

## THREE MINUTES WITH ...



## DANIEL WATTENBURGER

Pac/West Account Manager  
Eastern Oregon Mission Board Member

**When and why did you move to Hermiston?**  
*My family moved here in 1992 when I was 10 and I moved back in 2005 so my wife, Marci, could teach in the school district.*

**Where is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?**  
*Kobe and Trina's are in a virtual tie.*

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
*Family vacations if I can find a lot of spare time, watching a baseball game will do if I only have a few hours.*

**What surprises you about Hermiston?**  
*The culture of humility. This town has done amazing things, but rather than people demanding credit they pass on the praise and get back to work.*

**What was the last book you read?**  
*"Let's Go (So We Can Get Back)," the autobiography of Wilco frontman Jeff Tweedy. I'm a sucker for a rock bio.*

**What website or app do you use most other than Facebook?**  
*Stitcher. I have a 226 day podcast listening streak.*

**If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?**  
*If I could call it one trip, I'd go on a circuit of MLB stadiums. If I had to pick one I haven't been to yet, I'd visit Wrigley Field in Chicago.*

**What is the funniest thing that's ever happened to you?**  
*Our kids Anna (9) and Nolan (6) are always cracking us up, but our dog Jackson got the best of us this summer when we did a backyard camp out and he somehow snuck back inside and slept on our bed — which he's not allowed to do. He was embarrassed in the way only a good lab can be.*

**What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?**  
*We have made some major strides in getting more applications and admissions to Martha's House, and our next big project is increasing the programs to help families transition from homelessness to a stable lifestyle. With the community's investment and volunteer spirit I'm excited to see what will be done.*

**What is your proudest accomplishment?**  
*Everything worthwhile has been accomplished as a team. Our East Oregonian newsroom retaining the ONPA general excellence award for six years running comes to mind because of the dedication and quality work of the team I was lucky enough to be a part of.*

## HERMISTON HISTORY



HH file photo

Kaylee Van Ripper, 6, drives a miniature car at the Umatilla County Fair in 1995.

# World War II officially ends

25 YEARS AGO  
Aug. 15, 1995

The city of Hermiston will consider building a four-field city league softball complex south of the airport.

Hermiston resident Glenn Phillips asked the city Monday to consider a plan that requires 15-20 acres of the 80-acre city owned parcel on South Highway 395. Glenn said the new complex would allow the city to host up to 64 men's and women's teams during softball tournaments.

After Glenn made his proposal city manager Ed Brookshier said Hermiston owned a chunk of land big enough, but it had no water or sewer access.

Glenn said at this time he was only looking for land and was confident the community would support the development.

2) A nine-year-old girl could be charged with arson as a result of a grass fire Tuesday along Highway 730 in Umatilla.

Steve Flegel, fire chief for Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District, said the 200-acre fire was caused by a child playing with matches.

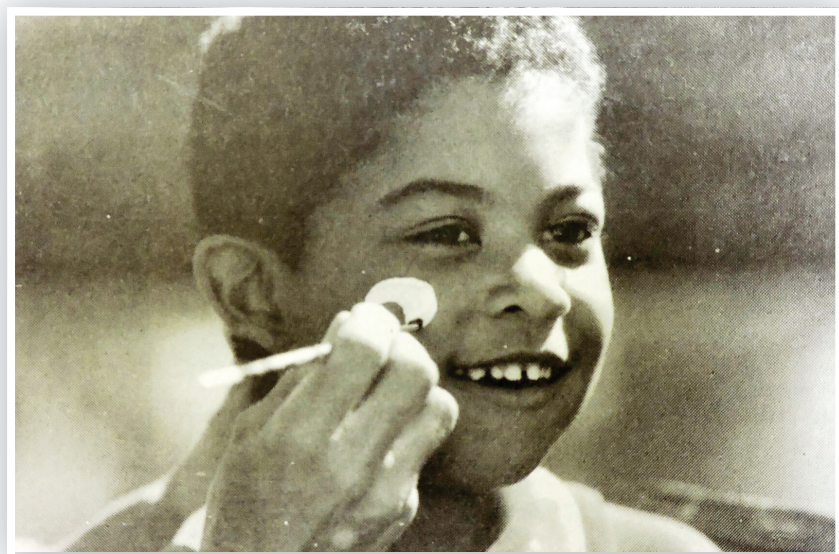
50 YEARS AGO  
Aug. 13, 1970

This year the Umatilla County Fair intends to provide its patrons with live entertainment throughout each of the four days of the fair, according to Bob Cooper, chairman.

