

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



ALEX ARROYO

Umatilla

What is your profession?

I'm a realtor.

What are your favorite hobbies?

I like kayaking. I do some biking, hiking and swimming. I like to explore the outdoors.

You seem like a fun-loving person. Is that right?

Sometimes, I am. Yeah.

What is the biggest adventure you've ever had?

Swimming with whales in Puerto Vallarta, where I'm from.

What's your favorite thing about traveling?

I love meeting people and learning more about them and their ways of thinking. People talk differently in different places. I like to hear the different ways people talk.

What languages do you know?

Only Spanish and English, for now.

Which of those languages is harder to learn?

Whichever language you don't want to learn. As long as you like something, you will be good at it.

Who is your favorite celebrity?

Maggie Rodriguez. She is a top agent in the area.

What is the last movie you have seen?

I saw "Pirates of the Caribbean." It was good.

What's the last restaurant you visited?

Nookie's in Hermiston. I had a hamburger, a monster hamburger, and it was good.

HERMISTON HISTORY

Western senators try to save train service

25 YEARS AGO
Sept. 24, 1996

"If Amtrak is to be a national rail system, it cannot ignore the western states."

That's what Sen. Ron Wyden, D-OR, and other western senators, have argued to Amtrak. Due to low passenger counts and financial cutbacks (because of less federal funding), Amtrak's planning to cut its train service along the Pioneer route (which goes from Chicago to Seattle and passes through Denver, Boise, Eastern Oregon and Portland) in 90 days.

A letter sent to Amtrak officials, signed by senators Wyden, Alan Simpson and Craig Thomas, both of Wyoming, and Larry Craig of Idaho, argued that the Pioneer route should be kept open for at least another year. They claimed that this delay would give the government time to find funding for the line, since most of the affected states don't even meet until January. Wyden also stated that it would be unfair to western state citizens to continue subsidizing the train company with their tax dollars while receiving less service. Passionate about this rail route, Eastern Oregon officials have even gone as far

75 YEARS AGO
Sept. 26, 1946

As power demands increase, several dams have been forced to generate more energy than their rated capacity until additional generators are installed.

Several northwest substations have already done so this year; Chelalis, Washington, has delivered 103,000 kw with a rated capacity of 10,000 kw; Salem 45,000 with 40,000; and Walla Walla 12,000 with 10,000.

Several possible solutions include raising the Bonneville pool from 72 to 78 feet, increasing generating capacity at Rock Island Dam near Wenatchee, Washington, and utilizing steam plants in Seattle and Tacoma that were built during World War II but never used. One thing that will definitely help supply the growing power demand, though, is a sixth Grand Coulee generator that will be back in service Oct. 15 after needing repairs.

100 YEARS AGO
Sept. 22, 1921

Oregon's famous Cleanup Squad, which is touring the states at the



Hermiston Herald, File

Victoria M. Bunsen, of the Hermiston High School Class of 1972, is among the less than 1% of graduating seniors in the United States who are National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.

advance agent for the squad, was in Hermiston this week to confer with Carl Voyer, Floyd Ames, E.J. Kingsley and other members of the Legion regarding arrangements for the meeting.

"This is a golden opportunity for every ex-serviceman in the vicinity to carefully consider whether or not he has any matter to discuss with Uncle Sam concerning his service in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, said Mr. Wise.

The visit means that the U.S. government is coming to Hermiston to enable ex-servicemen to straighten out any old claims or file new ones. The scope of their work includes claims for compensation, vocational training, insurance, allotments, back pay, liberty bonds, victory medals, etc. Every report sent in will be marked "Cleanup Squad" and will be given right of way when it reaches the district office in Seattle or the central office in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Morse of Seattle is the physician traveling with the squad. He will be prepared to conduct examinations while in Hermiston.

The idea of sending the government to the ex-servicemen instead of having the ex-servicemen hunt up the government is a favorite one with Colonel Forbes, newly appointed head of the Veterans Bureau.

McKenzie Rose, a sophomore at Echo High School, searched Hermiston Herald archives to compile these article summaries.



Joyce Hensley/Hermiston Herald, File

Betty Noack, 67, of Hermiston showed that age is just a number by completing the Hermiston High School Ropes Course in September 1996. The longtime Hermiston resident died at the age of 79 in January 2009 at Good Shepherd Medical Center.

as the nation's capital to argue their case; Baker City Mayor Larry Griffith testified before the transportation committee earlier this month, stressing the need for rail transportation in Eastern Oregon — especially as winter draws nearer.

50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 23, 1971

Hermiston High School senior Victoria M. Bunsen has become a semifinalist in the 1971-72 National Merit Scholarship Program.

