## GOOD TIMES

## Echo Market transforms small town to a fun-filled city

BY ERICK PETERSON
Hermiston Herald

alking through the Echo Market on its first day, organizer Teres Fair had a spring in her step. It was Saturday, June 18, and she was all smiles.

"Some people think of us as a town, but I like to think of Echo as a city," she said.

The city of Echo website boasts that the town has a population of 715 within the city limits and 1,200 in its library service area.

On the first day of the market, the weather was good, many vendors were busy and people seemed to be having a good time.

Fair said that she is bothered that there are people who have misconceptions about the city. They are unfamiliar with the golf course, the historical sites, the friendly people and the Echo Market.

Perhaps if they knew about the positive things in Echo, they would consider it a city, too, she said, despite its small size.

She said she felt good about the Echo Market on Saturday. Fifty-eight vendors were there, but that wasn't all. A community booth, was there, too.

"It's exciting," she said.

Prior to Saturday, she said she was concerned about the amount of farm products for sale. On the day of the market, however, she said she was pleased with what she saw:



Erick Peterson/Hermiston Herald

Members of the Echo FFA pose at their table. The group was selling sandwiches for a fundraiser on Saturday, June 18, at the Echo Market.

rhubarb, honey, roasted corn and local cherries.

She said the next one would be even better.

"The people who are here (on Saturday) have already paid for all season," she said. "They'll probably be coming back, and we're getting more."

According to Fair, people are still approaching her, as they want to be involved in the Echo Market.

Future markets are scheduled to have other changes, too. The entertainment will change, she said, to include different bands.

The games, she said, will remain.

This is a good time for this market, she stated.

"We've had some devastation with the flooding, and we need this right now," she said of the Echo Market.

The flooding of the Umatilla River remains far away from the site of the market.

"We're such a beautiful little community," Fair said. "And it's nice to be here when the weather is nice, people are out and there is something that's really fun to do."

The Echo Market is every third Saturday in downtown Echo.

## Echo Book Club to discuss 'The Radium Girls'

The Echo Book Club has selected "The Radium Girls" by Kate Moore as its June pick.

The historical nonfiction bestseller shines a spotlight on female factory workers whose courage led to a revolution in industrial safety standards. The book club will meet to discuss the publication July 13, 2 p.m. in the old VFW Building, 310 W. Bridge St., Echo.

The book is available for check-out at the Echo Public Library. For more information, call 541-376-6038.

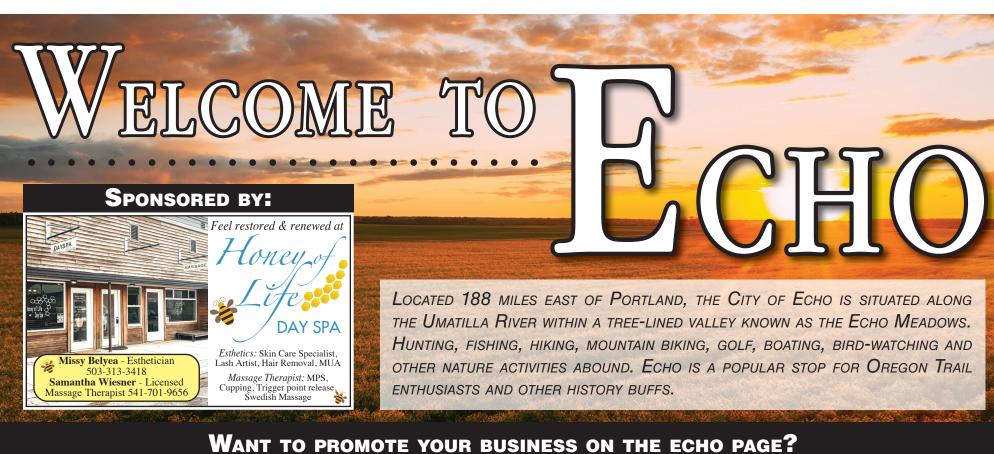
— Hermiston Herald



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