

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



LOUISE ABLES

Volunteer at Harkenrider Senior Activity Center

When and why did you move to Hermiston?
I had a job here, at Payless Shoes. I've lived here since 1990. I'm from Pilot Rock; I didn't get that far.

What is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?

I like to go to Chen's and Denny's, but I don't go out too often.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I read a lot, I garden. I also sew and teach Sunday School at Landmark Missionary Baptist Church.

What surprises you about Hermiston?
How fast it's growing.

What was the last book you read?
"The Victims," I can't remember the author. It was about an internet homicide and the court case that followed.

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

I do have a Facebook, but I don't do much on it.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

I would probably go to Alaska again. I took a cruise there and it was short, but it was fun.

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

I can't think of anything.

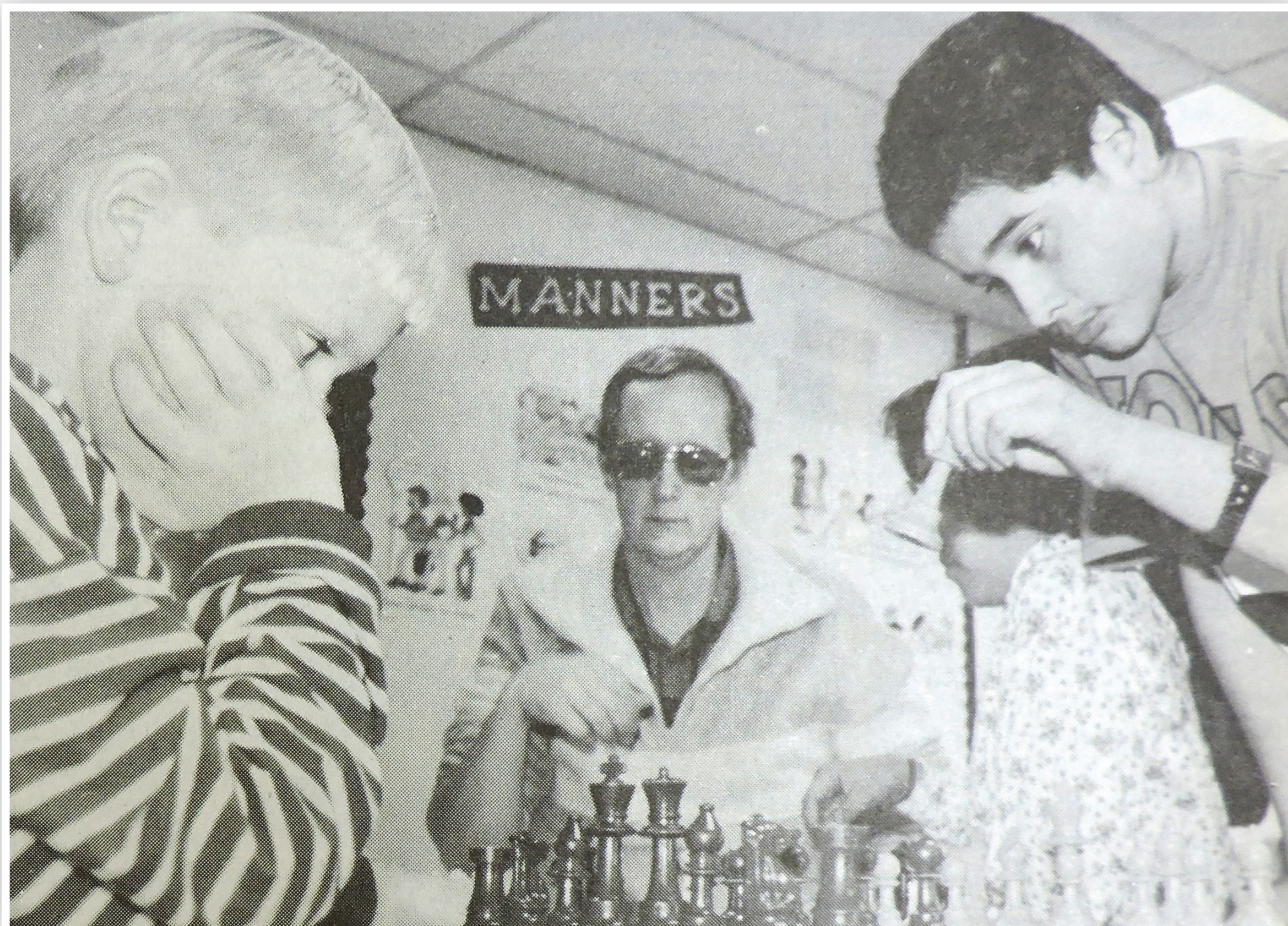
What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?

I want to finish a quilt I've started, it has to be together by September when my daughter visits from Arkansas. I don't want to ship it out there!

What is your proudest accomplishment?

Probably my children. They're all educated and self-sufficient. That's the goal!

