

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



SCOTT SMITH

Educator and author

When and why did you move to Hermiston?

I moved to the area in 1979 to teach in Umatilla, then to Hermiston in 1985 and continued to teach in Umatilla until 2008. I then started teaching for Eastern Oregon University at Blue Mountain Community College in the teacher preparation program retiring in 2017.

Where is your favorite place to eat in Hermiston?

Kobe Hibachi Sushi in Cornerstone Court.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

My wife and I enjoy traveling and camping.

What surprises you about Hermiston?

How much Hermiston has grown in the last 40 years.

What was the last book you read?

"Faith After Doubt" by Brian McLaren

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

Amazon

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

I would like to go back and spend more time in Israel.

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

Teaching kindergarten art. The students were creating an art project and I had brought feather boas for them to use the feathers on their projects. No feathers made it onto their projects and there were no feathers on the boas, just a string! There were colored feathers floating all over the room and on the floor. When they kicked them those feathers went everywhere. We found feathers for months.

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

To be able to travel again and finish my next book I'm writing.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

Thirty six years of marriage, seeing my daughters become successful and enjoying their families along with the completion of my Doctorate in Education.

Local COVID-19 numbers updated

Umatilla County saw 51 new known COVID-19 cases in the past seven days between Wednesday, March 17, and Tuesday, March 23.

That represents a slight uptick from 48 new cases in the seven day period before. There were no new deaths of individuals with COVID-19 announced.

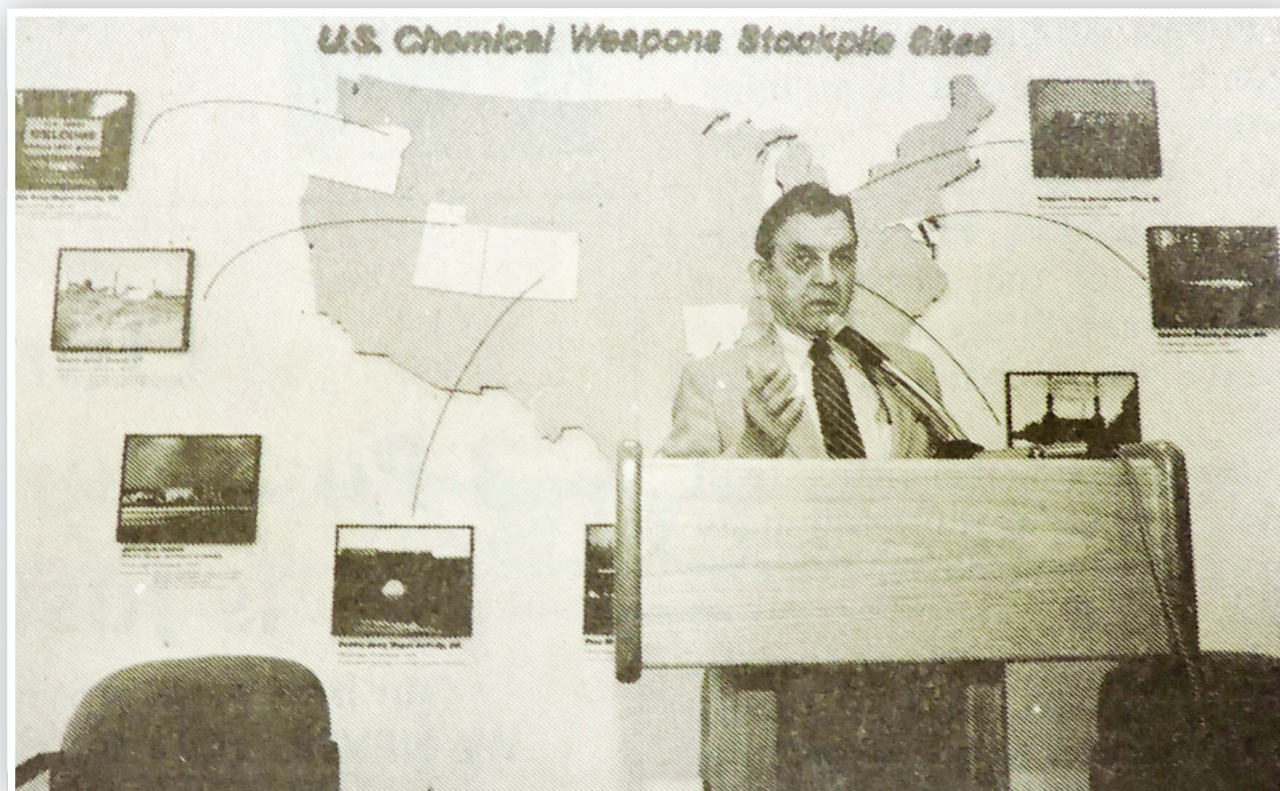
Morrow County saw just one new case in the past week and no new deaths,

according to the regional COVID-19 dashboard found on the Umatilla County Public Health website.

Oregon has seen 162,016 cases and 2,367 deaths since the pandemic began, according to Oregon Health Authority, while the United States has seen more than 29.7 million cases and 540,503 deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

HERMISTON HISTORY

Runaway horse collides with car



Hermiston Herald, File

State Rep. Chuck Norris addresses the crowd at the opening of the Army's new outreach office to provide information on disposal of the Umatilla Chemical Depot's weapons in 1996.

