

**Chamber**

Continued from A1

Even on her walks, Parsons said, Wilkerson picks up cans and bottles and returns them for deposit.

And Wilkerson never wanted recognition for herself.

In accepting the award, Wilkerson said she was embarrassed.

"It's just unbelievable that I could receive this," she said. "I feel so honored to be with all of you that have been honored before."

**Man of the Year**

Banker, consultant and diehard Oregon State University Beavers fan Steve Williams received the award for Man of the Year.

Presenter Josh Burns said he wanted to share what Williams has been involved with.

As an example, Burns said, when he and his family moved from Hermiston to Baker City, he had to resign from nine boards.

Williams has been a Cub Scout leader, a coach for AAU basketball, Little League and the swim team. He's served as a chamber ambassador, on the Hermiston Development Corporation, Blue Mountain Community College Finance Committee and the Umatilla Electric Cooperative's Business Resource Center.

"He's dedicated to our city," Burns said.

And starting this July, he will be the District 5100 governor for Rotary International, guiding 74 Rotary clubs in Oregon and Washington.

"This man is different," Burns said. "He's different because every opportunity that he has and committees to serve, he puts 100% of himself into."

Burns said Williams lives his life by Rotary's Four-Way Test; Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

"And I can tell you if he's involved, it is and it will," Burns said.

In accepting the award, Williams described Hermiston as a magnet, and it is because of the people in the community.

"Because of the people sitting out here, the people who live here, people who work here and people who raise their families here. ... It is a great community."

**The Award of Merit**

Christmas Express received the Award of Merit.

Hermiston Mayor Dave Drotzmann presented the Award of Merit to Christmas Express, describing the program as "Hermiston's finest hour."

The Hermiston Police Department runs the all-volunteer program, now in its 53rd year, that provides gifts to children and full holiday dinners at Christmas time to more than 500 less fortunate families in the Hermiston area.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston accepted the award.

"This isn't a police department event," Edmiston said. "This is a Hermiston event."

There are countless people who donate money to the program each year, he said, and hundreds of locals are involved.

"We gladly accept this award, and we will continue with the program," Edmiston said.

**Other awards**

The Midway Bar & Grill received the Bob Severson Rotary Business of the Year Award.

Elizabeth Doherty received the Altrusa Outstanding Young Citizen Award.

Tricia Mooney, Hermiston School District superintendent, announced the educators of the year:

Brianna Gilman, special educator teacher, Hermiston High School.

Ethan McDonald, social studies teacher, Hermiston High School.

Kirby Warner, physical education teacher, Armand

Larive Middle School.

Megan Reeve, math teacher, Sandstone Middle School.

Tanya Kennedy, dean of students, Desert View Elementary.

Angie Cooke, fourth grade teacher, Highland Hills Elementary.

Ibbet Radant, instructional coach, Rocky Heights Elementary.

Susan Frink, instructional coach, Sunset Elementary.

Brenda Caldwell, instructional coach, West Park Elementary.

Tricia DesJarlais, special education facilitator, Hermiston School District.

And the Hermiston School District Administrator of the Year Award went to Katie Saul, director of business services.



Ben Lonergan/Hermiston Herald

**Stuart Rice, owner of the Midway Bar & Grill, accepts the Bob Severson Rotary Business of the Year Award on March 2, 2022, at the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce's 52nd Annual Distinguished Citizens Awards at the Hermiston Community Center.**



Ben Lonergan/Hermiston Herald

**Elizabeth Doherty smiles on stage March 2, 2022, after receiving the Outstanding Young Citizen of the Year Award at the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce's 52nd Annual Distinguished Citizens Awards at the Hermiston Community Center.**

# BOARDMAN Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 1 • 101 Olson Rd. • Boardman, OR 97818 • 541-481-3014  
www.boardmanchamber.org • email: info@boardmanchamber.org

**MAR 16TH, 2022**

## CHAMBER LUNCHEON and Annual General Membership Meeting

**12 PM at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center**

Lunch catered by **Midway Bar & Grill**

**CATERING & EVENTS**

Registration required. Visit [boardmanchamber.org](http://boardmanchamber.org) to register by March 14, 2022.

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## PAINT NIGHT

WITH MICHELLE

At the SAGE Center  
101 Olson Rd.  
Boardman, OR 97818

**MAR. 17 @ 6 PM**

Registration required  
Visit [boardmanchamber.org/events](http://boardmanchamber.org/events) to sign up

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## MEET & GREET

with Gubernatorial Candidate **Nick Hess**

**VOTE HESS FOR GOVERNOR**

**WED. MARCH 23, 2022**  
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center  
2 Marine Drive NE  
Boardman, OR 97818

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**32ND ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS AWARDS BANQUET**

March 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM  
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center  
2 Marine Drive, Boardman, OR 97818

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