

## THREE MINUTES WITH ...



## ABBIE ELLIOT

### Teacher, Sunset Elementary School

#### When and why did you move to Hermiston?

I moved to Hermiston in 2016 for school. I was interested in the teaching program through Eastern Oregon University.

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

Hales

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

I like to play with my puppy, go fishing and watch movies.

#### What surprises you about Hermiston?

I am always surprised by how kind and friendly our community is.

#### What was the last book you read?

"The First Days of School," by Harry K. Wong and Rosemary T. Wong

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

Pinterest

#### If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

The Caribbean

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

I ripped my pants while at work! It was not funny then, but it is sure funny looking back at it now.

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

One of my goals is to teach my dog how to not dig holes in my yard!

#### What is your proudest accomplishment?

Becoming a fourth-grade teacher at Sunset Elementary School!

## Sunday morning fire damages Hermiston apartment complex

HERMISTON HERALD

Four apartment units at Ridgeway Apartments in Hermiston were damaged in an early morning fire on Sunday, Oct. 4.

According to a news release from Umatilla County Fire District #1, the district received a call at 2:10 a.m. about a fire in a two-story apartment building at the apartment complex.

"When crews arrived at 2:13 a.m. heavy fire was showing from the first-floor apartment window, extend-

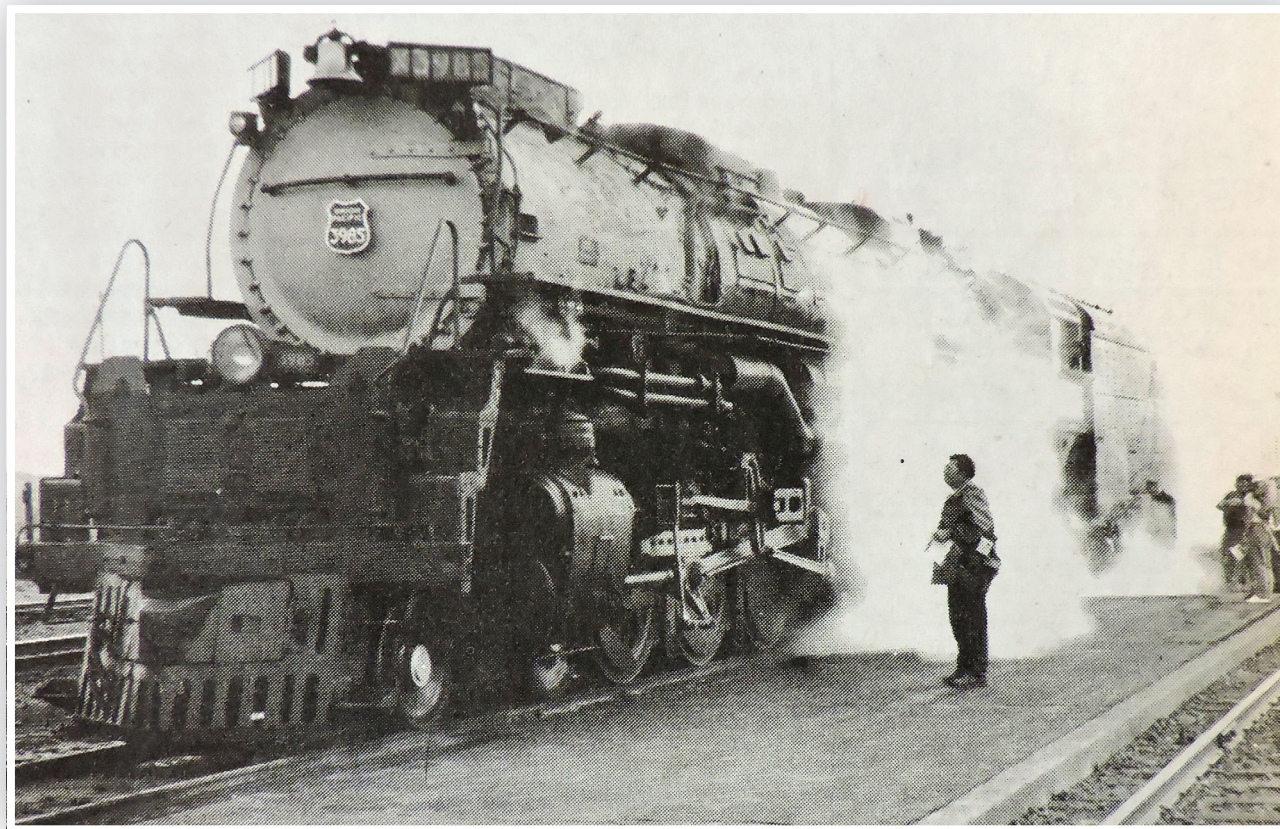
ing into the second-floor apartment window and roof eaves," the release stated.