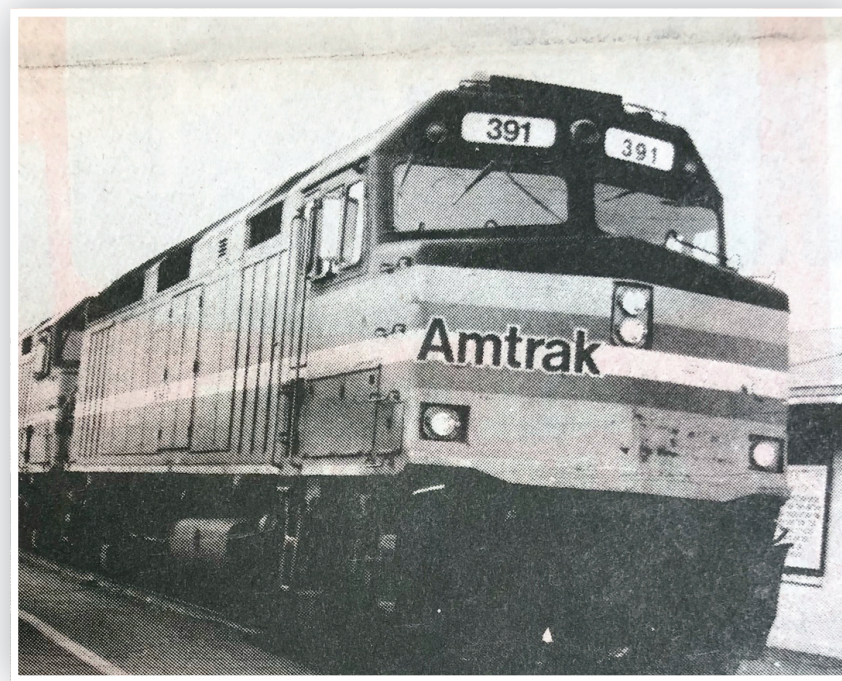
The program examines high school grades, accomplishments, leadership qualities, extracurricular activities and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQST) scores to determine recipients of the annually-given scholarships. The test was taken by more than 655,000 students last February in about 16,000 schools nationwide, and those who pass (the semifinalists) constitute less than 1% of graduating secondary school seniors in the United States.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Bunsen, Victoria will be competing against approximately 15,000 other semifinalists for one of 3,000 scholarships given. To become a finalist, she'll need to receive the endorsement of her school, sustain her high NMQST performance on a second examination, and provide information about her achievements and interests.

insistence of the United States government, will be in Hermiston Wednesday Sept. 28.

Every ex-serviceman who has a claim of any kind against the government should not fail to take advantage of the visit, which has been authorized by the Veterans Bureau to assist all ex-servicemen in the state with their claims and to expedite them.

U.S. Representative Wm. P. Wise,



Andrew Lyons/Hermiston Herald, File

In September 1996, Amtrak announced plans to cut the Pioneer route, which provides passenger services to the western states, in 90 days, while senators in Oregon, Wyoming and Idaho tried to postpone it for a year.

BY THE WAY

Hermiston seeks city councilor, municipal judge candidates

The city of Hermiston is accepting candidates for its **May 17, 2022, election**. Four city council ward seats are available as is a municipal judge position. These offices are all nonpartisan and will be filled at the start of 2023.

Candidates must file for office by submitting their completed declaration of candidacy no later than **5 p.m. March 8, 2022**, to **Lilly Alarcon-Strong**, elections officer/city recorder, at alarcon-strong@hermiston.or.us or **Hermiston City Hall**, 235 E. Gladys Ave.

Applications and qualification information can be obtained at city hall or www.hermiston.or.us/citycouncil.

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For an inside look at **Hermiston Bulldogs** football, head to the **Hermiston Linebacker Club's** no-host luncheon meeting. The gathering is Thursday, Sept. 23, noon to 1 p.m., at the **Desert Lanes Family Fun Center**, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston. Coach **David Faeteete** will talk about the Dawgs' recent game with the **Chiawana Riverhawks** and their upcoming game against the **Richland Bombers**.

For more information, contact **Flora Larson** at 541-567-5215 or flora@barnettandmoro.com.

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The Morrow County Harvest Festival announced a new activity — **Pinewood Derby Races** — and welcomes people to stop by the store at the **SAGE Center** to purchase their car kits.

The festival is Saturday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Admission is free.

The Morrow County Harvest Festival is an annual event with vendors, activities for children in the Kid's Corner, live music from **Dallin Puzey**, mule-drawn wagon rides, food, beer and wine and more.

Its goal is to bring the entire community together for a day of celebrating local artisans, produce and family fun. See next week's **Hermiston Herald** for a full story about the event.

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Paintings by Hermiston resident **Amy Fuentes** will continue to be on display until the end of the month at the **Hermiston Public Library**. People at the library

chose Fuentes to be the artist of the month.

Fuentes started painting in 2018 when she was 19 years old, but she has been an artist as long as she can remember. Her current artwork is a reflection on music, as her paintings recreate rap album covers and portraits of the music artists.

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The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, Sept. 23**, is meat loaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, spinach and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, Sept. 28**, is ham, scallop potatoes, vegetables and dessert. (In-house meals will be served from noon to 12:30 p.m. People planning to dine in are asked to call by 11 a.m.)

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 before 11 a.m. Meals are \$5 and can be picked up between 11:30 a.m. and noon.

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The **Boardman Senior Center** now is providing meal delivery. Meals are \$4 paid upon delivery. Call 541-481-3257 to order.