HERMISTON HISTORY



HH file photo

Scott Logan, left, and Humberto Ortego, right, prepare for a state chess competition while advisor Gary Miller looks on in 1995 in Hermiston.

Man jumps from truck to escape train

25 YEARS AGO
Feb. 28, 1995

By passing a package to lure the company to Hermiston, the Hermiston city council went public with what may have been the worst-kept secret since nerve agent came to the Umatilla Depot Activity: a Wal-Mart distribution center may likely be coming to town.

Though the company swore city officials and business leaders to secrecy over the deal for the past three years, the name surprised few when it was finally spoken last night.

All that is left is for Wal-Mart officials to sign on the dotted line. The city expects official word by Monday.

Hermiston was one of seven sites in Oregon considered for the center. Other locations included Pendleton, Boardman, Madras, Cascade Locks, Medford, Grants Pass and Lincoln City.

The city's pitch includes a three-year property tax break, city utility improvements, exemption from city fees and a host of other provisions to sweeten the deal.

2) A Hermiston couple would like to give local kids a safer, more engaging place to play.

Jerry and Kathy Blankenship, dissatisfied with the state of Hermiston's playgrounds, have started an effort to site an elaborate wooden playground here.

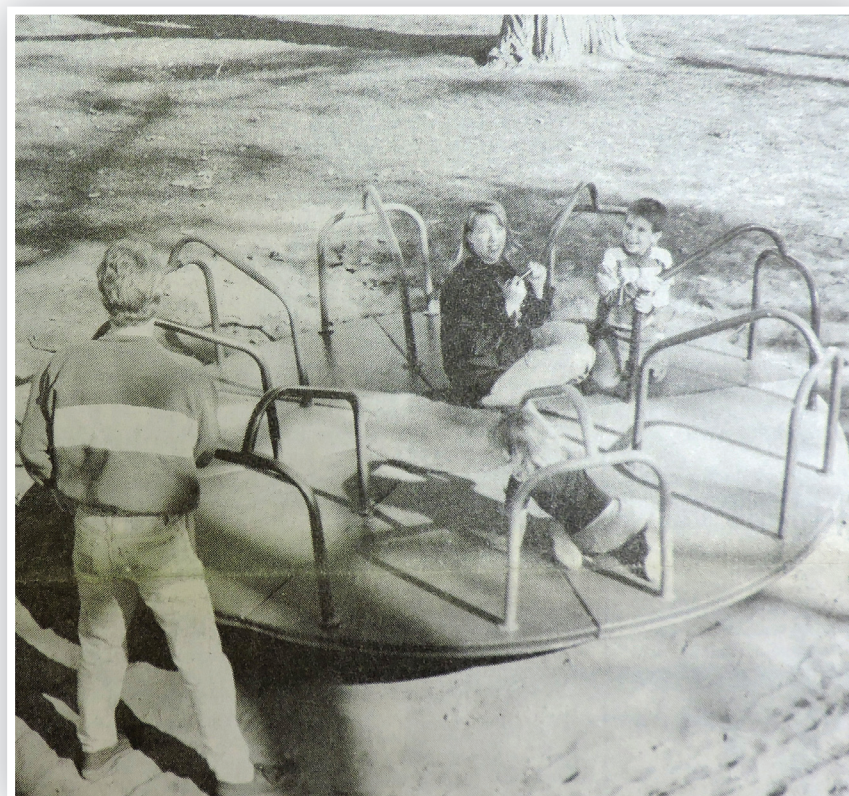
50 YEARS AGO
Feb. 26, 1970

Complete liquid fertilizer facilities are being installed at Pendleton Grain Growers' Feedville fertilizer and chemical center south of Hermiston.

This new installation totaling approximately 100,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer storage and handling facilities rounds out the service center at the Feedville site where a dry fertilizer bulk blending plant and chemical warehouse was completed in February 1968. This fertilizer and chemical complex is owned by Pacific Supply Cooperative of Portland and leased to PGG.

"Injection through a sprinkler system is a practical and efficient way of applying liquid fertilizers and some pesticides," according to Glen Wulff, manager of PGG' feed, seed and chemicals department at Hermiston.

Rapid growth of sprinkler irrigation, particularly the large circular systems, has created a need for these services, Wulff said.



HH file photo

A family enjoys a sunny winter day at the park in 1995.

75 YEARS AGO
March 1, 1945

Cpol. Ralph C. Neill writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Neill of Hermiston, from "somewhere in the Pacific area war zone" that he recently had a "slight tussle with a Jap mortar shell which left me with a bit of a hole in my left arm and also a broken arm. The arm is now in a cast and I feel none the worse except for the discomfort of the thing."

He has been evacuated to another island and states that he is receiving fine care. Further information is anxiously awaited to see how he progresses.

2) His many Hermiston friends were glad to learn this week that Major Chester Johnson, son of Mrs. Rose Johnson of Pendleton, has been a war prisoner of the Japanese since the fall of the Philippines. Nothing had been heard of his whereabouts for many months and it was feared that he had been killed.

