

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



MARK ROSE

Hermiston

You're the executive director of the Hermiston Public Library. How long have you been here?
I arrived August 16, 2016, so it's been nearly six years now. During that time, we survived COVID and a few windy days.

How do you like the job?
I like the job. I like the work that public libraries do. To me what's important about it is that anyone who walks through the front doors, and behaves themselves, is welcome. We do have standards and expectations. We don't want people yelling and screaming. You have to have respect for others.

What is the worst thing you have caught someone doing in a library?
Honestly, I think the worst thing that happened once is that someone tried to steal someone's purse. This was years ago, shortly after 9-11. The patrons were so infuriated, they caught the person. Someone sat on them, waiting for the police to come. They just decided it would not happen while they were there. That happened at a different library though. At that same other library, I had to clear the building once because of a bomb threat. What I find here is that most people who come here are happy with the facility, and they're pretty good.

What resources are available at this library that people may not consider?
I don't think people often think of our librarian staff as a resource. So much is online, and you think you can find everything you want, but there is no one checking for quality on YouTube or different sites. You have an issue not knowing what is a reasonable source of information. At the library, though, we have people who can direct you to the best sources. We aren't lawyers, for example, but we can show you where to go if you need legal information, or medical information, that can seem very deep. We can help you better than someone's uncle on Facebook or something like that.

Can you tell me what's coming up for the library?
New construction is going to happen as we develop, but the city hall is going to come first. Once it's completed, we'll see if the necessary funds are available to turn the library's basement into library space. It's on the agenda, but we need to see if the dollars are available.

What's the best new book that's out right now?
The best book is the one that's interesting to the reader. The fun thing is that we have a newsletter that the public can sign up for. It's on our website, and it's called Wowbrary. It tells you the new books that are out each week. From that newsletter, you can find a new book and put a hold on it at our library.

What are you reading right now?
I'm often reading something for the book club. I read "The Fortunate Ones," by Ed Tarkington, recently.

Have you ever thought about writing a book?
I thought about it very briefly, but decided it wouldn't be for me. When I was a teenager, I thought about writing a historical fiction novel. Then I started thinking about all the levels of information and details I would need; it was enormous. You have to replicate a time period very accurately and then weave in fictional aspects of it. As a history major, I would have to write 10-page papers frequently. That's what we did, and it was a lot of work. I love to read, but I never had enough of something that I wanted to tell to write a book about it.

HERMISTON HISTORY

Construction in 1997 modeled future buildings

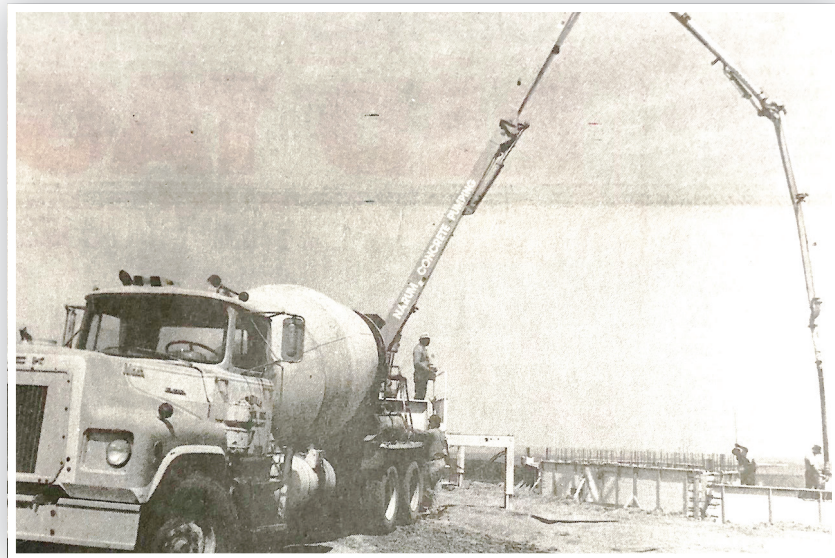
25 YEARS AGO
May 13, 1997

"No fire danger, no rodents, no dry rot and no moisture," contractor Mike Carlson said about the new construction now available to Hermiston residents.

