

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



AUDRA ARIAS

Housekeeper for Oxford Suites

When and why did you move to Hermiston?
I was actually born in California, but my mom decided to move here to Hermiston when I was only two, so I have pretty much lived here in Hermiston all my life.

What is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?
McDonald's ha ha

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Spend time with my nieces and nephews. They are my world and mean everything to me. One of our favorite things to do is go to the bowling alley and play in the arcade. When I am not spending time with my nieces and nephews I love to relax, get munchies and watch TV.

What surprises you about Hermiston?
I am surprised with how big Hermiston is getting. This town use to be like that TV show Cheers where everybody know everybody, but now you go into Walmart and there so many unfamiliar faces.

What was the last book you read?
The Diary of Anne Frank. It such a great book.

What app or website do you use most often other than Facebook or Google?
Snapshot or Instagram

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?
I really want to go on a Disney cruise in Florida. It has been a dream of mine for a long time.

What is the funniest thing that's happened to you?
A lot of things, but the one that comes to mind is when I was at work the song "I Want to be a Billionaire" came on over the radio so I started cleaning and singing really loud and even danced a little ... well I did not notice that the person whose room I was cleaning was right behind me. When I turn around and notice him he had this big smile on his face and said, "Don't we all". I was so embarrassed still am to this day, and I also still wish that I could be a billionaire ha ha

What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?
Right now, I am not very healthy so my biggest goal is to get myself on the right track, starting with my eating habits and get better so I am not sick all the time.

What is your proudest accomplishment?
Being an aunt. I love knowing that I am a role model to my nieces and nephews.

HERMISTON HISTORY



HH FILE PHOTO

Joy Brady and Judy Baumgart, both students at Umatilla High School, give Darrell Power, of Hermiston, a sample of the candy they were selling at a market. The sample was enough to close a sale, as Power bought a package of candy. Operation GI, a program designed to let servicemen from the area know residents care about them, received a boost from youths in Umatilla.

25 YEARS AGO

MARCH 16, 1993

More than 100 skydivers flocked to the Hermiston airport for an event billed as the First Annual Access Boogie, organized by Mitch Myers.

Myers, a skydiver himself and the owner of M&M Airports, said the two-day event was a thank you to the city of Hermiston for allowing skydiving at the airport, which he described as a long struggle.

"We have more than 100 jumpers coming in from as far away as Boise and Montana to take part in this, and most of them are bringing their families." He went on to say the exhibition would be a boost to the local economy.

The dive began Saturday morning with the plan to keep at least one set of divers in the air at all times, and was open only to those with experience. The general public was invited to tag along for an observer ride or make tandem jumps.

Among the aircraft taking them up was a Turbine Porter, a favorite of skydivers with a vertical climb of 2,300 feet per minute fully loaded that could carry 10 people at a time and be used for formation jumps that combined as many as 25 at a time.

Some of the divers were members of a team from Kennewick that had recently set a world record. Myers said Hermiston was an ideal place for skydivers because of limited air traffic and rural surroundings.

50 YEARS AGO

MARCH 14, 1968

The Uma-West Arts and Crafts Club was reactivated to increase the cultural standing of the greater Hermiston area.

Hermiston Mayor Walter Pearson and "numerous" other city and county officials supported the decision, saying the club could serve "a very worthwhile purpose."

Mrs. Dick Hodge, treasurer, and Mrs. Henry Frischmuth, secretary, were the only two active officers of the club and were putting plans in motion to reorganize it. They encouraged anyone to apply to join the club, no matter how good they were at crafts, and offered that the club would provide fundamentals and a greater appreciation for art — or at least an enjoyable hobby.



HERALD FILE PHOTO

Local skydiver Mitch Myers comes in for a landing during a 1992 jump. Myers and other skydivers participated in the First Annual Access Boogie at the Hermiston Municipal Airport in 1993.

75 YEARS AGO

MARCH 18, 1943

Members of the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce voted on a recommendation to the city council to take immediate action on a dog menace in the community. Harry Kelley reported he lost 100 breeding hens to attacks by stray dogs, costing him about \$6.50 apiece plus 35 to 38 eggs each that could sell for 25 cents apiece (which totals \$1,500, conservatively). He suggested immediately licensing dogs as a means of identifying owners when the animals were found trespassing or shot while killing turkeys, chickens or sheep.

After the dog talk, Chamber of Commerce president Art Thrasher called for a report on questionnaire cards mailed to members, who by and large wanted to move the meetings to twice a month in the evening, and for the board to discuss official business during the meetings. Considerable discussion followed, and the club voted to try an evening meeting in the coming weeks.

Members of the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce voted on a recommendation to the city council to take immediate action on a dog menace in the community.

100 YEARS AGO

MARCH 16, 1918

Col. J.F. McNaught, a pioneer of the Hermiston valley and one of the best known ranchers on the project, met with a very bad accident at his home.

It happened as he was stepping from the bathtub after going through his usual ablution, his foot slipping from under him as he stepped to the floor, thereby causing him to fall backward. Throwing out his right hand to break the fall he missed catching hold of the bathtub and fell with the arm underneath in such a manner that it broke it square off above the elbow. After having it set, McNaught and his son, C.S., went to Pendleton for an X-ray application, which showed the bones had been perfectly joined.

Though he suffered much pain at the time, he was getting along as well as could be expected at last report.

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