

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



BRIAN RUST

Hermiston

Could you tell me about your family?

My wife and I met in Heppner 10 years ago, we got married and we have a 5-year-old daughter. We just had a brand new baby boy a little more than month ago.

How do you like being a dad and husband?

They're both challenging, but so very rewarding. I'm helping with my daughter's T-ball team. I get to watch her grow up, go to school. She's reading better than I did in the third grade, and she's in kindergarten.

Were you an athlete in school?

Yes, I played football and basketball, and I ran track. I enjoyed every minute of it, mostly as a social thing. I didn't really have any great moments. I was the one who'd do the grunt work, and I preferred to be behind the scenes.

Do you still play?

Not really. But I'm kind of interested in pickleball. We've been doing it over here at (the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center). I've played that some. I think it'd be really cool to learn curling. I've watched it in the Olympics, and that's the one thing I think I can do.

Do you have any other hobbies?

Well, there's my coaching with middle school and high school. I really enjoy that. I like being able to teach kids what I know. Sports is something I enjoy. I don't really have time for anything else, not with family life. My wife is the choir teacher at Hermiston High School, so she has a very full job. There're always events with that, especially around Christmas.

Does your wife sing at home?

She does. You know, I don't sing with her in public. I'm the behind-the-scenes guy, setting up what she needs. We will sing together at home on occasion, but I'm really outmatched on that. She has been on marching bands and choirs. She went to China for the Olympics.

Do you like music?

Yes, and I'm more of a country guy. Garth Brooks is an all-time favorite, for sure. I haven't seen him in concert, but I'd like that. The best concert I've been to was Kenny Chesney, Rascal Flatts and Uncle Kracker. The energy Kenny Chesney puts in is impressive.

Since you work at EOTEC, could you tell us about exciting new developments?

We have something going on basically every weekend from now to Thanksgiving, pretty much. The space is great, whether it's for a meeting of 20 people, a wedding, a rodeo for a few thousand. Parks and Recreation has been in here for open gyms, and it's a great spot.

What do you like about working at EOTEC as operations manager?

I like being one of those guys in town with a lot of irons in the fire. Professionally, I've been in the ag industry for 15 years. While this job here includes some of what I did then, now I do other things. I set up events, and more. I'm really having a good time.

HERMISTON HISTORY



Hermiston Herald, File

Twenty-five years ago, Geri Dickmeier, of Umatilla Electric Cooperative, was given the 1997 'Secretary of the Year' title.

'Secretary of the Year' named 25 years ago

25 YEARS AGO
April 29, 1997

Geri Dickmeier was named the 1997 Secretary of the Year at the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce's Annual Secretary's Day Social.

Dickmeier's boss, Steve Eldridge of Umatilla Electric Cooperative, nominated her for the award and submitted a glowing letter of praise for her contributions in the workplace.

"To be nominated by a boss is a great compliment," Dickmeier said.

As part of her award, Dickmeier received a limousine ride from Luxury In Motion, a \$100 gift certificate from Roemark's, a gift from N.W. Jewelers, dinner at Fontaines', lunch at Chappy's, a night's stay at the Oxford Suites and a dozen red roses from Cascade Natural Gas.

Other awards for the secretaries included "Most Pictures at their Desk," won by Lori Armstrong of McDonald's with 39 pictures; "Longest-Working Secretary," won by Willie Harmon and "Longest Time Working at the Same Job," won by Barbara Bresnahan of Cascade Natural Gas.

50 YEARS AGO
April 27, 1972

April 29, 1972, marked a special day for the Swayze and Bounds families, who founded the first banks in the Hermiston area.

This banking legacy began in 1906 with F.B. Swayze, who traveled from Oklahoma in search of economic opportunity. Upon arriving, Swayze realized the need for a bank and opened the First Bank of Hermiston later that year. In 1908, it was renamed the First National Bank and moved to the corner of First and Main, where it remained until 1950. After F.B. Swayze died, his son, Frank Swayze Jr., sold the bank to the U.S. National Bank of Oregon in 1953.

Around the same time, the Inland Empire Bank in Umatilla was thriving under the management of Roger Bounds. In 1959, the Bounds opened the Hermiston branch of the Inland Empire Bank and his wife, Doris Bounds, became the manager and chairman of the board of directors after her husband's death in 1961.



