

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



DARLENE RIESLAND

Hermiston

How long have you lived in Hermiston?

Since 1982, or something like that. I came here because of my husband. His mom lived here. I like it here.

Do you have any favorite hobbies?

I do circle-a-word and crossword puzzles. I have books for them.

Do you have any favorite restaurants?

Panda Inn (Restaurant & Lounge). I like the sweet and sour chicken.

Do you like to cook?

Yeah. I'll make Hamburger Helper, or something like that.

Do you like to read, watch TV or watch movies?

I'll watch TV. "Wheel of Fortune and "The Price is Right" are my favorites. I'll watch "Jeopardy," too.

During your time in Hermiston, what has changed?

A lot of people have moved here. I like small towns, though. They're quieter, and you know more friendly faces. Once in a while, I'll come to the Hermiston Herald office, but only when I don't get my paper.

Are there things in the paper that you like to read?

I'll read the front page. I see some interesting stories, especially stories about people.

What do you like about people?

I like to talk with them. I meet friends in person or on the phone. I like to go places with them, but I haven't been able to lately. I had an accident.

What was your accident?

I fell. I was trying to get ahold of my husband's walker. Then I fell in the Safeway parking lot. It hurts. I saw a doctor, he took x-rays of my knee and put a cast on my wrist.

Do you often have accidents?

No. That would be awful.

Who helps you when you do have accidents?

My husband. He helps me get my seatbelt on, stuff like that. He's good. He likes to do crossword puzzles.

Are there any things you would like to do or places you would like to go?

I'd like to see my sister. She's in Zillah, Washington. I haven't seen her in a long time, and I like Zillah. I might like to see the dinosaurs in Granger (Washington). I've seen the murals in Toppenish (Washington). They're nice.

Will you go there soon?

I don't know.

What would help you get there?

I'd have to ask my husband. I think he would.

—Hermiston Herald

HERMISTON HISTORY

Tiger trainer tells of his circus work 25 years ago

25 YEARS AGO
April 22, 1997

Despite the dangerous nature of tigers, trainer Larry Allen Dean shows no fear when handling these majestic animals.

The Florida-based Shriner's Reid Bros. Circus visits approximately 100 towns during its 27 weeks on the road between April and October — and Hermiston was one of its stops last week.

Dean, "Tiger Man," worked with six giant Bengal-Siberian Tigers during the two-night circus.

The show was quite a success, with Dean's tigers rolling, prowling, sitting, leaping and roaring on cue.

"I follow their natural traits and put them in an entertaining setting," he explained.

Sitting on the side during these performances were four young tigers-in-training, taking in all the techniques and movements of their older companions.

Owner of the Texas Tigers, now in his 25th year as a trainer, Dean began his career first by cleaning up after tigers as a teenager. Then he arranged for an apprenticeship under a master trainer.

"The tradition of the circus is an oral tradition. You can't buy a book to learn how to train tigers," he said.

Now a master trainer himself, Dean has toured Japan, Europe and America working not only with tigers but also elephants, lions and camels.



Hermiston Herald, File

In 1997, tiger trainer Larry Allen Dean gives a pep talk to one of his tigers before a circus performance.

50 YEARS AGO
April 20, 1972

Members of the newly formed local Interact organization are ready to get the ball rolling.

This organization, of which there are more than 200 across 66 countries and on every continent, is sponsored by the Rotary International. It is open to all high schoolers and can be one gender or mixed, depending on the sponsoring clubs' discretion.

The local Rotary Club decided this Interact organization would be all-female, in order to avoid conflict with the recently established all-male Kiwanis Key Club.

At a meeting, the nominating committee, chaired by Kathy Doherty, prepared a slate of officers to be voted on and projects to commence. Specifically, their focus was on "Operation Meadowood Drive," a fundraising endeavor to provide children with speech, hearing and language disorders to attend a speech camp for intense therapy.

According to Meadowood executive secretary Gene Conklin, about three-quarters of children attending seek financial assistance.

75 YEARS AGO
April 24, 1947

One of the the last pioneers of this region, Julia Amelia Bortzer, died at her home at the age of 82.

