

## THREE MINUTES WITH ...



## DARRYL JOHNSON

Hermiston Police  
Department captain

**When did you come to the area and what brought you here?**

*I moved here August 1997 and began working with the Hermiston Police Department in September 1997; I had family in the area and relocated from working with another law enforcement agency in Western Oregon.*

**What is your favorite local place to eat?**

*Itapa, or Taste of Thai*

**What is your favorite activity in your free time?**

*Riding motorcycles.*

**What's the last book you read? Would you recommend it?**

*Louis L'Amour, The Haunted Mesa (If you like fiction I would recommend it)*

**What is your favorite website or app (other than Facebook)?**

*I'm not a tech guy, so not really into those websites, or social media.*

**What surprises you about Hermiston?**

*The growth and changes in the community I have seen in the 20 years I have been here.*

**Describe your perfect travel destination.**

*Anywhere warm and sunny*

**What's the funniest thing that's ever happened to you?**

*(no answer provided)*

**What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?**

*To retire and go play for a while and relax before finding my next niche in life.*

**What is your proudest accomplishment?**

*Finishing my Staff and Command School through Northwestern University.*

## HERMISTON HISTORY

# Simplot closes down fry production line, laying off more than 250

25 YEARS Ago

MARCH 3, 1992

• More than 250 people lost their \$7- to \$8-per-hour jobs when the Hermiston Simplot plant closed down a french fry production line Friday. "It caught a lot of people on the short end of the stick" said a Simplot employee who asked not to be identified. She said employees were told of the shutdown late last week. Simplot spokesman Fred Zerza, speaking from Boise, Idaho, said the production line had to be shut down because potatoes Simplot bought last fall do not make french fries that meet McDonald's length specifications. McDonald's fast food restaurants buy almost 1 million pounds of processed potatoes from the southwest Hermiston Simplot plant every day. One of two fry production lines was closed down and the closure was expected to last until fall that year.

• Hermiston firefighters and police officers were recognized for outstanding performance during a banquet at the Hermiston Eagle's Club. Firefighters and emergency medical technicians Chuck Ledford, Dale Ternes and Jeff Adkins were given special recognition for saving a man's life last August. The three had responded to a call from the home of David Green, 44, who had suffered a heart attack. When they arrived, Green was unconscious, was not breathing and his heart was not beating. Quick action with intravenous drugs and a defibrillator, the device which shocks people and sometimes re-starts their heart, brought Green back. Ledford has worked for the fire department since 1985, Ternes since 1986, and Adkins since July 1991. Dan Thompson, an employee of Umatilla Electric who has been a volunteer firefighter since 1974, was named firefighter of the year. In the police department, officer Poncho Rios, a former police chief from Nyssa who has extensive training including attending the Federal Bureau of Investigation national academy, was named officer of the year. Dispatcher Molly Van Cleave was named employee of the year.

50 YEARS Ago

MARCH 2, 1967

• Thursday February 23 was a full house for the Oregon Highway Commission's hearing meeting on the proposed routing of Interstate highway 82-N. Several people gave testimony favoring the Prosser-Umatilla Bridge-Stanfield Junction route connecting I-80 in Oregon and I-90 in Washington. A



## Everybody Wants Fresh, Hot "Butter-Kist" Pop Corn

HERALD ARCHIVES

An advertisement from 1917 promotes a new pop corn maker that was installed at a store owned by H.E. Hitt.

similar highway meeting in Kennewick, Wash., Feb. 15, had supported the more circuitous route (known as route 9) through Tri-Cities. State Senator R.R. "Ruff" Raymond of Helix gave his complete support of the Umatilla bridge route and offered letters from fellow legislators Sens. Irvin Mann, Anthony Yturri and Reps. Stafford Hansell and Don McKinnis, who were unable to attend because of legislative commitments in Salem.

• An attempted burglary at the residence of Frank Wells, 716 E. Ridgeway, was reported to Hermiston police at 8:20 p.m., Monday, Feb. 27. Wells reported that he was resting in bed at the time when he heard a noise by the kitchen door, then in the hallway. Then, he related, someone opened the bedroom door and startled him with the light of a flashlight in his face, only to make a quick exit, leaving the house in a hurry. Apparently the intruder, expecting to find nobody at home, were frightened away.

• Showing some of the old form, Coach George DeLap's Hermiston High hoopsters skinned the "cats" of La Grande Saturday for a reversal of the previous night's loss to Baker. HHS left no doubt about who was top gun by twanging the twines for shots from the field for a sharpened .588 shooting percentage. La Grande hit only 21 buckets out of 57 tries for a .382 field goal average. The final score ended at Bulldogs 81, and Tigers 56.