Hermiston Herald, File

In 1997, this smoking rubble was all that was left of a Pendleton Grain Growers fertilizer steel storage shed that had caught on fire.



Hermiston Herald, File

In 1972, Doris Bounds celebrates the opening of another one of her family's banking branches in this area.

In 1972, she celebrated the grand opening of the third branch of the Inland Empire Bank, in Boardman, as a 66-year continuation of banking tradition.

75 YEARS AGO
May 1, 1947

School activities and events back in 1947 were busy.

A May Day program, presented by the elementary school on May 2, included the annual Activ-

ities Banquet. Following the banquet, a formal dance took place in the high school gym with a ceremony of the crowning of the prom queen.

On May 3, the elementary district track team held a meet. Sponsored by the Hermiston Rotary Club, participants from Echo, Stanfield, Hermiston, Ordinance, Columbia, Umatilla, Irrigon and Boardman engaged in this competition of strength and speed.

The baccalaureate ceremony occupied the evening of May 18. Then the next couple of days will render students fairly busy, with final examinations and tests taking place on May 19 and 20.

90 YEARS AGO
April 28, 1932

William Holford made his Lincoln High School, of Portland, proud when he was declared the state winner of a national essay contest.

Conducted by the National Student Forum, this competition of historic analysis and writing skills asked students to write an essay answering the question, "What is the Bearing of the Paris Peace Pact on the Question of Disarmament?"

By winning the state prize, Holford was then eligible to compete in the state contest. The reward for winning this contest was a trip to Europe. Ray Steubing of Jefferson High School won this trip two years prior.

BY THE WAY

Pick up your Hermiston Police ribbons and magnets

To honor local law enforcement officers, the **Hermiston Police Department** is making ribbons and magnets available. These items, which are in the shape of the department's patch, are free and distributed through area churches and local businesses.

Banner Bank, Bi-Mart, Hermiston Drug and Gifts, Les Schwab Tires and Papa Murphy's Pizza are among the participating businesses.

Law Enforcement Appreciation Week is May 15-21.

The **city of Boardman** is reminding pet owners of the need to keep their dogs and cats current on their rabies vaccinations. This year the city will host a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic

This low-cost rabies vaccination event is **Saturday, June 11**, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the **Boardman City Park**. The cost of the rabies vaccination is \$25 per pet.

Along with the vaccinations, the city will offer free dog licensing.

For more information, call **Boardman Animal Control Officer Jose Fernandez** at **541-481-9252**.

For an opportunity to sell items that have been gathering dust in your garage, consider joining the **Community Wide Yard Sale** in Irrigon.

People are invited to submit their name/address to be

added to the map. In addition, vendor space is available at the **Irrigon Pavilion** on Northeast Main Avenue — tables are \$15.

The event is **Saturday, May 7**, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. To reserve a space or to provide yard sale information, call the **Irrigon Chamber of Commerce** at **541-626-2045** or email **irrigon-chamberofcommerce@outlook.com**.

If you have yet to check out **StoryWalk** at **Hash Park**, 440 Pendleton Ave, Umatilla, what are you waiting for?

Every month, the **Umatilla Public Library** places pages from a children's book in frames along the path in the park.

This month's book is titled "**Under My Tree**" by **Muriel Tallandier**. It tells the story of a girl who leaves her city home to visit her grandmother. On her way, she finds a very special tree of her own in the forest.

According to the library, this book is "a wonderful introduction to trees for young children that gently cultivates an appreciation for nature."

Check out this book while there is still time. Then, return to the park for the next book. Planned to be ready on Monday, May 2, the next one will be a **Star Wars** book.

Are there any teens out there who are still wondering what they want to do after high school? If so, the **Hermiston Pub-**

lic Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., might have a helpful event.

The library will host **Teen Career Day** on **Saturday, April 30**, at 3 p.m.

A few people will be at the library to discuss careers. Attendees will be welcome to ask them questions about what they do and how they got started.

Visit the **Hermiston Public Library**, 235 E. Gladys Ave., for **Story Time**. The library hosts this weekly in-person event **Tuesday, May 3**, 10:30 a.m.

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, April 28**, is hamburgers, potato salad, French fries and fruit. The menu for **Tuesday, May 3**, is sausage gravy and brats, mashed 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.

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**.