

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



KIMBERLY RILL

Hermiston Chamber of Commerce Director

When and why did you move to Hermiston?

I grew up in Hermiston and left for college, but returned shortly after graduating. I love it here. Hermiston is "home."

Where is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?

I love a lot of places, but my go-to places are Midway Bar and Grill or Delish Bistro. I also frequent Ye Old Pizza Shoppe, Veg Out and USA Subs.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I spend a lot of time with my husband and family enjoying the outdoors. I also love to read and listen to podcasts regularly.

What surprises you about Hermiston?

The growth of Hermiston in the last few years has been exciting to watch! It isn't surprising to me, but I love seeing new businesses open and flourish.

What was the last book you read?

"Present Over Perfect" by Shauna Niequist

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

I love Instagram and Apple Podcasts.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

I would love to visit Ireland or Italy.

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

I'm not sure.

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

I have a personal goal of starting a new business! I hope to share information about it and get things going in the next 12 months. For the Chamber, my goal is to meet our funding goal to get our new business center built.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

I'm proud that I paid for my college degree on my own without student loans and purchased my first home at 22.

Umatilla County announces three new cases of COVID-19

Umatilla County Public Health announced three new confirmed COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

The county's report on Sept. 15 listed a total of 2,719 confirmed cases since the pandemic began and 41 deaths of county residents positive for COVID-19.

As of Sept. 15, the county had three hospitalizations of COVID-19 patients, and 155 presumptive cases,

which are defined as cases where patients are showing symptoms of COVID-19 after coming into contact with a confirmed case, but have not received a test result, either because they have not been tested or the results have not yet come back.

As of Sept. 15, Oregon Health Authority reports 29,662 total cases since the pandemic began, and 519 deaths.

HERMISTON HISTORY

City jail has two escapes in one week



HH file photo

Hermiston fire department clown "Fred" entertains children at the grand opening of the Hermiston Community Center in 1995.

25 YEARS AGO

Sept. 12, 1995

About 250 people attended the ribbon cutting festivities Saturday presenting the Hermiston Community Center to a public that gave \$665,000 to its renovation.

Mayor Frank Harkenrider, Greater Hermiston Area Chamber of Commerce president Vicki Stormont and community center committee chairman Bryan Wolfe addressed the crowd, congratulating them on accomplishing a long-standing community goal.

"Your city officials were willing to step forth and say, 'Take a look, friends of Hermiston, do we need such a facility?' The answer was a resounding yes," Wolfe said.

2) The case for a king-sized community playground is expected to go before the public in a town meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday.

The meeting is to let people know about the project and to recruit between 12 and 25 adults to serve as a steering committee.

"We need people to get this going," said Kathy Blankenship. "We can't do this by ourselves."

50 YEARS AGO

Sept. 10, 1970

It is said that if a prisoner wishes to escape, he should do so as soon as possible.

Two prisoners in the Hermiston city jail escaped in the past week after being behind bars no more than one day.

A 17-year-old AWOL soldier, Samuel Walter Brown, was picked up at 4:30 p.m. Sunday hitchhiking on Highway 80N at the junction of Highway 32. He was brought to the station at 5:20 p.m. and was heard escaping through the skylight of his cell at 9:14 p.m.

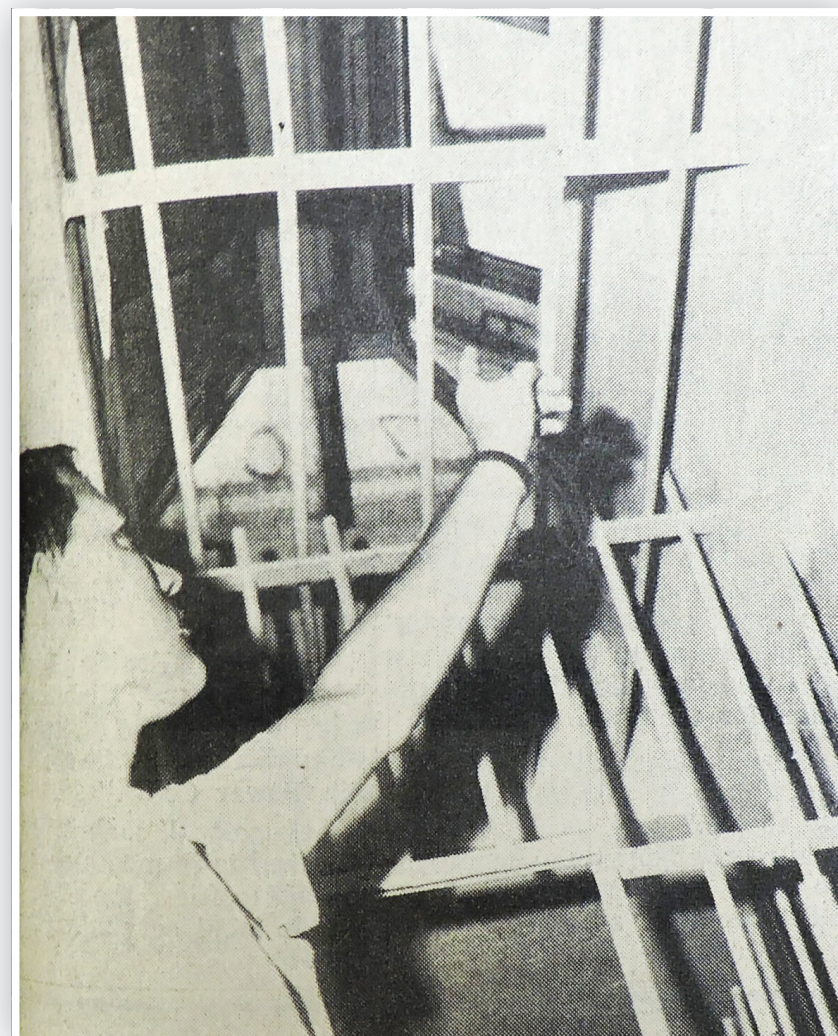
What astonished city police was that the 5 ft. 11 in., 150 lb. Brown had to climb through a narrow opening in the bars beneath the skylight in order to get out. Brown had been stationed at Ft. Gordon, Georgia.

