

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



KIRSTEN WRIGHT

Counselor, Stanfield Secondary School

When and why did you move to Hermiston?
I moved to Hermiston in August of 2009, to take the job as the counselor at Stanfield Secondary School.

What is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?
Both sushi restaurants, Ixtapa, and Taste of Thai.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Outdoor activities (hiking, snowshoeing, kayaking, etc.), reading, writing, traveling, and spending time with my husband and two dogs.

What surprises you about Hermiston?
When I first moved here, I was pleasantly surprised and excited to see how friendly and welcoming everyone is, and to find that there are several people who are "transplants" to Hermiston like me. I didn't expect it to quickly become my favorite place I've ever lived! The people make Hermiston a wonderful place to call home.

What was the last book you read?
"Inside the O'Briens" by Lisa Genova.

What app or website do you use most besides Facebook or Google?
Instagram.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?
There are so many places, but Italy is at the top of my list as far as international travel.

What is the funniest thing that's happened to you?
I have a knack for little embarrassing moments that become funny stories later. One recently: one morning last year, my old Hyundai wouldn't start and it was parked at the top of our steep driveway. My husband and I needed to push it down the street to be able to jump it. Unfortunately, our plans failed and the car ended up going down the hill faster than we thought, and we were unable to keep up with it. I ended up chasing after it in high heels to no avail, and it backed right into the bumper of my neighbor's car and tore my driver's door off its hinges. It was not funny at the time, but is now a laughable story. I wish we had video footage!

What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?
To write a little bit every day and finish a book I am working on.

What is your proudest accomplishment?
Completing a Master's in School Counseling and being hired right away as the school counselor here at Stanfield, which led me here to Hermiston and to meeting my wonderful husband and so many wonderful people.

HERMISTON HISTORY



HH FILE PHOTO.

Hermiston business owner John Dyer covers up gang graffiti on the side of his business, Columbia Upholstery, in Jan. 1993.

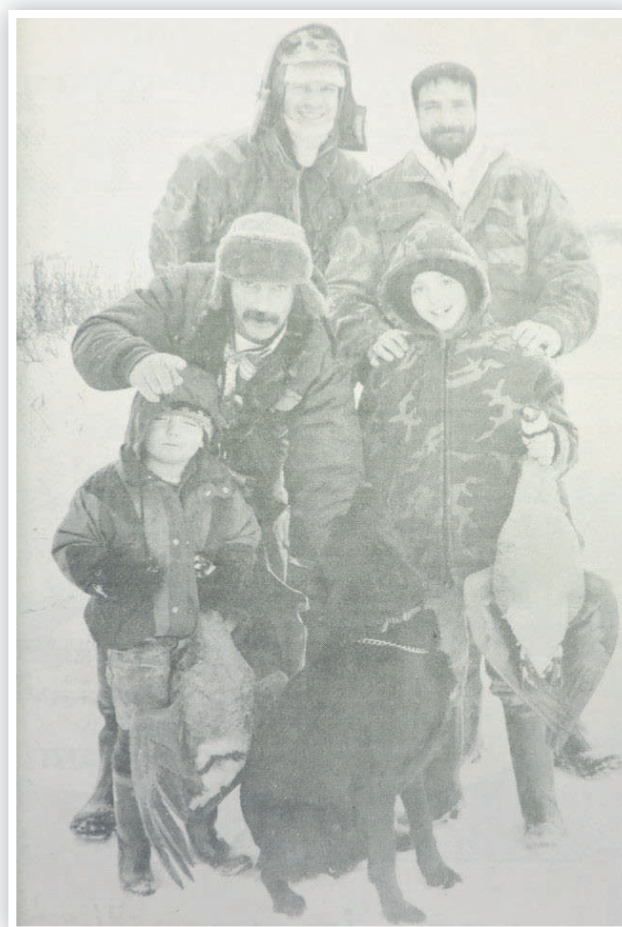
25 YEARS AGO JAN. 26, 1993

Local business owner John Dyer is putting gang members on notice — mess with his property again and face the dangerous end of his shotgun. "If I see anybody messing around with my place, I have a loaded gun and I will shoot to kill," said Dyer, owner of Columbia Upholstery. For the umpteenth time in the past four months, Dyer has opened up his business or returned to his home to find busted windows, vandalized Pepsi machines, graffiti on his walls or articles taken from his property. Police Chief Grant Asher said he can understand that Dyer is frustrated, but he would prefer he did not shoot anyone.

