

## THREE MINUTES WITH ...



## LINDA MILLER

Retired from RDO Equipment Co.

## When and why did you move to Hermiston?

We moved to Hermiston from Boise in 1950. My dad worked for the railroad.

## Where is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?

La Palma Mexican Restaurant. I like the chile relleno, and the fresh guacamole.

## What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to quilt, and donate time to help people.

## What surprises you about Hermiston?

How many people run red lights.

## What was the last book you read?

The Bible. I also like to read nonfiction.

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

I don't do much online. I keep up with family on Facebook, but not much else.

## If you could travel anywhere, where would it be?

Montana. I have traveled all over the Northwest and to the East Coast, but I have never been there.

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

To finish the John Deere quilt for my 5-year-old nephew Christopher, who lives in Maryland.

## What is your proudest accomplishment?

I helped organize the Vange John Memorial Hospice (in 1986). I was a patient coordinator, then the president for eight years. I really enjoyed my hospice work. And, I'm a 15-year breast cancer survivor.

## HERMISTON HISTORY



HH file photo

Spencer DeLong, 6, checks his painting skills on one of Belt Park's picnic tables, while classmates Kevin Ray and Dawson Doren work in the background. The kindergarteners were helping paint out graffiti at the park.

## Community leaders 'jailed' for a good cause

25 YEARS AGO

April 4, 1995

Forty-five business and community leaders were taken to jail Thursday and told to come up with \$500 bail.

The jailhouse looked a lot like Frasu's and the money went to fight muscular dystrophy.

The Muscular Dystrophy association "Lock Up" raised more than \$14,000, most of which will go to funding work toward a cure for muscle diseases.

"The difference between that and real jail is they gave you coffee and let you make as many phone calls as possible," said Bank of America branch manager Ken Nelson, who wore stripes for an hour.

Earlier that day, acting Hermiston Police Chief Jerry Roberts colared the suspects and transported them to "jail" — a 10-foot square cage equipped with cellular phones.

Calls were frantically made to anyone who might donate to bail the inmate out. About one-third of the jailbirds made bail. The others were, Nelson said, released on probation after about an hour following a severe browbeating.

50 YEARS AGO

April 2, 1970

Everyone should have their 1970 census forms by now and, according to the Census Bureau, have them completed.

Census questionnaires were distributed to households in the area by the Post Office a few days ago and are to be filled out and held for the census taker to pick up.

2) The need for an abundant foods distributing center in the west end of Umatilla County was expressed this week by the Hermiston Neighborhood Center.

The Center is currently serving as a depot for the abundant foods program, but has been informed by superiors in Washington, D.C. they will not be able to continue to distribute foods.

"We won't drop the abundant foods program immediately," said Mrs. Elmo Bloom, coordinator for the HNC, "but we can continue serving the people for a short while, not more than two months."

Approximately 758 families take advantage of this program in this end of the county.



HH file photo

John Bieber explains a rope course to students in an anti-gang program in Hermiston in 1995.

75 YEARS AGO

April 5, 1945

Corporal Hiram J. Stillings recently was designated as winner of a Silver Star by the U.S. Army. The citation states that the award was made for gallantry in action in December, 1944, at Holbach, France. During action on that front, Corp. Stillings, under constant enemy fire, succeeded in establishing communication lines to an observation post.

According to information received here, the citation reads, "Corporal Stillings' intrepidity, determination and unswerving devotion to duty, at great risk to his life, are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service."

2) F.C. McKenzie, chief clerk of the Hermiston War Price and Rationing board, reports that the tire situation is becoming quite acute here. He reports that the local quota for April is but 35 Grade 1 tires, or only half of the quota in March, which had already been cut severely from quotas of previous months. Because of this serious situation, tighter control of tire certificates will be necessary and motorists are urged to keep this in mind. A

"check your tire" campaign is being launched, asking cooperation of all motorists to see that tires are properly inflated and retreaded before it is too late, and otherwise helping keep tires in good repair.

100 YEARS AGO

April 3, 1920

Henry Allen, 17-year-old son of Mrs. Heath, was accidentally run over by an auto truck owned by W.O. Sutherland Friday afternoon of last week.

Mr. Sutherland was giving the boy a lift to his home two miles east, and had slowed down to let him off. After alighting he must have slipped, with the result that a hind wheel of the truck passed over him. After first aid had been given, Dr. Adams was called.

Examination showed a broken right thigh at the hip and a bone cracked in his left thigh lower down from the wheel having passed over him diagonally.

The patient is now receiving medical attention and good care in the local hospital, where he is getting along nicely. The injury was purely accidentally received, and no blame attaches to the driver of the truck.

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Please contact the editor at editor@hermistonherald.com or call (541) 564-4533 with issues about this policy or to report errors.

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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.

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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.

## Community garden stalled by COVID-19

By JADE MCDOWELL  
NEWS EDITOR

As the list of things Oregonians can still do while preventing the spread of COVID-19 shrinks, gardening could be a good way to safely spend time out of the house.

For now, gardeners in Hermiston will have to use their own yards instead of the Lovin' Spadefuls Community Garden, but they're hopeful that might change later in the season.

Chelle Hankinson, the garden's facilitator, said no one is allowed on the site because it is located on Good Shepherd Health Care System's hospital campus, and access to the campus is tightly restricted at the moment. There were also concerns about whether proper social distancing could be maintained if too many people were in the

garden area at once.

"Right now we're going with what the hospital is asking us to do," she said. "It's their site and their property, and we want to respect that."

The community garden's season usually starts May 1. Hankinson said activity might not be able to return to the garden quite that soon, but there are plenty of plants that would do well after being planted in June or July.

"The good thing about gardening is you can start any time," she said.

The garden's spring class had a record-breaking 28 participants before the last two classes were canceled. Hankinson said she sent home free seeds with participants, and has been dropping off other seeds to others who have decided to start a garden at home while they physically isolate at



HH file photo

A tomato hangs from a vine at the Lovin' Spadefuls Community Garden in Hermiston in 2019.

their residence.

Lovin' Spadefuls had to postpone some activities, such as a plan for FFA students to install drip lines, but Head Start recently donated a greenhouse that they will be able to install on site at some point.

For those who are looking to start a garden, master gardeners have been posting tips, articles and vid-

eos to the OSU (Oregon) Master Gardener Facebook page.

Because of a sudden surge in interest in learning how to garden, OSU is making its online Vegetable Gardening course available for free through the end of April at workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/master-gardener-series-vegetable-gardening.