The news of his fate was ascertained by the Red Cross.

Chester is well known in Hermiston where he attended school for several years. He was particularly noted for his literary talents, starting the first high school publication here. He later attended West Point, graduating with high honors.

100 YEARS AGO
Feb. 28, 1920

Last Saturday while in Echo finishing up an eight day hay hauling contract, O.O. Felthouse of Columbia District narrowly escaped with his life in an accident in which his truck was struck by a freight train on the main line of the O.W.R.N. in the above city and completely demolished.

Loading a car of hay on the siding, Mr. Felthouse started just after dinner to get another truck load. To do this it was necessary to cross the tracks. On the siding before approaching the main line he had to go through a line of boxcars that had been split in two sections on each side of the crossing. This, of course, obstructed his view of the main line from any direction, and not till he had passed through the freight car gap did he see a fast rushing freight going west bearing down on him.

Realizing he was trapped and that he would not have one chance in a thousand to stop before the train would be on him, his first thought was how he could save his life. He had to think fast, and knowing he had but a moment to decide, jumped just in the nick of time to escape fatal injury. The truck was struck by the pilot of the engine and carried about 300 yards, where it was ditched in an utterly demolished condition.

Hermiston Herald



Printed on recycled newsprint

VOLUME 114 • NUMBER 9

Chris Rush | Publisher • crush@eomediagroup.com • 541-278-2669

Jade McDowell | News Editor • jmcldowell@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4536

Jessica Pollard | Reporter • jpollard@eastoregonian.com, 541-564-4534

Tammy Malgesini | Community Editor • tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4539

Annie Fowler | Sports Editor • afowler@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4542

Jeanne Jewett | Multi-Media consultant • jjewett@hermistonherald.com • 541-564-4531

Audra Workman | Multi-Media consultant • aworkman@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4538

Dawn Hendricks | Circulation assistant • dhendricks@eastoregonian.com • 541-564-4530

To contact the Hermiston Herald for news, advertising or subscription information:

- call 541-567-6457
- e-mail info@hermistonherald.com
- stop by our offices at 333 E. Main St.
- visit us online at: hermistonherald.com

The Hermiston Herald (USPS 242220, ISSN 8750-4782) is published weekly at Hermiston Herald, 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838, (541) 567-6457.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Delivered by mail Wednesdays
Digital + e-Edition \$39/year
Full Access (print and digital) \$49/year

Periodical postage paid at Hermiston, OR.
Postmaster, send address changes to Hermiston Herald, 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838.

Member of EO Media Group Copyright ©2020

CORRECTIONS

It is the policy of the Hermiston Herald to correct errors as soon as they are discovered. Incorrect information will be corrected on Page 2A. Errors committed on the Opinion page will be corrected on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.

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

Letters Policy: Letters to the Editor is a forum for the Hermiston Herald readers to express themselves on local, state, national or world issues. Brevity is good, but longer letters should be kept to 250 words.

No personal attacks; challenge the opinion, not the person. The Hermiston Herald reserves the right to edit letters for length and for content.

Letters must be original and signed by the writer or writers. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Writers should include a telephone number so they can be reached for questions. Only the letter writer's name and city of residence will be published.

OBITUARY POLICY

The Hermiston Herald publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include small photos and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. Expanded death notices will be published at no charge. These include information about services. Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at hermistonherald.com/obituaryform, by email to obits@hermistonherald.com, by fax to 541-276-8314, placed via the funeral home or in person at the Hermiston Herald or East Oregonian offices. For more information, call 541-966-0818 or 1-800-522-0255, x221.

BTW

Continued from Page A1

been no reports of impacts to wildlife.

Hermiston brothers Seilala Jr. and Siu Sepeni recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, Scouting's highest honor.

According to a news release, the Boy Scouts of America's **Boy Scout Mountain Council** gave the award on Jan. 19 in Hermiston.

The scouts are the sons of **Falefitu and Pitoula Sepeni** of Hermiston

and both are members of Troop 605, chartered by the **Butte Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**. Their Scout leader is **Jeremy Harris**.

In order to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, the Scouts each had to earn 21 merit badges and show leadership by planning, developing, and completing a community service project. For their projects, the brothers each built an outdoor information bulletin board and placed them at Harrison Park and Sunset Park.

The projects were funded by the city of

Hermiston and took a combined 290 hours to complete.

Wheatstock Music Festival announced that the Texas-based **Randy Rogers Band** is headlining the Aug. 15 event. The 13th annual music festival will be held at Quantum 9 Arena in Helix.

The first 1,000 tickets, which go on sale **March 1**, are \$30 each. Tickets at the gate are \$40.

Admission is free for active military personnel and kids 12 and under.

Also, VIP packages (which includes a meet-and-greet with headlin-

ers and event swag) and shade cabana rentals are available.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.wheatstock.org or www.brownpapertickets.com.

The menu at the **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** for Thursday is roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn and birthday cake. Friday is a smorgasbord of cook's choice items.

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