

BRIEFING

Read-a-thon planned in Hermiston

The Friends of the Hermiston Public Library and Altrusa International of Hermiston are promoting literacy and a love of reading with the Read Across Hermiston Read-a-thon.

The event is Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. In addition, it will be livestreamed on the library friends' Facebook page.

It will feature a series of community members reading in 20-minute segments. Participating readers who have confirmed, include Hermiston City Manager Byron Smith, Hermiston School Superintendent Tricia Mooney, Agape House Executive Director Mark Gomolski, Good Shepherd Health Care System CEO Brian Sims and Umatilla County Commissioner Dan Dorran. Other community leaders will be added as available. They will share from their favorite books across a variety of genres.

In addition, local authors Carol Clupny and Ben Armstrong will share excerpts from their work. Clupny is the author of "The Ribbon of Road Ahead," a memoir of her experience with Parkinson's Disease. And Armstrong, a Hermiston High School student, had his short story, "Sleigh 54," published last fall.

The library friends and Altrusans are asking the community to support their favorite readers by donating to literacy projects sponsored by both groups. Donations may be made electronically through the Friends of the Hermiston Public Library Facebook page, at the Hermiston Public Library and at the Hermiston office of Banner Bank. For questions, call the library at 541-567-2882.

Young ag entrepreneurs eligible for award

The board of the John F. Walchli Ag Entrepreneur Award is seeking applicants for its third annual award. Applicants must be 22 years old or younger and be engaged in agriculture either directly or in an agriculture-related field. This is a cash award based on entrepreneurship and may be used at the discretion of the recipient — the award recipient does not currently have to be enrolled in school.

To be eligible, the applicant must attend or have graduated from a high school in the west end of Umatilla County, including Echo, Hermiston, Stanfield or Umatilla. The selection is not based on grades, but rather innovation and accomplishments in any field of agriculture.

The deadline to apply is March 31. For more information, contact board member Mike Mehren at 541-561-4762 or mehrens@eotnet.net.

— Hermiston Herald

Dashing for diapers coming back



Hermiston Church of the Nazarene/Contributed Photo
People walk their dogs March 6, 2021, during the Diaper Dash in Hermiston. The eighth annual event is Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m. at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene.

Annual run/walk, this year on March 5, helps parents in need

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
Hermiston Herald

Meeting a need in the local community in a simple way has turned into an annual fun run/walk to collect diapers.

In its eighth year, the Diaper Dash is Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m. at Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave. Onsite registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The entry fee is a package of diapers — any size, brand or quantity.

Gabrielle Fritz, the church's office manager, said the most-requested sizes for toddlers are 4, 5 and 6. In addition, people have donated wipes.

"These are quite often requested by families and it's so nice to be able to also have that available," Fritz said.

Participants can choose from the 5K or 10K route. Starting at the church, people will go through Riverfront Park, along the Oxbow Trail, and back up Northwest 11th Street to end up back at the church.

The event, Fritz said, began shortly after Pastor Eric Fritz started at the church. When asking a group of young adults for ideas about how to meet a need in the community — the response was "diapers." And it has continued to be

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— Gabrielle Fritz, Nazarene church office manager

a need over the years, Fritz said.

"Nearly every week, we are approached from those requesting diaper help," she said. "The donated diapers go to local agencies and families in need all throughout the year."

During the past seven years, Fritz said the community has donated more than 71,000 diapers. Kristi Atkins, executive director of Trucare Pregnancy Clinic, has appreciated the partnership with the church.

"It's a great feeling of



Gabrielle Fritz/Contributed Photo

Gabrielle Fritz, Hermiston Church of the Nazarene office manager, gets ready to deliver a pickup load of diapers on Feb. 17, 2022, to Sweet Potato's Closet, Hermiston. The donation was made possible from diapers collected during the church's annual Diaper Dash. The 2022 fun run/walk is Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m. at the church.

connection with the community," she said. "And being able to help our clients with resources, we provide things when we can."

Fritz said other agencies they've partnered with include Made to Thrive, Sweet Potato's Closet, the Hermiston School District,

the Migrant Education Program with InterMountain Education Service District and Umatilla-Morrow Head Start, including its Women, Infants and Children program. In addition, she said they've connected with a local neighborhood and numerous parents and families.

"The donated diapers go to local agencies and families in need all throughout the year," Fritz said.

For more information, a registration form and a route photo, visit www.hermnaz.church. For questions, contact Fritz at 541-567-3677 or office@hermnaz.church.

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Church DIRECTORY

St. Johns Episcopal Church
N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston
541-567-6672
JOIN OUR INCLUSIVE CONGREGATION ON OUR JOURNEY WITH JESUS
Services 9:00am Sundays
In-person or streaming on Facebook or Zoom

Seventh-day Adventist Church
Saturdays
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
English & Spanish Services
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855 W. Highland Ave.
Hermiston, OR 97838

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775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

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Pastor David Dever
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

Hermiston Christian Center & School
Sunday Gathering: 10:00 AM
This gathering is also livestreamed on our Facebook page.
Nursery care is available 3 years & under
Kids Club available 4 years-5th grade
Sunday Prayer Gathering: 6:00 PM
NEED PRAYER? CONTACT US!
1825 W. Highland Ave.
541-567-3480 | hcc4u.org
hcc4u2020@gmail.com

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

Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church
565 W. HERMISTON AVE.
MASS SCHEDULES
Monday-Friday.....English 8:00am
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
Parish Office.....541-567-5812

Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora de los Angeles
565 W. HERMISTON AVE.
HORARIOS DE MISAS
Lunes a Viernes.....Inglés 8:00am
Martes a Viernes.....Español 6:00pm
SÁBADO.....Inglés 5:00pm
.....Español 7:00pm
DOMINGO.....Inglés 9:00am
.....Español 11:00am
.....Español 1:00pm
.....Español 6:00pm
Oficina Parroquial.....541-567-5812

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

PET OF THE WEEK
MEET PONGO!
Pongo is a special needs dog and a work in progress. He is looking for a special foster parent who will help become a happier boy. He can be anxious which causes him to be destructive, can not be crated because it makes his anxiety worse. He can be mean, but loves to play with another dog buddy. He is still working on potty training. Pongo needs someone who can be home with most of the day to lovingly teach him to be the good boy he can be.

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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