

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



JACKIE WYCKOFF

Hermiston

How long have you lived in Hermiston?

Forty-seven years. I retired from Lamb Weston two years ago. I worked there 44 years and 3.5 months.

How do you feel about Lamb?

They changed. I'm just glad I'm not there. They have 12-hour shifts. Personally, I don't think you can do quality as well when you do it that way.

Are you enjoying your retirement?

I retired in January 2020, and COVID hit in March, so I haven't been able to do a lot. I'm my mother's caregiver now, and she's 88. We've always done things in our community. We've helped with the fair — she was the supervisor of the whole building and I did clothing for a long time. We've done a lot in town. I'm just glad I'm not working now, with the prices there are right now and not being able to get ahold of things. Quarters, water, baby milk... it just worries me about the trouble you can have getting things. The way everything is going, it just worries me.

Are there any other big issues that bother you?

There's the war in Ukraine. It really bothers me. You read the paper, and you see what's going on. It's gotten to where I don't like watching the news anymore.

COVID may soon get better. Do you think you'll travel?

I'd like to, but it depends on how my mom is doing. Mom recently had two emergency surgeries, one in December and one in January. We had to cancel a trip to Hawaii, but we're hoping to see my sister in Alaska, if everything calms down, and prices for planes don't go up any higher than they have been. I'm keeping my fingers crossed. And there's gas prices. They go up, and we spend more and more. That might make it so we aren't going anywhere but our own state, but I guess that'll be fine.

Where is the nicest place you have already been?

I've been to Hawaii twice. I've been to Alaska. As a matter of fact, we've been on the Kennicott on the marine highway, and we loved doing that. We came back at night, though, and you shouldn't do that. You couldn't see and it was scary. But I've been to Italy. During the bicentennial, I had a nephew who was in the service over there. I went over to see him. So I've been to some places, but I really like it here. Hermiston is a good place with a nice community.

You're thankful to be in Hermiston, then?

I am. I have a lot of family here, so many nieces and nephews. I'm glad that many of them got their houses before the price hike.

What are some of the places you like to visit in Hermiston and the surrounding area?

I like the senior center. I take mom there. We love the fair and going to shows. There are different restaurants that we like going to. We like to go to Echo for the H & P (Cafe). We like to go into Hale's (Restaurant) and The Pheasant (Blue Collar Bar & Grill). The bowling alley (Desert Lanes Family Fun Center) is a real nice place now for dining, especially for Fridays when it has prime rib. And of course, Nookie's (Restaurant & Brewery). This place has changed a lot in the last 45 years.

There are a lot more people.

Oh, yeah. It was 10,000 people when I first moved here, now it's almost 20,000. I don't like the big cities like Portland and I hope we don't turn into that.

HERMISTON HISTORY

Local mother stands out 25 years ago for her caring heart

25 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1997

Mother's Day reminds us to recognize and thank all that mothers do.

Even in trying circumstances, the care mothers give is plain outstanding. Take Lori Masterson as a prime example.

Lori and her husband Mike were the proud parents of 8-year-old Melissa and 5-year-old Eric. At the age of four, Melissa was diagnosed with aplastic anemia, a rare and typically fatal disease that destroys red and white blood cells in the blood and bone marrow.

Although Melissa coped with the illness, she developed uncontrollable emotional outbreaks that required powerful medication and emergency runs to the Oregon University Health Science Hospital.

"I never know when I'll have to go to Portland. We just live day to day," Lori said.

On top of that, Eric battled a severe case of ADHD and vocal tics from Tourette's Syndrome. His compulsive behavior was stabilized through medications, but periodic incidents still occurred.

When asked how she managed to stay so kind and positive throughout such tough situations, Lori replied, "A doctor told me once that God only gives these types of children to those who can handle them. We both have the inner strength to do what it takes."

50 YEARS AGO
May 4, 1972

Lots of good news was shared at the recent Good News Club Rally, where local children won awards for competing in several evangelistic contests.

Entitled, "How the Bible Can Change Our Country," this nationwide contest featured numerous categories like artwork, literature, memorization and more.

Kim Neuffer and Karen Wheelhouse won in the poster division and enjoyed the honor of having their posters on display at Adam's Art and Stationary and Hector's Family Shoes. Joining them at the top of this contest was Cheryl Muldoon, who won the essay portion.

Other competitions occurred, including Bible reading, of which Cheryl and Jody Watson tied for first place. Awards were also given for different aspects of youth clubs, including perfect attendance, with Cheryl once again taking the title.

75 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1947

With a vote of 4 to 3, the Hermiston City Council decided to spend \$250 on a trial to eliminate mosquitoes in this area.

As spring drew to a close and temperatures began their upward climb, pesky mosquitoes came out in full force and made themselves a significant item on the council's agenda.