Two units in the building were damaged by fire and two more were damaged by smoke and water. Fire crews also "opened up" walls and ceilings on the units to bring the fire under control.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. According to the release, no one was injured "because the occupants of the apartment complex were very effective at getting everyone out before fire crews arrived."

## HERMISTON HISTORY

## Residents complain of rotting potato stench



Hermiston Herald, File

A 1943 vintage locomotive sits on display at Hinkle Rail Yard in 1995.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Oct 3, 1995

The pungent aroma of rotting potatoes isn't exactly appetizing, said neighbors of Lamb Weston's Westland plant Wednesday night. The residents presented their opinions about the stench at an Oregon Department of Environmental Quality hearing Wednesday.

The hearing was called to give residents a chance to comment on Lamb Weston's application for a water pollution control facility permit. Though many complained about "persistent and offensive" odors coming from a surge pond, more said they believe the potato processing company is taking steps to lessen the stench from the stinking spuds.

Lamb Weston has, since the plant began operations in 1972, produced nearly 900 million gallons of potato waste each year as a result of its processing 1,200 tons of potatoes daily. The problem residents have been complaining about though, comes from a surge pond located at the North Site fields. Effluent sitting in the pond and solids in the effluent create an odor so strong that 63 citizens sent a complaint petition to the DEQ in June. Don Walls, who lives just east of the pond, said he is "right in the wind path," of the odor.

"You know what I'm concerned about," he said later, "is the tourist people. I mean, it's a stench."

Walls said odors travel east across Interstate 82 to his home. Highway motorists he said, could get the impression that Hermiston is generally a smelly place. Sheri Wadekamper, a Westland-area resident, complained that the permit Lamb-Weston applied for places the burden of odor monitoring on residents. Provisions in the permit regulate effluent flows and solids storage to reduce putrefaction, not necessarily odors.

### 50 YEARS AGO

Oct. 1, 1970

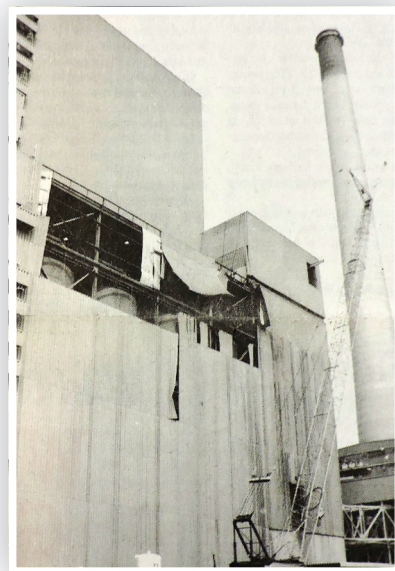
The son of Hermiston residents has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal for exceptional meritorious service in Vietnam. Spec. 5 Ross D. DeGroff, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross O. DeGroff, Route 1, was recognized for his distinguished service while serving with the 176th Veterinary Detachment in Pleiku.