By any set of standards, Hermiston is a great place to live. However, actually finding a place to live in the area is another story. According to several major property management companies in Hermiston, the availability of rental apartments and houses is next to non-existent. According to Donna Tassie, property manager for Schroth Realty, prospects for construction of additional apartments in the area is minimal, noting that a new two-bedroom apartment would have to rent for upwards of \$700 to amortize the debt. Presently, the average one-bedroom apartment is running close to \$250 a month with two-bedrooms going for \$350-\$450.

50 YEARS AGO JAN. 25, 1968

Hermiston's planning commission recommended to the city council this week that the Umatilla County fairgrounds be the site for development of a civic center in the city. D.W. Bliss, chairman, said the suggestion does not call for ousting of the fair from its Orchard Avenue site. In its report to the city on the issue the commission stated that based on information from survey interviews, reports and personal knowledge



HH FILE PHOTO.

Clockwise from top left Frank Garwood, Harry Lederer, Jesse Lederer, 8, Joey Lederer, 4, Joe Lederer and their black lab buddy smile during a hunting trip in this Jan. 1993 photo.

of existing conditions regarding overcrowding and inadequate facilities for government offices, the library and museum offices, it was determined there is a definite need in Hermiston for a new city hall, museum, library and civic auditorium.

Hermiston-area farmers were reminded today that the minimum wage for hired farm workers goes up from \$1.00 to \$1.15 an hour on Feb. 1. Small farms are exempt. Also exempt are members of the employer's immediate family.

75 YEARS AGO JAN. 28, 1943

The Central Church of Christ will rejoice next Sunday at appropriate services when all encumbrances will have been met on the church property. Fire will be applied to that document called a mortgage and the entire congregation and friends will watch it go up in smoke.

The church has a comparatively short history and has been one of gradual spiritual and material growth. It was first organized in 1928 as the Baptist-Christian Church, with A.J. Ware serving as pastor for two years. The church was first organized with an approximate membership of 50 but now has an enrollment of 240.

The Hermiston Bulldogs gained revenge for an early season defeat by edging the Boardman Yellowjackets 24 to 20 last Thursday in the Hermiston gym. The game was very close all the way through with both squads playing a tight defense. Hermiston jumped into an early lead when Blackie Davis dropped in his usual basket from right under. The second period was tight all of the way and although the Bulldogs were ahead all of the way they did not have a safe lead at any time. The only thing that gave the Bulldogs the game was the

tight defense with which they held the Boardman boys scoreless through the final quarter.

100 YEARS AGO JAN. 26, 1918

By proclamation of the President of the United States, all German aliens are hereby notified that all native citizens, denizens or subjects of the German Empire or Imperial German Government, being males of the age of fourteen years and upwards on registration day, who are within the United States and not actually naturalized as American citizens, are required to register as alien enemies. All German aliens residing or being within the city of Hermiston or vicinity are required to present themselves for registration at the post office in this city to the postmaster, who has been designated as assistant registrar. Persons required to register should understand that in so doing they are giving proof of their peaceful dispositions and intentions to conform to the laws of the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hiatt, who with their families moved from this city to Portland, were through sheer absentmindedness on their part the means of furnishing residents who were in on the joke a good laugh just at the time of their departure last Monday. Being in an awful hurry to catch the No. 17 at Hinkle they chartered C.B. Percy and his truck to haul them and their effects to the station. In the hustle and bustle the rest of the part evidently forgot to count heads to see if all were on the truck, for upon arrival it was discovered by the ladies and gentlemen that two of the children had been left behind through their forgetfulness. Being advised that the train was a little behind time, Mr. Percy flew back to Hermiston and picked up the two crying little tots and reached the station again before the arrival of the train.

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