

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



DAVID SLAGHT STANFIELD

What is your job?

Echo City administrator/recorder.

What do you like best about your job?

Every day, I get to learn something new. There's some busy work, but there's also a lot of new things. I get to build relationships with people in the community. It's a pretty neat opportunity.

What's the latest new thing you have learned about yourself?

I've learned that I am not a politician. I'm a direct, straight-forward person, but some people like that. And I've been able to build relationships with legislators, senators and congressmen.

What wrong with being a politician?

They can't just be themselves, because they have to represent everybody else. That doesn't seem like a lot of fun. I'm better suited to work with them.

What do you like about Echo?

It's a sleepy, little town that has so much potential to stay small but grow a little bit. It's an interesting place that's off the freeway that you don't see. When you get here, it attracts you. It's also a great place to live to folks who live here.

When people visit Echo, what restaurants do you send them to?

We have a coffee shop, Buttercreek Coffeehouse and Mercantile. For a quick visit, that's a nice place with some food. If they want to sit down to a mom-and-pop deal, I send them to H & P for comfort food.

What else would you like people to know about Echo?

It's an agriculturally surrounded community with a lot of history. There used to be a railroad depot here. My predecessor, Diane Berry, who was in this position for nearly 40 years, did a tremendous amount of work at gaining the city notoriety for history. We have a number of buildings that are listed on the national register. Our history includes many ethnicities going back to Native Americans, to Irish, to Chinese. We have a rich history, and that is something that we want to be known for, like Pendleton and its tunnels.

HERMISTON HISTORY

Injured barrel racer gets back in the saddle

25 YEARS AGO
Oct. 1, 1996

Eight-year-old barrel racer Ashley Smith severed her liver when her horse reared, went into a backflip, and landed on her. She was immediately rushed to the hospital, rapidly losing blood.

Since her blood type is AB negative, a rare one, it had to be flown in. After abdominal surgery, she was transported to Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland to undergo a second surgery; removing half of her liver because blood wasn't flowing to it, and it was dying.

Ashley's mother, Connie, said the doctors called her survival a miracle because "the liver is the most vascular organ and a severed liver often means bleeding to death in seconds." Connie also thanked the overwhelming community support, prayers and faith for pulling her family through that tough time.



Andrew Lyons/Hermiston Herald, File
Ashley Smith survived a barrel racing incident that severed her liver at age 8. She was later back in the saddle, serving as queen of the 2002 Umatilla Sage Riders Rodeo.

ceremony will welcome new FFA members. Among those Greenhands are four girls — Sandy Settle, Ramona Music, Bonnie Thomas and Becky Meyer. Ramona had some remarks about the way they were accepted, claiming, "They (the boys) don't think we're quite capable of doing everything they do, but we are. When you're used to lugging around 100-pound feed sacks, pitching a little manure doesn't scare you." Donna Kopacz, home economics teacher and FHA (future homemakers) advisor, will assist the girls in their FHA endeavours.

75 YEARS AGO
Oct. 3, 1946

Francis F. Vause attempted to give two hitchhikers a ride, and they repaid his good deed by bounding and gagging him, and stealing his car.

State police report that around 1:30 p.m., Vause was driving on Highway 207 near the underpass at Hinkle when he saw the two men. When he pulled over, they pulled out guns, tied him to the Fred McMurray ranch. With the family on vacation, the house was also ransacked.

Vause was able to free himself and began walking towards Hermiston, soon getting a ride and reporting the incident. Luckily, he was uninjured but the two men and his bright green sedan are yet to be found.

100 YEARS AGO
Sept. 29, 1921

A fire that originated in the city bakery and aided by a strong wind destroyed about half a block on Main Street.

The fire was called in around noon and firemen, led by I. E. Putman, arrived soon on the scene and quickly got to work. A prevalent wind was blowing the flames east and down the block; if not for their prompt response and determined fight, the fire could've easily spread to half the town.

The bakery, owned by Dr. F. P. Adams and operated by W. O. Sutherland, had only four walls remaining but was well covered by insurance. Burt Mullin's barber shop was also hit hard, though a few fixtures survived. Sam Rodgers' store was made of fireproof walls, but the roof wasn't and his stock was almost entirely destroyed. Though he probably lost the most, at least 75% of the damage was covered by insurance. The offices of E. P. Dodd and W. Warner were burned out but the fixtures rescued, and both were well-insured.

Flames even entered the First National Bank building, but didn't get further than the second floor and caused very little damage. In fact, this building was largely responsible for preventing the fire from spreading further, as it partly protected the other buildings by blocking the wind. The fire cost about \$20,000 in loss and damage, though fortunately not any lives.

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



Hermiston Herald, File
FFA and FHA members celebrate the upcoming year in September 1971 with a pool party and barbecue.

Ashley was in the hospital for three months and spent 18 months recuperating. Three years later, she's in sixth grade, plays basketball and track at Armand Larive Middle School, and is back in the saddle — just for pleasure at the moment. She hopes to compete again, but is building back her confidence.

