

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



KATIE SAUL

Director of Business Services
Hermiston School District

When and why did you move to Hermiston?

I was born and raised here in Hermiston, so I guess you could say I didn't really have a choice in the beginning, but it was our choice to come back to Hermiston after college at Eastern Oregon University. It just felt like home to come back to.

What is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?

Our go-to will always be La Palma for Mexican food. Who can resist chips and salsa?

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I have a 19-month-old son. It seems like everything we do now revolves around him and what he's got going on. I have a small herd of cattle that my husband and I raise, so we're either chasing cows or our son.

What surprises you about Hermiston?

What surprises me the most is when new people come to town and talk about how inviting it is and what a great community there is here. Being born and raised here, you just expect that wherever you go. Listening to other people describe what it's like being in other places and coming to Hermiston, you realize that's not always true.

What was the last book you read?

Well, last night it was "Charlie the Ranch Dog". But for work, most recently we've read "The Seven Principles of Transformational Leadership" [by Hugh Blane].

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

I really spend a lot of time on the East Oregonian website, watching as articles pop up. I love to read the records section and see what new babies are born, and what's happening in our community.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

I loved Hawaii when my husband and I went there. I would love to go back to Maui, it was so much fun. But I would also love to explore New Zealand.

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

I am super easily embarrassed, so I try to block out all of the funny stuff that happens. But anyone who knows me, I'm sure, has a story about something that is funny or embarrassing about me.

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

Really getting out information on the great work that the business office and the district is doing in handling taxpayer money, and what we're doing to manage our assets. I think there are a lot of misconceptions about government in general, and we want to work to dispel that. We have a great staff in our office and throughout the entire district. It's my goal over the next year or so to really share that with the community.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

Well, of course, my son is my pride and joy. But professionally, just walking through the door every day knowing I'm the director of business services for the largest school district in Eastern Oregon. It's not a task that I take lightly. I know that there's a lot of weight and responsibility on this position, and I really strive to make sure that in every task that I'm doing, our community will look and know that they've entrusted it to the right person.

HERMISTON HISTORY



HH file photos
TOP: Terry McCann hefts a bat house built by Vector Control employees and given out to Hermiston residents in 1994 who wanted to entice mosquito-eating bats to their property.



BOTTOM: Butch Knowles, left, and David Bothum display a limited edition commemorative print on sale in 1994.

25 YEARS AGO
AUG. 2, 1994

Umatilla County Circuit Court Judge Robert Abrams sentenced Damon Lee Petrie to 35 years and two months for nine felony counts connected to the February assault on Stanfield Police Officer Butch Parrish.

"He'll be an old man when he gets out," Deputy District Attorney Robert Hill said.

However, the sentencing will likely go before an Oregon Appeals Court judge.

Petrie was convicted in June of attempted aggravated murder, assault I, escape I, burglary I, being an ex-con in possession of a firearm, two counts of theft I and two counts of auto theft.

2) A 17-year-old Irrigon youth is being held on five counts of attempted murder after a drive-by shooting near Northwest Sixth Street and Madrona Avenue in Hermiston on Sunday night. There were no injuries.

"We're getting word from several parties that it's a gang rivalry," said Hermiston Police Sgt. Jerry Roberts.

Police said a suspect drove a car that was being followed by a blue Oldsmobile. The passenger in the front car fired at least six rounds from a 9-millimeter semi-automatic pistol at the following car.

50 YEARS AGO
JULY 31, 1969

A haystack fire Friday at the Stone Hereford Ranch in the Butter Creek area burned approximately 500 tons of hay.

The Hermiston fire department

responded to the 10:30 a.m. alarm with three trucks, and a mutual aid call brought out one truck from Stanfield and another truck from Echo.

2) Tom Harper, city manager, assured the Hermiston city council Monday night that the Umatilla County Court plans to widen the Experiment Station road, leading south from South First Place, south of Highland Avenue.

Harper's statement followed a comment by Councilman Stephen Trukositz regarding residents of his ward who expressed the need for a wider road.