25 YEARS AGO

March 19, 1996

In the last year, the Hermiston area has seen three stabbings, a major rape, shootings, a Thanksgiving murder and two armed bank robberies.

Add this to the almost daily reports of burglaries and domestic assaults, and casual onlookers might get the impression that this small town has a big city crime problem.

But that may not be the case. Hermiston Police Chief Andy Anderson says there's plenty of violence crime to go around. But he doesn't think there's a defect with Hermiston.

"In Hermiston our violent crimes are rising, albeit slowly," he said. "I think it's on the rise all over."

When news broke last week about a third stabbing in as many months, some people were left asking, why stabbings?

"I don't see any trend of people using knives over guns," Anderson said. Rather, he said, violent crime seems to be on the rise in America.

50 YEARS AGO

March 25, 1971

A loose saddle on a horse was the apparent cause of a minor disturbance near Hermiston Junior High School Tuesday afternoon.

Hermiston police said Dixie McEwen and Kay Kostechka were riding the horse double along the junior high football field when the saddle turned and Miss McEwen lost control of the animal.

Then the trouble started. The horse reportedly jumped over a wire fence, throwing both girls off, ran onto North First Street and collided with an automobile.

Robert Loyd Boatright, 16, driver of the car, said he was southbound when the horse ran into the vehicle and was knocked down. He said the horse got up and began running south.

Police said no persons were injured and the horse, soon recovered, suffered only a few scratches.

75 YEARS AGO

March 21, 1946

Umatilla County public health unit has issued a warning of an increased incidence of whooping cough in the Stanfield, Hermiston and Umatilla areas. Dr. R.H. Wilcox, county officer, suggests



Hermiston Herald, File

Mrs. Della Carter, Mrs. Homer Scott and Mrs. C.T. Ward were installed as officers in the Emblem Club in 1971.



Hermiston Herald, File

Rebecca Ramirez, 4, plays at Victory Square Park in 1996.

immunization for all preschool children by their family physician.

He also advises that immunization after exposure is not as effective as a well planned immunization before.

All children out of school because of coughing or upper respiratory infection should stay home and should have a doctor's excuse before returning to school.

2) Kenneth Athey and his French bride, the former Jacqueline Bourzeis of Paris, France, were reunited Tuesday evening when Mrs. Athey arrived at Stanfield by train.

Athey met his wife while stationed in Paris and they were married there. He reports that she stood the trip quite well.

She left France about the first of March, the trip taking about 19 days altogether.

They are at present living with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. O.T. Lockridge, and plan to make their home in Hermiston.

100 YEARS AGO

March 25, 1921

Excerpts from the society pages:

The home of Mr. and Mrs. S.L. Lochrie was the scene of a delightful dinner party Tuesday evening on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of the host. Covers were laid for eight at a daintily appointed table. After dinner the guests enjoyed a pleasant round of cards and on departing extended many hearty wishes for many happy returns of the day.

The St. Patrick's dance given at the Bungalow Auditorium Thursday evening by Mrs. F. Ralph and Miss Marjorie Watson was a big success in every particular. The hall was appropriately decorated for the occasion, the color scheme of green, white and orange being very much in evidence.

Music was furnished by Coe's orchestra of Echo and a large throng of merry dancers tripped the light fantastic till the wee small hours of the morning. At midnight dainty refreshments were served by the committee in charge of the evening's entertainment.

Howard Parrish was the victim of a pleasant surprise party last Friday evening when a number of his friends and classmates walked in and reminded him of his seventeenth birthday. The young people spent a jolly evening at music and cards and delicious refreshments were served by the self-appointed hostesses.

BY THE WAY

Tax deadlines extended until May 17 for state, federal

Procrastinators will have more time to get their taxes in after the **Internal Revenue Service** announced it was extending the federal income tax filing due date for individuals for the 2020 tax year from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021.

Oregon's Department of Revenue followed the IRS's lead and extended the deadline for state filings to May 17 as well.

Individual taxpayers can also postpone federal income tax payments for the 2020 tax year due on April 15 to May 17 without penalties and interest, regardless of the amount owed, according to the news release.

This relief does not apply to estimated tax payments that are due on April 15, 2021, however.

Most taxpayers automatically have those taxes withheld from their paychecks and submitted to the IRS by their employer.

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Hermiston Police Department was recognized by **Lexipol Connect** for achieving their gold level for "consistently and effectively disseminating policies to officers, issuing timely policy updates as laws change, and ensuring officers are trained on policies," according to a news release from **Chief Jason Edmiston**.

Lexipol is a policy and training platform for public safety agencies.

"Policy — and regularly training on policy — is crucial to the success of the department," Edmiston said. "We are proud to be recognized by Lexipol Connect for continuously improving professionalism and safety."

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Gov. Kate Brown's latest submission of names for state Senate confirmation includes **Michael Erickson** of Hermiston.

Erickson's name was submitted for a four-year term on the **Respiratory Therapist and Polysomnographic Technologist Licensing Board**.

He would replace **Tony Garberg**.

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The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for Thursday, March 25, is spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and dessert. The menu for Tuesday, March 30, is baked fish, peas, cole slaw 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 Senior Center** is now providing meal delivery. Meals are \$4 paid upon delivery. Call 541-481-3257 to order.