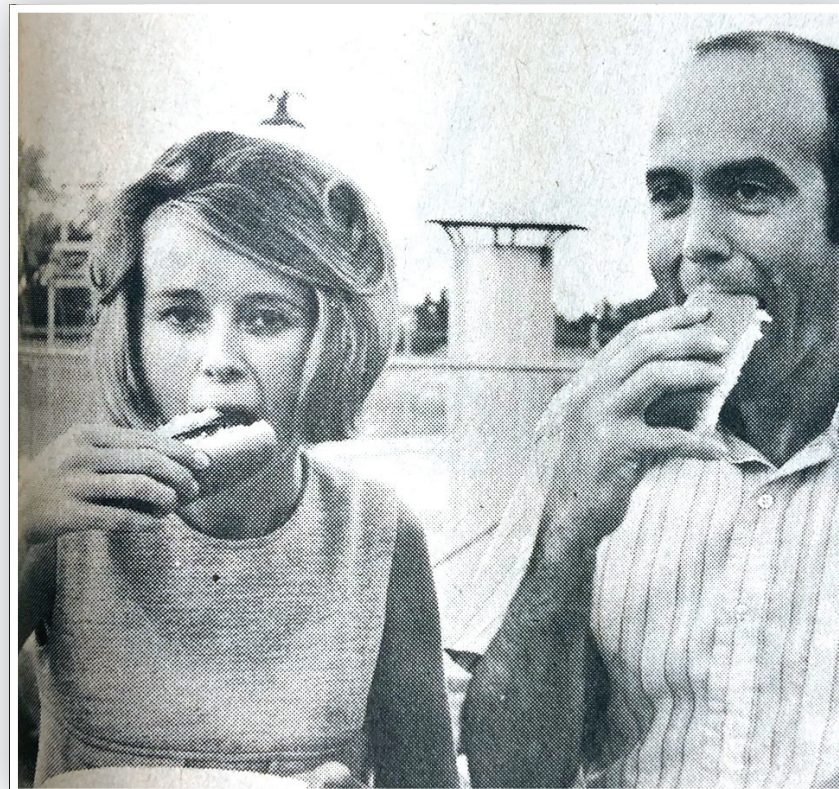
50 YEARS AGO
Sept. 30, 1971

The Hermiston FFA had a celebration to kick-start the upcoming

year with a barbecue and swimming party at the pool.

Charles Cruikshank, new vocational agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, has quite a bit of experience with FFA. He taught in the agriculture department at Malin High School before coming to Hermiston, and a former student of his, John McCulley (of Malin), is being installed as the National FFA secretary (a very high honor). His goal is to help the Hermiston FFA boys earn as much as possible, including awards, trips and more.

The initiation ("Greenhand")



Hermiston Herald, File
Club advisors Donna Kopacz and Charles Cruikshank take a quick bite during the September 1971 FFA celebration kick-off event.

BY THE WAY

New discount store opening in Boardman

Dollar Tree, Inc. announced its new **Family Dollar** and **Dollar Tree** "Combo" store opening in **Boardman**. The 10,104-square-foot store is scheduled to open **Thursday, Sept. 30**, at 103 City Center Drive.

In addition to offering a broad assortment of essential products, the Family Dollar section of the store will offer frozen and refrigerated food, a large selection of pantry goods, beauty and health merchandise, household supplies, basic apparel, baby and toddler necessities, pet food, electronics, toys and home décor.

The store will sell more than 4,000 items for \$1 each. Items include balloons and party supplies, Hallmark greeting cards, seasonal decorations and holiday gifts, DIY crafting essentials and school necessities.

"Small towns have historically had very limited retail options and shoppers often travel long distances to meet all of their shopping needs, but we are changing that," said **Kayleigh M. Painter**, Dollar Tree's investor and media relations manager. "Family Dollar and Dollar Tree are teaming up to provide the Boardman community with a brand new, close-to-home store experience that offers incredible value on everyday products and exciting \$1 deals."

The combo stores typically employ six to 10 associates. The company is asking people to apply online at www.FamilyDollar.com/careers.

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Spanish Class for Beginners, instructed by **Michelle Villalobos** will teach day-to-day **conversation skills** to get you interacting with Spanish speakers. This class will engage in activities that support the natural acquisition of language. In a comfortable setting, engage in conversation that will increase your ability to speak Spanish.

It is Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout October and November, 6-8 p.m. The cost is \$25 per month. Register at bit.ly/hermistonrecreation.

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Umatilla Electric Cooperative is celebrating **National Cooperative Month** in October with events and activities.

In appreciation of its members, UEC will provide boxed lunches to drive-up visitors from **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** while supplies last at the following UEC offices:

- Tuesday, **Oct. 5**, 750 W. Elm Ave., Hermiston
 - Wednesday, **Oct. 6**, 400 N.E. Eldridge Drive, Boardman
- Visitors also will receive a gift bag that includes an energy efficient kit with an LED lightbulb. UEC members may enter weekly drawings for \$100 bill credits and a prize raffle.

Visit www.umatillaelectric.com or www.facebook.com/UmatillaElectric for details. Bill credit winners will be announced on Facebook Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28.

Coach **David Faeteete** of the **Hermiston Bulldogs** will talk about the team's recent game against the **Richland Bombers** and discuss their game plan when taking on the **Walla Walla Blue Devils**.

To huddle up with the coach, head to the **Hermiston Linebacker Club's** luncheon meeting. The no-host event is **Thursday, Sept. 30**, noon to 1 p.m., at **Desert Lanes Family Fun Center**, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston. For questions, contact **Flora Larson** at 541-567-5215 or flora@barnettandmoro.com.

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The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, Sept. 30**, is spaghetti, garlic bread, fruit and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, Oct. 5**, is turkey noodles, veggies 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.