



Harriet Wong/Contributed Photo

Harriet Wong will perform on the recently restored Chickering grand piano (not pictured) that was gifted to the Inland Northwest Musicians. The free concert, which will feature two pieces by Beethoven, is March 12, 2022, at the Hermiston Community Center.

Inland Musicians tune up with grand gift

March 12 concert to feature Chickering grand piano

By TAMMY MALGESINI
Hermiston Herald

The Inland Northwest Musicians will unveil its newest member — a 9-foot Chickering grand piano during the upcoming concert of the Inland Northwest Orchestra.

“It’s a grand instrument,” said R. Lee Friese, the organization’s music director/conductor. “It’s a pretty exciting thing to have an instrument of its grandeur.”

The Hermiston School District gifted the piano to the nonprofit music group this past summer. After a move to the Hermiston Community Center, the piano underwent restorative work in November.

The piano’s “coming out” concert is Saturday, March 12, 4 p.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Admission is free.

Friese estimated that the piano was made in the 1950s by the now-defunct piano manufacturer in Boston. Regardless of its age, after being refurbished by John Ashcraft of Newberg, he estimated that the replacement cost of the instrument is approximately \$80,000.

Ashcraft, who previously lived in Pendleton and provided maintenance on the piano, said Jonas Chickering and his sons, who also worked in the business, were innovators. The piano manufacturer, he said, created durable and quality instruments.

“It’s powerful and rich,” he said about the piano’s sound. “It has a tone that draws the listener’s ear and it’s a pleasure to play.”

The upcoming performance will feature Beetho-



Lori Johnson/Contributed Photo

A recently restored 9-foot Chickering grand piano will be featured in a concert of the Inland Northwest Orchestra on March 12, 2022, at the Hermiston Community Center.

ven’s “Symphony No. 1” and “Piano Concerto No. 1.” Accompaniment will be provided by guest pianist Harriet Wong.

Currently pursuing a doctorate degree in musical arts at the University of Washington, Wong was born in Macau, a special administrative region of China. She received the Cultural Affairs Bureau Prize, the highest honor of the 20th Macau Youth Music Competition.

Prior to continuing her education in Seattle, Wong performed actively as a pianist, conductor and accompanist in Macau. She also earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

According to a history of the Chickering, tag No. 003078, it was acquired used in the late 1970s by

the Hermiston Community Concert Association. Dr. John Spomer and Phil Hector, concert association board members, contacted Leonard Richter of Walla Walla College to assist with locating a piano.

Launching the “88 Keys for Hermiston” campaign, approximately \$8,000 was raised. At the time of its purchase, Richter said the Chickering was a suitable concert piano for the needs of the community.

When the concert association disbanded in the mid-1990s, ownership of the piano was transferred to the Hermiston School District — with an agreement that it would be maintained and available for recitals and community performance events.

Founded in 1999, Inland Northwest Musicians fea-

tures several ensembles, including a full symphony orchestra, a chorale and a youth/preparatory orchestra. A classical music organization with members from throughout the region, its mission is to provide free music to rural audiences.

For more information, contact 541-289-4696, inwm@machmedia.net, search Facebook or visit www.inlandnorthwestmusicians.com.

BRIEFS

SAGE Center to screen ‘Cruella’

Movie Night at the SAGE Center features “Cruella.” The live-action movie about one of cinema’s most notorious — and notoriously fashionable — villains, the legendary Cruella de Vil, stars Emma Stone.

The film already has received several costume design and makeup/hair-styling awards. And it garnered nominations in both categories for the 94th annual Academy Awards, which will be announced March 27. The film is rated PG-13.

See what the hype is all about on Friday, Feb. 18, at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Doors to the theater open at 5:30 p.m. for the 6 p.m. screening. Come early and check out the interactive visitor’s center. Your \$5 SAGE Center admission includes the movie, popcorn and bottled water.

For more information, call 541-481-7243 or visit www.visitsage.com.

Umatilla Republicans welcome Vance Day, schedule forums

The Umatilla County Republican Party announced several upcoming events, including a pair of candidate forums.

Vance Day, a former Marion County Circuit Court judge, is the featured guest for a Lincoln Day dinner. He will speak about a project he’s involved with for the James Madison Center for Free Speech. Day is touring the state to talk about constitutional rights and principles against tyranny.

Day served as the chairman of the Oregon Republican Party 2005-09. The Oregon Supreme Court in 2018 suspended Day without pay for three years for judicial misconduct after he refused to marry same-sex couples.

The event is Monday, Feb. 21, at the Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate. The doors open at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person. An early reception with Day for the Pachyderm Club is at 4:30 p.m. It costs \$100, which includes dinner.

Reservations are required by Friday, Feb. 18. For more information or to RSVP, call 541-304-5477.