Live entertainment will be provided from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily, Aug. 19-22. In order to provide this entertainment, anyone ages six to 80 who has a talent and is interested in performing before an audience is asked to contact the fair office.

2) Voters will be asked to approve a \$195,000 bond issue in the near future following presentation of schematic plans for a proposed fire station to the Hermiston City Council Monday night.

Architects Travers and Johnson of Portland, along with a committee of firemen, revealed the plans to the council. Bill Hibbard, speaking for the firemen, said the station was moved from its original location on the north side of Orchard Avenue across the street near the Hermiston



HH file photo

Avery Ford, 5, gets his face painted during the Umatilla County Fair in 1995.

Neighborhood Center.

The 9,732-square-foot building would house nine pieces of emergency equipment, contain administrative offices, training area, lockers and a lounge. At the present time the city has seven pieces of equipment, three of which are parked on the street.

75 YEARS AGO  
Aug. 16, 1945

President Truman announced at 4 p.m. Tuesday that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies — that the war was over. The "duration" was ended with that announcement and the world again was at peace. Celebrations have been underway in various places for several days due to conflicting rumors in regard to Japanese acceptance of the Potsdam ultimatum.

In Hermiston the fire siren sounded and people were showing signs of joy in different ways. Auto horns were blowing most of the time and far into the night, while crowds were congregating on the sidewalks and expressing their feelings outwardly and sometimes very freely.

Other people merely displayed signs of gratefulness that the conflict had ended and were apparently happy that the shooting was over. Skeptical persons are still waiting

to be completely convinced that peace has come after the formal signing of the armistice documents by Japanese officials in Manila, probably tomorrow. General Douglas MacArthur, hero of Bataan who has been appointed supreme commander, is expected to sign for the Allies.

Rationing of gasoline, fuel oil, oil stoves, canned fruits and vegetables was ended by the Office of Price Administration yesterday. This announcement came as a surprise to the public as there was no hint that such action would be taken immediately.

100 YEARS AGO  
Aug. 13, 1920

To the editor:

I desire to express through your paper my appreciation of the great effort and effective assistance rendered by the friends of Sheriff Til Taylor in returning the murderers to jail. I want to thank everyone, especially those who took the more humble parts, standing watch upon the roads and at the stations, and the people of Umatilla County have my deep gratitude for their forbearance and good citizenship during the trying hours when the murderers were first returned to jail.

Respectfully,  
W.R. Taylor, Sheriff

## BY THE WAY

## Rural hospitals receive funding from state legislature

Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston will receive just over \$6.1 million in funding thanks to a funding package from the Oregon Legislature to help keep small rural hospitals afloat as they continue to be negatively impacted by the pandemic.

Hospitals have faced funding challenges this year as people have avoided seeking treatment for conditions and delayed or canceled lucrative elective surgeries. The state is sending \$50 million in grant funding from **Business Oregon** to 20 rural hospitals, including Good Shepherd.

Rep. Greg Smith said in a statement that the package was a "significant victory for Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties and District 57 as a whole."

"We have worked hard to ensure that these dollars are being spent the way that they were intended," he said. "I was also very pleased to see that Good Shepherd in Hermiston received the second largest award in the state. These hospitals are a crucial part of rural Oregon and I am proud to see this money coming back home."

The grants can be used to cover necessary expendi-

tures, such as additional personal protective equipment, incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency from March 1, 2020 through Dec. 30, 2020.

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### Free fishing this weekend

Everyone can fish for free in Oregon on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 15-16.

According to the **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**, no fishing licenses or tags (including a Combined Angling Tag or Columbia River Basin Endorsement or Two-Rod Validation) are required to fish, crab or clam in Oregon that weekend.

Although no licenses or tags are required, all other fishing regulations apply, including closures, bag limits and size restrictions.

In a news release, the agency reminded people to practice social distancing while out fishing and participating in other forms of recreation, to stay home if sick and to

be prepared with hand sanitizer, masks and other supplies. Some restrooms and other facilities near fishing spots may be closed to COVID-19.

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### Senior takeout meals include spaghetti

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** continues to provide takeout and delivery meals to senior citizens in the community.

The menu for Thursday, Aug. 13, is BBQ beef sandwich, potato salad, fruit and dessert.

Tuesday, Aug. 18, is spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and dessert.

For a Meals on Wheels delivery, call 541-567-3582 before 10 a.m. to place an order. To pick up a meal from the center at 255 Northeast Second St., call the same number before 11 a.m.

Meals are \$4 and can be picked up between 11:45 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.