75 YEARS AGO
AUG. 3, 1944

Three boys were banned by Chief of Police B.J. Nation this week for entering the garage of the Umatilla Electric Cooperative Sunday and destroying five bottles of Prestone and otherwise doing damage.

The boys had placed large nails so that when the truck moved they would enter the tires of the vehicle. Luckily this prank was discovered before the damage was done.

Only one of the youths was from Hermiston, with the other two visitors here.

2) Announcement is being made this week of the sale of the Hermiston Auto Co. by Mr. and Mrs. Merton Ransom of Milton. The details of the sale had been completed some days ago but formal announcement was help up until the changeover had received approval by officials of the Chevrolet concern in Portland, Oakland and Flint, Mich. The deal was

effective this week. Simultaneous with the above news, is the announcement that the Hodges have purchased the Chevrolet agency in Heppner and are moving there this week to assume management.

100 YEARS AGO
AUG. 2, 1919

W.E. Kennedy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kennedy, returned home from Tacoma last Sunday, where he has been working the past year and a half in the shipyards. He was one of the first Hermiston boys that tried for enlistment in the Navy when America entered the world war.

He was turned down, however, in the final examination in Portland for being somewhat flat-footed. Nothing daunted, he went and purchased arch supporters, and when he thought he had completely eradicated the flat-foot aspect he made a try for the aviation branch of the service.

Jauntily walking up the hall to the room in which was the officer in charge he airily hailed the gentleman with "I want to enlist in the aviation corps."

Imagine his surprise and chagrin when that worthy quickly responded: "Nothing doing: I could tell you had flat feet the minute I heard you walking through the hall."

That settled it for the young man as far as enlistment was concerned, but being determined to work for Uncle Sam in some capacity in the hour of the nation's struggle for world freedom, he hied to Tacoma and enlisted his services in the building of ships that played such an important part in bringing the war to a successful end.

BTW

BTW

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area will remain open, with parking on side streets and behind the buildings.

While most communities celebrate **National Night Out** on Tuesday, Aug. 6, the cities of **Echo** and **Stanfield** will host their festivities **Tuesday, Aug. 13**. Both communities will recognize a special citizen, including the **Echo Good Neighbor Award** and **Stanfield Neighbor of the Year**.

Nomination forms, which are available at the respective city halls, must be submitted by **Aug. 10**.

See the Aug. 7 **Hermiston Herald** for a full story about National Night Out activities in Echo and Stanfield.

Youths ages 10-15 can learn general childcare techniques during **Babysitting Basics 101**.

Presented by **Good Shepherd Health Care System**, the one-day session is Wednesday, Aug. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at **Good Shepherd Medical Center**, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. The cost is \$40 and includes all class materials and lunch.

Topics include children's developmental stages, basic first aid and

infant/child CPR. Another class will be offered Saturday, Nov. 2.

Those who plan to attend need to register and pay in advance. For more information or to register, call 541-667-3509 or visit www.eventbrite.com.

The **Hermiston Herald** is spotlighting a different school or component of the **Hermiston School District** each month during 2019. July was the school district itself, with information about the district's bond campaign, improvement projects and Three Minutes interviews with district staff. Look for information about **Armand Larive**

Middle School throughout our August editions.

The menu at the **Harkerider Senior Activity Center** on Thursday will be beef noodles, vegetables, fruit and dessert. Friday will be bologna sandwich, salad and dessert. Monday is salad bar, dinner and dessert. Tuesday is cube steak, potatoes and gravy, corn, salad and dessert. Next Wednesday will be tuna or grilled cheese sandwich, salad and dessert.

—You can submit items for our weekly *The Way* column by emailing your tips to editor@hermistonherald.com.

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CORRECTION

The Umatilla County Fair guide published in last week's Hermiston Herald misstated the day of the parade. It is Saturday, Aug. 3. The Hermiston Herald regrets the error. It is the policy of the Hermiston Herald to correct errors as soon as they are discovered. Please contact the editor at editor@hermistonherald.com or call (541) 564-4533 with issues about this policy or to report errors.

SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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