Also, the Republican gubernatorial candidates forum, which was postponed because of weather, has been rescheduled. It

is Thursday, March 24, 6 p.m. at the Vert Auditorium, 480 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton.

In addition, a Umatilla County Commissioner Candidates Forum is Thursday, March 31, 6 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center. Further details about both forums will be announced.

For more information about the local Republican Party, contact Suni Danforth, Central Committee chair, at 541-215-9389, ucrpchair@gmail.com or search www.facebook.com/groups/85685613647.

Dance provides opportunity for special memories

It’s time to get ready to kick up your heels because the Boardman Daddy Daughter Dance is just around the corner.

The popular event, which began in 2018, includes a night of dancing, music, photos, crafts, refreshments and prizes. With the theme A Night Under the Stars, it is open to daughters under 18 and their fathers/father figures.

The dance is Saturday, March 5, 5:30-8 p.m. at the Boardman Pool & Recreation Center, 311 N. Olson Road. Tickets are \$30 per couple and \$10 for each additional daughter. For more information, call 541-616-1050 or visit www.boardmanparkandrec.com.

Hermiston seniors eligible for HEF scholarships

The Hermiston Education Foundation is accepting applications for eight \$2,500 post-secondary education scholarships.

The awards are for graduating seniors from Hermiston High School who plan to pursue an academic program in a college or university. Important factors in the evaluation of applicants includes academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, community service, leadership and financial need.

The deadline to apply is March 31. Applicants will be notified no later than April 22.

Applications are available at the Hermiston High School counseling office and via www.hermistoneducationfoundation.org.

For more information, call George Clough, HEF Scholarship Committee, at 541-314-3182, or mail an inquiry to Hermiston Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1096, Hermiston, OR 97838.

— Hermiston Herald

PET OF THE WEEK



MEET DAISY

Daisy is a super sweet girl looking for the right home. She needs someone who can help her with her disability, so would need constant care. She currently uses a wheelchair part time as she has hind end weakness and needs her bladder expressed several times a day. Daisy loves to play and be the center of attention. If you are not able to adopt, please consider sponsoring her to help with her medical needs.

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, animal shelters need our help more than ever. Please donate to your local shelter, or offer to foster an animal in need.

If interested please go to fuzzballrescue.com and fill out an application. If you are not able to adopt, but would like to foster or donate, visit fuzzballrescue.com or you can mail in donations to Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue, PO Box 580, Hermiston, OR 97838

Church

DIRECTORY

 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>St. Johns Episcopal Church</i></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston 541-567-6672</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">JOIN OUR INCLUSIVE CONGREGATION ON OUR JOURNEY WITH JESUS Services 9:00am Sundays In-person or streaming on Facebook or Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Seventh-day Adventist Church</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m. Worship Service.....11:00 a.m. English & Spanish Services</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">541-567-8241 855 W. Highland Ave. Hermiston, OR 97838</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">COME WORSHIP WITH US AT THE COUNTRY CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Sundays at 11:00am 32742 Diagonal Rd. Hermiston, OR</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">First Christian Church</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">“Grow Your Faith Through God”</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Sunday School...9:00 am Worship Service...10:30 am</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">567-3013</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">125 E. Beech Ave. • 567-3232</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Pastor David Dever</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Sun. Bible Classes.....10:00am Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am Sun. Evening Worship.....5:00pm Tues. Creation Club (Sept-May). 4:30pm Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....5:00pm www.hermistonlmbc.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Hermiston Christian Center & School</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Sunday Gathering: 10:00 AM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">This gathering is also livestreamed on our Facebook page.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Nursery care is available 3 years & under Kids Club available 4 years-5th grade</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Sunday Prayer Gathering: 6:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">NEED PRAYER? CONTACT US!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">1825 W. Highland Ave. 541-567-3480 hcc4u.org hcc4u2020@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Worship Service 10:30 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Pastor J.C. Barnett Children’s Church & Nursery Available</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">700 West Orchard Avenue P.O. Box 933 Hermiston, Oregon 541-289-4774</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">565 W. HERMISTON AVE. MASS SCHEDULES</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Monday-Friday.....English 8:00am Tuesday-Friday.....Spanish 6:00pm SATURDAY.....English 5:00pmSpanish 7:00pm SUNDAY.....English 9:00amSpanish 11:00amSpanish 1:00pmSpanish 6:00pm Parish Office.....541-567-5812</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora de los Angeles</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">565 W. HERMISTON AVE. HORARIOS DE MISAS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Lunes a Viernes.....Inglés 8:00am Martes a Viernes.....Español 6:00pm SÁBADO.....Inglés 5:00pmEspañol 7:00pm DOMINGO.....Inglés 9:00amEspañol 11:00amEspañol 1:00pmEspañol 6:00pm Oficina Parroquial.....541-567-5812</p>

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