

HERMISTON HISTORY

Heat wave hits early in 1967

25 YEARS AGO
JUNE 23, 1992

In a little more than two months, residents of Highland Avenue will be relieved of the pounding, clanging and roaring noises from the construction work at the Hermiston High School addition.

Since July of 1991, McAlvain Construction of Boise has been working to add a 60,000-square-foot addition to the old high school building. In total 12 new classrooms, a cafeteria/auditorium and a new gymnasium — almost three times the size of the old gym — will be added to the building.

“The building portion is supposed to be completed in mid-July,” said Assistant Superintendent Earl Torris. “We anticipate beginning to check off items in the classroom portion this week.”

The 12 new classrooms will be the first part of the addition to be finished. Six science lab rooms, a drama room, marketing room and four general purpose classrooms form the new 500 hallway on the north side of the property.

Police are searching for two suspects in connection with a robbery of the 7-Eleven store at the corner of Highway 395 and Highland Ave.

Police Chief Grant Asher said a black male in his early 20s entered the store around 2 a.m. carrying a shotgun. He demanded all the money in the store, and while the clerk emptied the cash register till, he grabbed a couple bottles of wine. The store keeps less than \$100 in its register after dark.

“As the subject exited the store, whether by accident or on purpose, a shot was fired in the direction of Taco Time,” Asher said. “He fled southeast and got into a car heading east.”

The second suspect, who was described as a white male, also in his early 20s, remained in the car.

No one was injured and no damage was reported to the store’s property.

50 YEARS AGO

JUNE 22, 1967

Wednesday, June 21, the first day of summer, brought a relief to Hermiston area residents from the pre-summer heat of the previous week.

Wind and rain, accompanied by some thunder and lightning, heralded the change in the weather Tuesday night. Cloudy skies with some rain prevailed Wednesday.

The hottest day of the year so far, recorded at the Hermiston Experiment Station, was Monday, when the thermometer rose to 100 degrees. Highs had been in the 90s since Wednesday of last week.

An overload on a Umatilla Electric Cooperative sub-station Tuesday afternoon halted sprinkling at the Dunn and McLannahan potato growing operation between Irrigon and

Umatilla and also affected Pendleton Grain Growers, Marlette Homes, Inc., and other electricity users in the area.

The overload was caused by increased electric power usage due to greater irrigation and pumping of water as a result of the hot weather, the UEC spokesman said.

Hermiston City Council in a brief regular session Wednesday evening June 14, went on record as not opposed to mobile home parks within the city, and in fact favoring “adequate and modern mobile home parks within the community.”

The council passed Ordinance 428 on July 12, 1961, which prevents the location of trailers and mobile homes on residence lots, and established regulations on operation of mobile home parks within the city of Hermiston.

75 YEARS AGO

JUNE 25, 1942

Every resident of west Umatilla county is urged to see the air raid films which are to be shown.

The civilian defense committees in this area point out that recent developments in the war of the Pacific have brought radio blackouts for several nights in succession, and it is well known that air raids by enemy planes are emergencies which may have to be reckoned with in this area owing to its proximity to military objectives.

These films, which are primarily for the instruction of air raid wardens and other squads upon which will fall the major duties in the event of raids, are also for the instruction of civilians whose homes may be involved in air attacks.

The second major real estate deal in recent months was completed this week when Mr. and Mrs. M.V. Hart purchased the interest of Mrs. Anne Durfey in the Hermiston Hotel. The sum is understood to have been well over \$13,000. Mr. and Mrs. Hart will make several major alterations soon, including new bathrooms, a new dining hall and banquet room.

100 YEARS AGO

JUNE 23, 1917

At the council meeting Wednesday evening, H.E. Hitt was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Wm. Kennedy. The unexpired term is for a year and a half.

Another matter that came up was an ordinance on irrigation water in the streets constructing flumes and ditches. The ordinance, which passed its first reading, makes it a misdemeanor to allow water to run into any street and provides a fine of \$5 to \$50 therefor. Before constructing any ditch, flume, siphon or culvert across or upon any street a permit must be obtained and the work must be according to specifications furnished by the recorder.

THREE MINUTES WITH ...

DAVE SMITH

Owner, O So Kleen Cleaning & Restoration

When and why did you move to Hermiston?

I was raised in Hermiston, attending K-12 in the Hermiston School District. We came back home in 2004 to be with my father as he was having health issues. Then in 2008 I had the opportunity to purchase O So Kleen Cleaning & Restoration.

What is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?

Ixtapa and Kobe Hibachi Sushi are a couple favorites. The food is very good at both places but what makes them special are the relationships with the owners, managers, waiters and the excellent customer service!

What is your favorite activity in your spare time?

This has changed as I get older ... although I'm not a good golfer, I enjoy the challenge of the game, the friendships and playing beautiful golf courses. I also enjoy playing volleyball in the winter and tennis whenever I can find a local player with similar skills.



What surprises you about Hermiston?

I suppose with the most surprising thing would be that we are the largest town in Eastern Oregon! Who would have thought?!

What was the last book you read and would you recommend it?

I've recently been reading "Harvey Penick's Little Red Book" which is a great book about the legendary golf coach and teacher. It is full of stories about his life teaching and coaching golf to famous professionals and is loaded with ideas to improve your own golf game. I highly recommend it!

What app or website do you use most other than Facebook?

I don't play many games on my phone except 4 Pics 1 Word and I use apps that can control my automatic sprinklers, my truck, video surveillance and my thermostat.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

My first response would be any place with my wife Dorothy is where I want to go.

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

Probably one of the most special and precious times in a parent's life is their baby's dedication at church. As parents we want everything to be absolutely perfect during the ceremony. Well, during our middle son's ceremony I was holding him as the pastor was speaking and the congregation is intently watching, when suddenly he has a major spit up from his morning breakfast. I know that is a normal function of a baby and only a little embarrassing, but in this case the large amount of baby spit up landed directly below me on his older brother's head! After it was all over we were able to laugh and enjoy a humorous memory.

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

Every year I select a "word of the year" instead of a new year's resolution. This year my word was BIG! I've always been taught and advocated goals must be specific and measurable, but this year I'm doing it differently. My decision is two-fold. "Enjoy the little things in life for one day you'll look back and realize they were the BIG things" — Kurt Vonnegut, and "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord; As the Heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts" — Isaiah 55: 8-9.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

The normal cliché is being married to Dorothy who is my best friend and of course being the father to Taylor, Levi and Rylie my three amazing boys ... and it is the absolute truth! There are no material possessions or earthly accomplishments that even compare to being a part of a loving family.



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