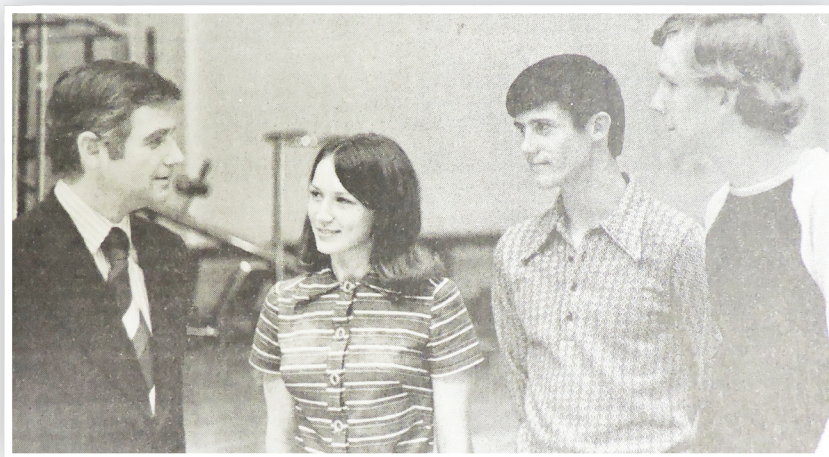
Dr. Eagleston of the Columbia Laboratories in Portland and Mr. Roth of the Department of Agriculture outlined a program that had achieved relative success in other areas. Eagleston estimated a cost of \$473, which included DDT dust and spraying equipment. He



Hermiston Herald, File
Lori, Eric and Melissa Masterson were looking forward to Mother's Day in 1997.



Hermiston Herald, File
Contestants for the 1997 Miss Hispanic Contest line up for the judges and the crowd at McKenzie Park. Pictured here are Sandra Luz Aguilar, Monica Perches, Carla Rodriguez and Elsa Bedolla.



Hermiston Herald, File
In 1972, U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield meets with Hermiston High School student body officers Nancy Bird, Mike Wick and Rick Estle.

stressed his opinion that the cost would be worth it and was backed up by the large delegation of interested people, headed by the Business and Professional Women's club, who had come in support.

After a considerable debate, the council decided to try it out — after all, the worrisome amount of mosquito larva found in nearby swamps and ponds forecasted a very itchy summer.

90 YEARS AGO
May 5, 1932

As students can attest, getting good grades is tough. Nearly a century ago, 20 students made it happen by achieving perfect grades at Oregon State College.

Ernest Sears of Rickreall led all other OSU students with straight A's for his tenth term. In fact, he obtained the highest possible grades in every term except two courses in his underclass days where he "fell down" to a B. If grades are any indication of success, Sears was also awarded

the coveted graduate assistantship in plant genetics at Harvard University.

Following Sears was Alison Comish of Corvallis, with A's in every course during her five terms at OSU.

Next on the list of scholarly excellence, with their fourth term of perfect grades, were Donald M. Arant of Forest Grove, Adolph Menseidit of Tillamook and David Wiley of Portland.

Rounding out the high marks by being on scholastic roll for the previous term were Walter Ott, Hermiston; Donald Prentiss, Gladys Whitlock, Lawrence Darlington and Helen Whitelaw, Corvallis; James Weatherspoon, Elgin; Alan Cobb, Kenneth Eldredge and Miles Drake, Portland; Therald Moeller, Toledo; Wallace Ferguson and Andrew Thomas, Marshfield; Ruth DeArmond, Sitka, Alaska; Alice Fisher, Albany; and Robert Evenden, Warrenton.

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

BY THE WAY

2022 Rock & Gem Show is scheduled for EOTEC May 14-15

Attention, rock hounds! The **2022 Rock & Gem Show Nature's Treasures Under Foot** is this weekend at the **Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center**, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. Times are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on **Saturday, May 14** and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on **Sunday, May 15**.

The show includes a kids' corner with games and prizes. A silent auction is scheduled for both days. Also, there is a door prize drawing every half hour.

The event is hosted by **Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society**. Admission is \$3, free for children 12 and under when accompanied by an adult and \$2 for anyone over 60.

The **2022 Booster Bash** is an opportunity to help the **Riverside Jr./Sr. High School Booster Club** as it supports local kids. The event is **Saturday, May 14**, 5-9 p.m. at the **Port of Morrow Riverfront Center**, 2 Marine Drive N.E., Boardman.

For \$25, people will be able to enjoy a brisket dinner with sides and a drink. Raffles, door prizes, dessert auction, live and silent auction and more are planned, too.

Tickets can be purchased at **Riverside Jr./Sr. High School**, 210 Boardman Ave. N.E., Boardman, but be quick. Only 150 tickets will be sold in this exclusive 21-or-over event.

Visit the **Umatilla Public Library**, 700 Sixth St., for **Planting and Painting**. Open to ages 11-18, attendees may paint a pot and plant a flower for some cheerful spring decor. The event is **Friday, May 13**, 2-4:30 p.m.

Call **541-922-5704** on Wednesday, May 11 to request a succulent or cactus.

Bring your appetites and prepare to meet with kindly local businesspeople. The **Irrigon Chamber of Commerce** is planning its monthly **Chamber Luncheon**. It is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 11**, 12 p.m., at **Stokes Landing Senior Center**, 195 Opal Place, Irrigon. Cost is \$10 for members and \$12 for guests.

We hope your calendar is not too bee-zy for an upcoming presentation at the **Hermiston Public Library**, 235 E. Gladys Ave. Beekeeper **Ron Hendrickson** is planning to present his trade on **Thursday, May 19**, 6-8 p.m. He will bring a live bee display.

In-person **Story Time** is back at the **Hermiston Public Library**, 235 E. Gladys Ave. It is **Tuesday, May 17**, 10:30 a.m.

School's in for summer! The **Hermiston School District** announced its **middle school summer program** for currently enrolled fifth to seventh graders.

It is **June 20 to July 1**, 8:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for session 1. Session 2 is **July 18 to July 29**, 8:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, May 12**, is pork loin, stuffing, vegetables and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, May 17**, is baked fish, scallop potatoes, coleslaw 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**.