75 YEARS Ago

MARCH 5, 1942

• Best way for young men, 18 to 20 years of age, who want to become commissioned officers in the United States Army, is

to enlist immediately, Lt. Col. B.H. Hensley, district recruiting officer for Oregon, revealed Tuesday. Emphasizing the excellent material turned up in this age group, Hensley pointed out that "first come, first served" will be the rule with selections for the 75,000 additional commissions scheduled to be assigned as rapidly as possible. All men who have completed four months of service, which includes the 13 weeks' basic training period, may apply for appointment to an officer candidate school. Selections are made on the basis of the applicant's record in civil life and his record during service in the ranks.

• The question of driving cars is becoming more serious as time goes on. Tire rationing begins to worry. For the first time this week a report came in that a motorist here had jacked up his car for the duration. Monday morning he had a blowout, which rendered the tire useless. Tuesday his spare gave way and Wednesday he walked to work. Although the case was important enough to warrant an item in the paper, it is thought from now on similar events will not be news.

• A public demonstration of various types of bombs and fire-fighting equipment will be held Sunday, March 15, at the Hermiston park, according to Sam Moore, head of the civilian defense here, and B.A. Doyle, fire chief, who are making preparations. Different types of bombs, including magnesium and thermo, will be shown and methods of their control. A feature "attraction" will be the lighting of a large pool of oil and gasoline and methods of extinguishing the flames with a new type of fire fighting apparatus.

100 YEARS Ago

MARCH 3, 1917

• The first of the week saw two Central Oregon Settlers families arriving to make their home on the project. One was John Hoffman, who has purchased the Zellar place, More generally known as Van Huystee. The other was J.L. Hoffman, son of John Hoffman, he has purchased 40 acres near the Hoisington place. J.L. Hoffman came through with the stock, farm equipment and household goods. Two cars were filled and the two families are prepared to take up active farm work at once.

• One of the latest improved machines for popping corn and roasting peanuts has just been installed by H.E. Hitt in his store. In its line the machine is the last word, especially on popcorn. To watch its operation is very fascinating. The machine is as near automatic as is possible to make. A hopper is filled with corn. The gas jet lighted and an electric motor started. Just the right amount of corn is fed to the hopper and after it is popped is automatically buttered and delivered. Even the unpopped kernels of corn are sorted out.

• New street lights are now in operation. The new lights are all 100-watt lamps, whereas formerly there were some 60, some 80 and some 100. Nitrogen lamps are now used exclusively. All lights were left in the same location except for minor changes. By turning some slightly, better light could be given. Others were lowered to escape being shaded by trees. Another feature that will be an improvement is the lighting at night and turning off in the morning. The entire west side is controlled by one switch and the east side by one and the company will look after it.

## IN BRIEF

### VA town halls in Morrow County

A pair of Veterans Administration HealthCare Town Hall meetings are planned in Morrow County.

Brian Westfield, the Walla Walla VA's medical director, will provide facility updates along with information on the Veterans Choice Program. Linda Skendzel, Morrow County's veteran service officer, also will be in attendance for those who may need assistance.

The gatherings are Tuesday, March 7 from 10-11 a.m. at the Irrigation branch of the Oregon Trail Library District, 500 N.W. Main St.; and from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Port of Morrow, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman. Veterans may also share their thoughts and concerns

during the meetings.

For more information, contact Skendzel at 541-922-6420 or mcvets@co.morrow.or.us.

### EOU hosts student writing seminar

A conference for young writers brings students, teachers and parents together to participate in workshops.

The session provides an opportunity for students to build on their enthusiasm for creative writing, working alongside students and teachers for whom writing is a passion. For more information or to register, contact Nancy Knowles at 541-962-3795, nknowles@eou.edu or visit [www.eou.edu/engwrite/student-writers-workshop](http://www.eou.edu/engwrite/student-writers-workshop).

## COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

**AARP DRIVER'S SAFETY CLASS,** 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Blue Mountain Community College, 300 N.E. Front St., Boardman. Learn valuable defensive driving skills and get a refresher on the rules of the road. Geared toward ages 55+ but all licensed drivers are welcome. Cost is \$15 for AARP members (bring card to class) or \$20 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Lunch is on your own. (Anne Morter 541-481-2099 or 541-422-7040)

**BABY BOOGIE & TAPPIN' TODDLERS,** 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

**AGRICULTURE AND ENERGY JOB FAIR,** 11 a.m.-3 p.m., SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Learn about local career opportunities, meet with employers who are actively hiring and identify education and training for high-demand positions. Bring a resume. Free admission. (541-481-7243)

**STORY TIME,** 11:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

**STANFIELD SENIOR MEAL SERVICE,** 12 p.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for others. (541-449-1332)

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE OF EUCHARIST AND IMPOSITION**

