

## THREE MINUTES WITH ...



## ROSE JOHNSONGALE

## Umatilla

## What do you like about Umatilla?

*My neighbors are great. I think, on the block that I live on, I'm the oldest one. I see young kids, families, move in. I've seen babies move in, grow up. They're in high school now. It's pretty cool. And I have friends here.*

## What does it take to be a good friend?

*Checking on each other, making sure everybody is okay, especially during the pandemic. When someone isn't well, you bring them food and you see if they need anything from the store. You keep in touch.*

## Have you done those things for anyone else?

*Yes, I've done that in my neighborhood since I've been there. One of my friends passed away and it was hard to see him go.*

## Have people looked out for you in a friendly way?

*Yes, my neighbor has done that for me.*

## How long have you been part of the American Legion?

*Four years.*

## Have you enjoyed your work with the Legion?

*Yes, I have. This is my first year of being an officer of the American Legion. It's trying, but I'm learning a lot, also.*

## Do you have any hobbies?

*I like traveling. I just got back from a trip to Seaside. I took a lot of pictures. It was fun. That's another one of my hobbies; I like taking pictures.*

## Is there any place you would like to go?

*Before the pandemic, I would go somewhere every other month. Now, I'd like to go out more. Locally, I'd like to go to spots I haven't been. I don't want to go overseas until I've seen everything in America. This is home.*

## Being an American means something to you. What does it mean?

*It means I have my freedoms to do and say things. People say you have the right to say what you think, but there's a way you can do it without hurting anyone. I have my freedom of speech, and I use it to the best of my ability without hurting anybody. That wouldn't be good.*

## HERMISTON HISTORY

## Late mail delivery in 1921 upsets residents

## 25 YEARS AGO

Nov. 19, 1996

A mother-daughter duo is working to help the orphans of war-torn Rwanda. Phyllis Sorter is a missionary from Pendleton's Free Methodist Church and has been in Rwanda since February. Her daughter, Courtney Carlton, organizes donations and supplies to send.

Sorter teaches English, builds wells, reunites families, and works to provide other basic needs for the children who rely on stealing to survive. She recently experienced a major triumph, when 30 boys were moved from tents to a house.

"Mom said the house was a praise to God," Carlton said. "She prayed, asking God to help them find a house by the end of the week, and they did." Carlton and her mother are working to get photos of the individual children in the hope that people in Eastern Oregon will sponsor (donate for) a child; "Even \$5 a month would go a long way to help," she said.

## 50 YEARS AGO

Nov. 19, 1971

Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Maddison made Echo proud at the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation state convention when they received the "President's Gold Award," the highest award, for their outstanding service.

Gaylord's unique characteristics of determination and forward-looking began in his youth. The teenage farm boy got discouraged when hot winds and drought kept ruining the crop he'd worked so hard to grow. "I made up my mind and decided I was going someplace where there was irrigation, so it wouldn't happen to me again." At the age of 18, he left his Iowa home to stay with his uncle, J. Frank Spinning, in Echo.

In 1920, the American Farm Bureau Federation was recruiting members to create a branch in Oregon, and Maddison walked up and down Buttercreek, encouraging farmers to join. They grew and strengthened the organization, moving the lobby to Salem to be more engaged in legislation. In fact, they organized the first farm insurance company under Oregon laws.

Gladys and Gaylord married in 1923 and she served as county chairman and assisted him in many of his projects. Gaylord served on numerous committees and boards, including the McNary Irrigation Association, Umatilla County Development Corporation, Umatilla County Planning Commission, Pacific Woolgrowers Association and many more.

## 75 YEARS AGO

Nov. 21, 1946

With Christmas time and huge amounts of mail approaching, new annual Christmas envelope seals will be sold. But there's something special about these ones: the funds will go towards helping eradicate tuberculosis.

Buying the annual envelope seals will fund free chest X-rays (which seal sales recently paid for 3,400 of) and intensive health education programs.

These two programs have been credited with the great decrease in the national tuberculosis death rate: 200 out of every 100,000 in 1900 and only 39.7 per 100,000 in 1945. Residents of Umatilla County, as most U.S. counties, will receive the 1946 Christmas Seal sheets in the mail on Nov. 25.