His citation reads, in part, "He astutely surmounted extremely adverse conditions to obtain consistently superior results. Through diligence and determination he invariably accomplished every task with



Hermiston Herald, File

A firefighter sprays water on a fire outside of Hermiston caused by a burn barrel that got out of control in 1995.



Hermiston Herald, File

A photo in the Oct. 3, 1995, Hermiston Herald shows the damage to a PGE coal plant in Boardman after coal dust ignited, blowing a hole in the plant and causing \$600,000 worth of damage. No one was injured in the blast.

### 75 YEARS AGO

Sept. 27, 1945

Mrs. Roy Close this week received word from Capt. Rober G. Conner Jr., commanding officer of the infantry regiment of which Mr. Close was a member at the time of his death on Okinawa last May 30. The captain wrote: "Your husband's duty was that of a rifleman which he performed admirably. He was in charge of a squad that was attacking an enemy held hill in the vicinity of Shuri. His platoon's attack had been temporarily halted by intense enemy fire. With complete disregard for his own safety, your husband charged the position only to be instantly killed by machine gun fire. This brave action so inspired the remaining number of the platoon that they quickly rushed and seized the position."

### 100 YEARS AGO

Oct. 1, 1920

George Strohm has returned from Portland where he went the first of the week with a load of hogs. Mr. Crossland and Mr. Payne also shipped with him. Mr. Strohm reports that he got 18 cents, which is 40 cents on the hundred more than was paid for other hogs in the Portland yards the day he sold. C. C. Mason and C. P. Adams are exhibiting at the state fair, four hogs of Mr. Strohm's having gone down with their stock. Mr. Strohm was able to spend only one day at the fair, but he states that Mason secured a first with his hogs in the Junior Yearling class, and Adams second, and out of a group of 42, made up of six months old males, Strohm got 5th prize.

## BY THE WAY

## Commission, council candidate forums available online

A candidate forum hosted by the **Hermiston Chamber of Commerce** took place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 6. It featured candidates for **Hermiston City Council** and the **Umatilla County Board of Commissioners**.

The forum began after the **Hermiston Herald's** print deadline, but articles about it will be published online on Wednesday, Oct. 7, at [www.hermistonherald.com](http://www.hermistonherald.com), and in next week's print edition along with other stories about candidates and measures for the upcoming Nov. 3 general election.

Video of the forum can also be found on the *Herald's* Facebook page.

The **Umatilla City Council** candidate forum will be held Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. at Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St., Umatilla.

The **Boardman Chamber of Commerce** has been hosting a series of candidate forums for various Morrow County candidates over the past two weeks, including candidates for the **Morrow County Board of Commissioners**, **Boardman City Council**, justice of the

peace and county treasurer. Video of those forums can be found on the chamber's Facebook page.

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### Rodeo photo gallery posted

Last weekend, the **Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center** in Hermiston hosted the **Columbia River Circuit** rodeo finals.

For a photo gallery, results and features from the rodeo, as well as other regional sports news, visit [www.eastoregonian.com](http://www.eastoregonian.com) or subscribe to the **East Oregonian**.

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### Drive-thru flu shots offered

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** will have a drive-thru flu shot clinic for seniors at the center, located behind the **Hermiston Public Library**, from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

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### Senior lunch menus include pork chops

The center's takeout and delivery menu for Thursday, Oct. 8, is pork chops, stuffing, apple salad, veggies and dessert. Tuesday, Oct. 13, will be hamburger patties, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn and dessert.

For a **Meals on Wheels** delivery in Hermiston, 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.

The **Boardman Chamber of Commerce** is providing meal delivery. Meals are \$4 paid upon delivery. Call 541-481-3257 to order.

The Boardman menu for Thursday, Oct. 8, is fried chicken, baked beans, potato salad and dessert. Tuesday, Oct. 13, is chicken pot pie, salad, bread with butter and dessert.