**OF ASHES,** 7 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 665 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Beginning of the observation of Lent. Everyone welcome. (Chuck Barnes 541-567-6674)

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

**BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE,** 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

**HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE,** 12 p.m., Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to Senior Center by donation. (541-567-3582)

**SENSORY STORY TIME,** 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman. For children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)

**THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO,** 6-10 p.m., The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., seats may be held until 6:30 p.m., then all seats first come, first served; games begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit Umatilla County citizens with developmental disabilities. 18 years or older, must have proof of age and photo I.D. Basic pot \$20, prizes range from \$20-\$750. (541-567-7615)

**FIDDLERS NIGHT,** 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookedale Assisted Living, 980 W.

Highland Ave., Hermiston. Enjoy light refreshments, listen to some favorite oldies or join in the jam session. All ages welcome. (541-567-3141)

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

**HEALTHY FRIDAYS,** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Good Shepherd Medical Center conference room 7, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Free health screenings including cholesterol, blood sugar, BMI, blood pressure checks, weigh-ins and health information. For cholesterol and glucose tests, fast 10-12 hours prior to blood draw. Open to all community members. (541-667-3509)

**STORY TIME,** 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

**STORY AND CRAFT TIME,** 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 S. Bonanza, Echo. (541-376-8411)

**ROLLIN SCHIMMEL MEMORIAL WRESTLING FOUNDATION SILENT AUCTION AND DINNER,** 5-9 p.m., Hodgen Distributing event room, 4150 Westgate, Pendleton. Event includes silent auction, which closes at 7 p.m., dinner, door prizes and raffle and drawing for a Bergara B-14 Hunter (\$10 tickets). Free admission, 21 and older only. (Jeff Brown or Kyle Willman 541-215-0341 or 541-377-8600)

**VFW BINGO,** 6 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St., Hermiston. Doors

open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. (541-567-6219)

**"FIDDLER ON THE ROOF"**, 7 p.m., Hermiston High School, 600 S. First St., Hermiston. Drama and music students present the Tony Award-winning musical. General admission is \$10 and students/senior citizens are \$6. Ticket prices have increased due to increased financial support needed for the drama program. (Dana Mercer 541-667-6110)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST,** 7-10 a.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Costs \$5 for full breakfast/\$3 for light meal. (541-449-1332)

**SATURDAY CRAFT TIME,** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Free craft projects for children in 5th grade and younger. (541-567-2882)

**ORIGAMI CLUB FOR ADULTS,** 1-4 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Classic Japanese paper craft for adults only. (Jodi Hansen 541-567-2882)

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SUNDAY, MARCH 5

**HYMNINSPIRATION,** 5-6 p.m., Victory Baptist Church, 103 E. Main St., Hermiston. Enjoy an evening of singing the old hymns wit new and old friends, fun and fellowship. Everyone welcome. (Chris Finley 541-571-2516)

MONDAY, MARCH 6

**AGRICULTURE SAFETY SEMINAR (IN ENGLISH),** 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. SAIF-sponsored seminar will present information on effective safety training, and safety with pesticides, in the farm shop and with welding. Provides continuing education credits for the Oregon State Landscaping Contractors Board and Department of Consumer and Business Services, plus meets instructional requirements for small agricultural operations to be exempt from random OSHA inspections. Lunch is included. Free, but seating is limited and registration is required online at [www.saif.com/agseminar](http://www.saif.com/agseminar) or by calling 800-285-8525. (Lauren Casler 800-285-8525)

**PRO-LIFE CULTURE PRESENTATION (IN ENGLISH, FOR YOUTH),** 7-9 p.m., Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall, 565 W. Hermiston Ave.,

Hermiston. Margot Loza will present information about pro-life culture with Latino families. Free and everyone welcome.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

**AGRICULTURE SAFETY SEMINAR (IN SPANISH),** 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. SAIF-sponsored seminar will present information on effective safety training, and safety with pesticides, in the farm shop and with welding. Provides continuing education credits for the Oregon State Landscaping Contractors Board and Department of Consumer and Business Services, plus meets instructional requirements for small agricultural operations to be exempt from random OSHA inspections. Lunch is included. Free, but seating is limited and registration is required online at [www.saif.com/agseminar](http://www.saif.com/agseminar) or by calling 800-285-8525. (Lauren Casler 800-285-8525)

**VA TOWN HALL,** 10-11 a.m., Irrigon Public Library, 500 N.W. Main St., Irrigon. WW VA Medical Center director Brian Westfield will discuss facility updates and updates for the Veterans Choice Program. Veterans, family members and other beneficiaries, congressional stakeholders, veterans services organizations and other community partners are encouraged to attend and provide feedback. (Linda Skendzel 541-922-6420)