It will be the 40th annual sale of Christmas Seals in the U.S. — but this year it's more than just buying passage for mail. It's giving people



Contributed Photo

**Yankurye, left, an orphan girl from Rwanda, Africa, was reunited in November 1996 with her aunt, right, by Phyllis Sorter, not pictured, a Free Methodist missionary from Pendleton.**



Joyce Hensley/Hermiston Herald, File

**Courtney Carlton and her daughter, Phoenix, 2, read a letter from grandmother Phyllis Sorter, who in November 1996 was working in Africa as a missionary.**



Hermiston Herald, File

**Gaylord and Gladys Maddison of Echo admire the 'President's Gold Award' plaque they received in 1971 from the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation.**

a chance at a longer life, and that's quite a gift.

## 100 YEARS AGO

Nov. 17, 1921

The Oregon-Washington Railroad Navigation Company has received numerous complaints about service and mail delays. The Commercial Club met Tuesday and appointed a committee to create a presentation for the railroad company, and state railway commission if needed, regarding the complaints.

First of all, the depot is too cold since there isn't a night man on duty. It doesn't help that passengers don't know how long they have to wait outside in the cold, because the passenger trains are frequently late. With winter nearing, this point is one to be stressed.

In regards to mail, the Spokane

train will leave if the westbound train is late. This means Hermiston mail that's supposed to get to Portland in the morning doesn't arrive until evening and consequently isn't delivered until the next day.

Complaints have also been voiced about trains switching at the depot crossing, which blocks traffic for a considerable amount of time. This has already been discussed with railway officials and they're working to fix it. But the presentation better encourage the O.W.R.N. to start fixing the service and mail issues soon, or they'll have lots of angry Hermistonians!

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

## BY THE WAY

## Umatilla County Fair extends application deadline for '22 court

The Umatilla County Fair has extended the deadline to apply for the 2022 Umatilla County Fair court. The application deadline is **Monday, Nov. 22**, by 9 a.m.

Participating on the fair court offers young people an opportunity to represent Umatilla County not only during fair week in August, but at parades and other events throughout Eastern Oregon and Washington in 2022. The program is open to Umatilla County students in ninth through 12th grade. Participation provides a fun way to develop confidence and build relationships.

Applications are available via [www.umatillacountyfair.net](http://www.umatillacountyfair.net) or at the fair office at **Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center**, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. For questions, call **541-567-6121** or email [fair@umatillacounty.net](mailto:fair@umatillacounty.net).

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People are invited to kickoff the holiday season with viewing, shopping and bidding on trees, wreaths, stockings and other holiday items during **Hermiston Festival of Trees 2021**.

This year's event is **Saturday, Dec. 4**, 2-7 p.m. at the **Hermiston Community Center**, 415 S. Highway 395.

Tickets for family hour, 2-3 p.m., are \$25. The rest of the one-hour time slots are \$20 per person.

Tickets are available at the **Hermiston Chamber of Commerce**, 630 S. Highway 395. For more information or a chance to win tickets, search Instagram @festivaloftreeshermiston or visit [www.facebook.com/Hermiston-FestivalofTrees](http://www.facebook.com/Hermiston-FestivalofTrees). Watch for a story and photos about the event in the **Nov. 24** edition of the **Hermiston Herald**.

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A community Thanksgiving dinner is being hosted by **Echo Community Church**, 21 N. Bonanza St. Everyone is invited to the free meal **Saturday, Nov. 20**, 12:30-2:30 p.m. For questions, call **541-571-4419**.

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**Good Shepherd Health Care System** is offering free **COVID-19** vaccines, including the initial series and booster doses. Patients should bring vaccination cards, if applicable. No appointment is necessary: **Friday, Nov. 19**, 7 a.m. to noon; and **Monday, Nov. 22**, 2:30-7 p.m.

The vaccines will be administered in **Conference Center 1 and 2**, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Required monitoring after vaccine administration is 15 minutes.

Good Shepherd has the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines, both authorized for those 18 and older; and the Pfizer vaccine, for those 12 and older. Good Shepherd is not providing the Pfizer vaccine for 5-11 year olds at these clinics. In accordance with Oregon law, patients 15 and older can self-consent for the vaccine. For ages 12-14, a parent or guardian must be present.

For more information, call the vaccination hotline at **541-667-3426**, visit [www.gshealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.gshealth.org/coronavirus) or search [www.facebook.com/gshcsnews](http://www.facebook.com/gshcsnews).

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The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, Nov. 18**, is roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, Nov. 23**, is turkey and yams, stuffing, gravy, vegetables and dessert. (In-house meals will be served from noon to 12:30 p.m. People planning to dine in must 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.