

THREE MINUTES WITH...



Phil Hamm
Hermiston

What can you tell me about your pickleball club?

We started this last year, we had a great time and we took it outside (to the courts near the Hermiston Senior Center, 435 W. Orchard Ave.).

When did you start playing pickleball?

About three years ago. You know, this is America's number-one growing sport. And it's amazing. No matter where I go in my travels, I can find someone playing pickleball. And they just embrace you. You'll see a lot of older people in it, and it is good for older adults, but you'll also see kids playing it. It's just a great game. You don't have to run as much as you do in tennis, so it's a bit easier for a lot of us.

What days does your club play, and is everyone welcome?

It's Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 7-9 a.m. We might start up in the evenings, too. Everyone is welcome, and we'd love to see the entire town come. It's all done through Parks & Rec. They have a \$15 fee, and that comes with a T-shirt and the use of equipment. We have all the paddles and balls and stuff. And we have all levels of people who play with us. You can be a champion or you can be a beginner.

Do you have other hobbies? Is pickleball the most important thing going on in your life right now?

No. Church is the most important thing going on in my life right now. Pickleball might be fifth place. There's also hunting, and that could be second. And I like to garden with my wife. Things that keep me outside are a lot of fun. And I'm involved with the Lions Club, things like that. I'm on the Planning Commission and the (Umatilla Electric Co-Op) Board of Directors. I'm on the Blue Mountain Community College Foundation. I do some other things.

We live in a great city, don't we?

We live in a great community. It's great.

HERMISTON HISTORY

Lucy Reyes becomes a helper 25 years ago

25 YEARS AGO
JULY 15, 1997

To gain experience for her social service career, Lucy Reyes would be lending a hand with an alternative education program in Hermiston.

After she took a psychology class in high school, friends of Reyes who were involved in juvenile programs would even seek her informal counseling. Soon enough, Reyes realized her counseling skills and decided to pursue such a career.

After graduating from Pendleton High School in 1966, Reyes enrolled in Blue Mountain Community College and began her two-year human services course. With options such as domestic violence, education service district, head start and corrections, this course required students to select and work for three different social service agencies during the eight-week practicum training.

Reyes chose education as her first agency and came to Hermiston to assist teachers in the alternative education program. Once her job was done there, she intended on working in a prison. And after Reyes completed the whole two years of social service work, her goal was to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology at Boise State University and become a juvenile counselor.

50 YEARS AGO
JULY 13, 1972

"Now we have the great experiment," Mayor L.P. Gray said of the decision to close the West Hermiston Avenue street expansion between First Place and North First Street on a trial period for 60 days.

Eldon Wahner, Manager of Tum-A-Lum Lumber Co., opened the discussion with his concern that a one-way westbound direction would inconvenience his customers, requiring them to drive around the whole block to pick up orders.

The street's overall safety was also in question. Hermiston Junior High School Principal John Cermak pointed out the absence of pedestrian lanes posed a danger to students, and councilman Clarence Graham admitted he avoided using the street out of concern for his safety.

However, Harold Horton countered those claims saying, "I use that street all



Hermiston Herald, File
Blue Mountain Community College student Lucy Reyes, photographed in 1997, would prepare for a career in social service by helping with Hermiston Alternative Education programs.

the time and I haven't encountered any problems."

In addition, councilman Dick Hodge brought up that 2,100 cars use West Hermiston Avenue and its closure could have negative effects on nearby Gladys Avenue-North and First Street intersection.

The trail closure, which was eventually unanimously passed, would span August and September to observe its impact during school.

75 YEARS AGO
JULY 17, 1947

Instead of simply discarding excess war materials, the Umatilla Ordnance Depot allowed people to purchase such rare and valuable items.

Lt. Col. R.G. Curtin, the commanding officer of UOG, announced that approximately 45,000 used ammunition boxes of various sizes, as well as a small amount of unreclaimable scrap lumber, would be auctioned off to the highest bidders.

During the next two weeks, all individuals aside from War Department Employees would have the opportunity to examine and bid on the different items.

With the sale closing and all bids required to be entered on July 28, 1947, those with a passion for collecting were encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to obtain what would soon be historical artifacts.

90 YEARS AGO
JULY 14, 1932

S.M. Zeller of Oregon State College was endorsed by the Department of Agriculture, which claimed that his "tree-wound paint" was the best known to science.

Zeller, a plant pathologist, developed his mixture in 1926 at the OSU experiment station. Of the 120 substances prepared, and tested by forest pathologists of the United States Department of Agriculture, Zeller's proved to be the best.

According to test reports by Rush Marshall, forest pathologist of the USDA stationed at Yale, Zeller's paint was able to destroy decay-causing organisms while also forming an air or water-tight covering, which many other substances failed to do. In addition, it could remain on a tree wound and resist all sorts of weather for seven years.

A mixture of linseed oil and commercially prepared dry bordeaux mixture, the "paint" is applied in thin coats with a brush.

Zeller's formula was so successful that the commercial Barlett company of Connecticut was preparing to market his paint, adding a green pigment to improve visual appeal. And to honor the man who made this plant saving salve, each package would give credit to the OSU experiment center and Zeller.

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

By The Way

Early 1970s Bulldogs plan pack reunion

Calling all members of **Hermiston High School** classes of **1970 through 1973**, a joint Bulldog reunion is planned. The event kicks off with a no-host meet and greet on **Sept. 30**, 5 p.m. at **Midway Bar & Grill**.

The fun and memories continue on **Oct. 1**, 3-9 p.m. at **Bennett Botanical Gardens**. No-host food and drinks will be available for purchase. The cost is \$15 at the gate.

In addition to food, musical entertainment is planned. Also, organizers are looking for a volunteer to take group photos. For more information, search www.facebook.com/groups/113359993897.

Speaking of reunions, the **Hermiston Herald** is here to help you get the word out about upcoming class gatherings. Send relevant information (date, time, place, cost and contact information) to **community@eastoregonian.com**. In addition to small announcements at no charge, we invite you to purchase advertising space to multiply your outreach to help make your class reunion a success.

It's time to dive in and help the **American Red Cross** as they partner with **Discovery** for **Shark Week**. People are invited to test the waters and help save lives by giving blood or platelets during the month of July. Get your heart pumping and help combat the 12% decline in June donations.

Everyone who donates **July 1-31** will be entered in a Shark Week merchandise package drawing. Make a splash and maybe even win a paddle board, kayak, beach bike, smokeless portable fire pit and a \$500 gift card for other beach accessories. Also, all donors will receive an exclusive Shark Week T-shirt July 21-24, while supplies last.

Hermiston blood drives:

- **Monday, July 18**, 12:45-5:30 p.m. at **Good Shepherd Medical Center**.
- **Thursday, July 21**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at **Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church**.

For other dates and sites, including Pendleton, Tri-Cities and

Walla Walla, visit www.redcrossblood.org. To schedule a donation appointment, visit the website or call **800-733-2767**.

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, July 14**, is chef salad, garlic rolls/crackers, fruit and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, July 19**, is meatloaf, mashed potatoes/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.

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**.

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