Julia was born on April 10, 1865, in Tama County, Iowa. She was the daughter of B.J. and Amelia Riddle, and married John R. Staley in 1884. Four years later, the Stanleys ventured on the Oregon Trail and established their home near this area.

Upon her husband's death, Julia remarried Jacob Bortzer in 1903



Hermiston Herald, File

In 1972, the new Interact organization prepares an officer election slate. Nominating committee and Rotary Club members standing in the photo are Dale Gaylord, Lisa Hamblin, Harold Miller, Lisa Dukes, Mary Meyers and Col. Harry Dukes. Vicki Nutter, Kathy Doherty and Ann Rasmussen are all seated.

90 YEARS AGO
April 21, 1932

and they lived together at Hood River for a number of years.

This woman lived a historically-rich life, having traveled the Oregon Trail, worked as a homestead wife, raised a family amidst the hardships of pioneer ranch life, witnessed numerous conflicts between settlers and Native Americans and endured multiple episodes of sheep and cattle wars.

Surviving Julia were her two sisters, Cora Young of Iowa and Etta Smith of Colorado; two daughters, Mabel Boehmer of Portland and R.F. Tash of Hermiston; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The Irrigon High School band won second place in the Class C state competition, behind Hill Military, held in Corvallis.

The band, under Merton Dawald, won the state championship the year prior, and it was back again with similar hopes in mind.

While they were one ranking short, they reported this was still an incredible feat and said they had a great time.

They were entertained at fraternity and sorority houses during their stay.

BY THE WAY

Hermiston resident brings home award for corn yield

Hermiston farmer **Victoria Carroll** earned a first-place state award in the **2021 National Corn Growers Association National Corn Yield Contest**. Carroll is one of the highest yield producers in the nation, yielding 233 bushels per acre in the No-Till Irrigated category.

The 57th NCGA contest challenged farmers to achieve record-setting yields and improve agricultural management practices for a more sustainable future, according to a press release from the association.

Stanfield Secondary School students are preparing to serve their community **Friday, April 22**. According to **Principal Blaine Braithwaite**, the kids will be out and about around town doing various service projects.

Such projects include cleaning up trash along the highway, helping out at the library, cleaning headstones and weeding at the cemetery and painting the large concrete wall at the school's football field.

Also, elementary students will be doing a walking field trip through town on the same day. They will pass out letters to businesses, thanking them.

Visit the **Hermiston Public Library**, 235 E. Gladys Ave., for **Story Time**. The library will host a public reading of a children's book at 10:30 a.m., **Tuesday, April 26**.

Make a spot on your calendar for a good cause. **Domestic Violence Services, Inc.**, will have its **8th Annual DVS Walk "In Her Shoes"** awareness event 9 a.m., April 30 at **Good Shepherd Health Care System**, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston.

This activity lets participants take a journey through a real victim's story and make decisions from the limited choices and resources they have.

Bottled water, disinfecting wipes, sanitizer, disposable masks and gloves will be available for participants.

Donations will go towards shelters in Pendleton and Hermiston, as well as advocacy centers in Pendleton, Hermiston, Milton-Freewater, Boardman and Ione.

For more information, contact events@dvs-or.org.

If you are looking for a family-friendly activity, the **Hermiston Public Library**, 235 E. Gladys Ave., has something for you. **Family Movie Night** is 6 p.m., **Wednesday, April 20**. Popcorn and drinks will be provided.

Bookminders, the book club of the **Hermiston Public Library**, has selected its latest book of the month.

The book, "**The Fortunate Ones**," is a novel by **Ed**

Tarkington. It tells the story of a young man who falls in with the wrong crowd and has to reconsider his path in life.

Visit the **Hermiston Public Library**, 235 E. Gladys Ave., to pick up the novel. It is available at the front desk. The club will meet 1:30 p.m., **May 10**, to discuss the book.

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, April 21**, is spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, April 26**, is barbecue chicken, macaroni salad, fruit 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.

The **Boardman Senior Center** is open for dine-in lunches on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, noon at 100 Tatone St. Meals are \$4 for seniors and \$5 for others. Take-out lunches are available by calling **541-481-3257**.

—Hermiston Herald