more than \$30,000 a year.

where does leave me, now that I'm on the cusp of my 65th birthday? I'll choose to watch the Winter Olympics on television, and make the occasional trek to Anthony Lakes to glide down the snowy slopes on my 2-yearold set of Rossignol skis.

Marc Mullins is co-pastor of the First Christian Church of Pendleton.

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Sun. Worship Service...

Sun. Evening Worship..

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Tuesday-Friday....

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To advertise in the Church Directory, please contact Audra Workman 541-564-4538 or email aworkman@eastoregonian.com