Timothy Harman, 22, had to wait longer but had an easier time getting away. Given duties to perform outside his cell, he merely walked off the job after being in jail one day. He was reported missing at 11:30 a.m. Monday.

75 YEARS AGO

Sept. 13, 1945

There will be a meeting Monday, the 17th, at 8 o'clock, at the USO building for the purpose of



HH file photo

A Hermiston police sergeant shows the bars that an escapee squeezed through before exiting a skylight and escaping the city's jail in 1970.

forming a flying club. Anyone interested in flying and starting a club is urged to attend. IPans are under way for a temporary landing strip to be built near Hermiston and a definite location has been established.

2) Sgt. David Hamm, son of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Hamm, who is now with the Fourth Marine Regiment, had the honor of being in that group when they made the first sea-borne landing on Japanese soil.

The original members of the Fourth Marine Regiment were at Corrigedor and Bataan when those objectives were captured and it was thought they were all lost.

However, the Fourth was such a famous regiment, it was decided to reactivate it around the Marine Raiders and it is to this group that Sgt. Hamm is attached.

A late news item indicates that a few of the original Fourth Marine Regiment have been liberated recently from Japanese prison camps and these have rejoined their regiment.

100 YEARS AGO

Sept. 10, 1920

Over 1,000 visitors are expected to attend Field Day, Sept. 11, at the Umatilla Experiment Farm. The weather man "has been fixed," and a huge time is anticipated. A fine program of games, music, speeches, "eats," etc. has been arranged. Drop your troubles for a day, bring the family and do a little "neighboring."

Several candidates will represent different districts in a friendly contest for a prize to be offered for the most beautiful man present. The purpose is to show the beneficial effect of irrigation on manly pulchritude. Only the women will be permitted to vote. The decision will be rendered by ballot, each woman being allowed one vote for each year she is old.

The management realizes a great many ladies may hesitate to exercise their franchise and it will probably be necessary to have the ballot secret. A manager will be appointed for each candidate who will be allowed to extol and exhibit the rare beauty of form and feature of his candidate.

BY THE WAY

Symphony starts season Saturday with drive-in concert

The Oregon East Symphony will kick off its 2020-21 season by presenting its first ever drive-in concert — "Let 'Er Bach!" — on Saturday, Sept. 19, at 7:30 p.m., in the Pendleton Convention Center parking lot, 1601 Westgate.

This unique and free-to-attend production will feature a masked and socially distanced 13-member chamber orchestra performing Johann Sebastian Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No. 3" and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik." Concert attendees will enjoy the music from the comfort and safety of their own vehicles by listening to the concert over an FM radio transmission.

To ensure everyone's safety and to adhere to Oregon Health Authority guidelines, capacity will be limited to 250 individuals and contact information of all attendees (first and last names, phone and address) must be collected for contact tracing purposes. Preregistration is highly recommended in order to expedite attendees' check-in process and ensure a reserved spot.

Attendees may preregister online at OregonEastSymphony.org or by calling the symphony office at 541-276-0320.

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Training offered for young adults

The Worksource Oregon offices in Pendleton and Hermiston are offering workforce training opportunities to young adults of Morrow and Umatilla counties, age 16-24.

To learn about program, call 541-564-5696 or 541-276-9050 ext. 224.

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State sets up fire information website

If you're interested in keeping up with all the latest wildfire news in Oregon, the state has compiled information into a one-stop shop online at wildfire.oregon.gov.

The website includes links to up to date emergency alerts, fire maps, road closures, emergency shelters and air quality levels as well as general information, such as mental health resources and instructions on how to file a homeowner's insurance claim, get a ballot or replace a driver's license after losing your home.

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Senior meals include chicken and fish

The Harkenrider Senior Activity Center continues to provide takeout and delivery meals to senior citizens in the community. The menu for Thursday, Sept. 17, is baked chicken, rice with gravy, beets and dessert. Tuesday, Sept. 22, will be baked fish, coleslaw, fruit 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 N.E. 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.