Brad Rozema grew up in Hermiston and founded Concrete Special Ties in Gresham in 1986, a company that builds sturdy concrete structures. With branches in Wilsonville, Vancouver and The Dalles, Rozema was more than happy to bring his services back to his hometown with the opening of a new branch in Hermiston on May 1.

Rozema predicted his special construction techniques and products would soon replace wood construction due to the scarcity, high costs, poor quality and environmental concerns surrounding lumber. One of the main advantages Rozema identified was the absence of gaps; in wood construction, joints or air gaps let in outside moisture and other elements. In addition, Rozema's partner Duane Bowden highlighted the better heating, longevity and fire resistance of concrete buildings.

While these buildings would cost a little more, the price might be considered worth it. After all, look around and you are sure to see many concrete houses today.



Hermiston Herald, File

After its branch establishment in Hermiston in 1997, Concrete Special Ties got right to work constructing a house for Glen and Joyce Rohde on a hill overlooking Pendleton.

50 YEARS AGO
May 11, 1972

Joe Garcia's unique collection of historical artifacts brought to life the history of Eastern Oregon. And it all started with a newspaper in an attic.

An Arizona native, Garcia became fascinated with searching for and collecting antiques when he moved with his wife, Dorothy, to Echo in 1949. In the attic of their new house, Garcia discovered a few old newspapers and other memorabilia that piqued his interest. Since then, he asked local residents and searched abandoned homesteads for other antique objects and his collection expanded exponentially.

Among his collection included an 1811 and 1869 Bible, a 1900 Victrola in playable condition, shoe skates used on the Columbia River when it was shallow enough to freeze over, a 1848 prayer book, a 45.7 caliber Springfield Army rifle with the bayonet attached and much more.

While Garcia regretted quitting school in the seventh grade and not pursuing a career in airplane designing and construction, he was thankful for the opportunity to build his collection of more than 150 antiques.



Hermiston Herald, File

Twenty-five years ago, Echo students are treated to a traditional pioneer meal of fry bread, hotcakes and strawberry rhubarb dessert. Echo Parent's Club member Tom Lewis is with Juan Reyes, 12; Carl Allstott, 12; Brian Spike, 17, and Cory Johnson, 11.

75 YEARS AGO
May 15, 1947

Edward D. Jones and Ralph Dixon of San Francisco made a grand entrance when they landed their twin-engine Beachcraft plane in Hermiston.

The two men were on a business and pleasure trip. Dixon, owner of the plane, worked in manufacturing heavy earth-moving equipment and had a contract at Moses Lake, Washington, on the Columbia Basin project. Jones was vice president of the Standard Oil Company and sales representative for 11 western states.

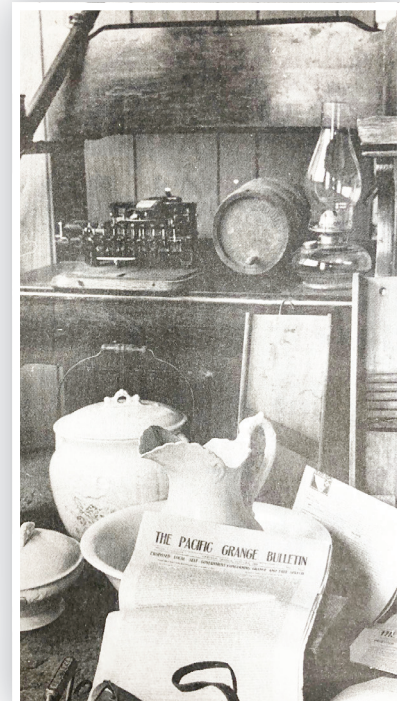
Dixon and Jones gave their commendations of the condition of the Hermiston airport, as it had only been recently constructed. In fact, their plane was the largest ever to use the airport — and there was still extra space each time the runway was used.

Not only did the trip go well for the pilots, but it was a good tester and indication of the efficiency and capability of the Hermiston airport. With this suc-



Hermiston Herald, File

In 1972, Genevieve Templeton displays her stunning artwork, a large peacock made out of tin cans, at the Hobby Club Show.



Hermiston Herald, File

Items from Joe Garcia's collection of local antiques as of 1972.

cessful example, the airport was predicted to be utilized by more and larger aircraft in the near future.

90 YEARS AGO
May 12, 1932

The recent father and son banquet, the first one held in a number of years, was quite a success.

Sponsored by the local Boy Scout troop, approximately 90 people came. The night began with Boy Scout Master Oscar Payne introducing the Commercial Club president; chairman of the troop committee H.A. Pankow; and other members of the committee. Last to be introduced was Robert R. Hayes, Scout executive of the Blue Mountain Council.

Following introductions was the main entertainment of the night, a mock trial. Here, formality faded and was replaced by an amusing fantasy where

W.J. Warner, the city attorney, acted as judge; B.J. Nation, the local deputy sheriff, was given the role of the offender; and W.L. Hamm and Harry Kelly served as attorneys for the state and defense.

According to the trial, Nation was being charged with attempting to assault his son with an ax. The "case" was carried out in all seriousness but affected a continual uproar of laughter and gaiety among the "jury."

Judge Warner eventually decided on a fine of \$100 to be used in boy scout work and a banquet to be given once a month by the defendant. The banquet soon came to an end, with fathers and sons enjoying each others' company and keeping their distance from axes.

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

BY THE WAY

Umatilla High School Family Night to provide information, fun

Umatilla High School is looking toward the 2022-23 school year and developing improved connection between the school and its families.

It is planning **Umatilla High School Family Night** on **Friday, May 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** at the **Umatilla Marina, 1710 Quincy Ave.** The event is intended to make connections between parents of UHS students, the students themselves and high school administrators, teachers and staff.

Marisa Gonzalez, who teaches health, physical education and weights at UHS, is spearheading the event.

Family Night will include carnival games, a basketball tournament, a taco truck, music and information tables about UHS activities.

All ninth through 12th grade students/families are invited. For more information, call Umatilla High School at **541-922-6525**.

The **Boardman Chamber of Commerce** shared a message from the family of **Ryan Neal**, former executive director for the **Port of Morrow**.

"The family of Ryan Neal has been touched deeply by the outpouring of love, care and concern after our loss," family members said, according to the chamber website. "Thank you

for reaching out, we have been uplifted by hearing from each and every one of you."

A celebration of life will be held outdoors **Saturday, May 7, 3 p.m.** at the **Marker 40 Golf Club, 78873 Toms Camp Road, Boardman.**

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First Thursday is back. This year, it falls on **Cinco de Mayo**, which means that Hermiston is ready for a fiesta.

The **Hermiston Downtown District** invites visitors to a fun shopping experience in and around Hermiston's downtown area, **Thursday, May 5, 4:30-7 p.m.**

Shops and restaurants are planning to have specials, refreshments and a district-wide drawing for a gift basket.

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Would you like to receive free books for your child from birth to age 5? The **Hermiston Public Library** is partnering with **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** to provide this service.

You can visit imaginationlibrary.com to sign up your children. Each child will receive one free book in the mail every month to keep. The first title will be the children's classic, **"The Little Engine that Could."**

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Be an orc, wizard, elf paladin or anything else you want to be in **Dungeon's & Dragons**. The **Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.**, is teaming up with a local game store, **Tolarian Table Tops LLC**. They will be hosting a short campaign for new players at the library **Wednesday, May 4, 4:30-7:30 p.m.**

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The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, May 5**, is chicken cordon bleu, baked potato, vegetables and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, May 10**, is meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, 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** 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**.