

## 2 LIGHTER SIDE

### THREE MINUTES WITH...



**Robert Guerrero**  
Hermiston

#### Who are you and what do you do?

Robert Guerrero, lieutenant supervising the Investigations section at the Hermiston Police Department, and assisting Umatilla County Fire District No. 1 as a fire investigator.

#### Where did you grow up? When did you come to Hermiston?

I was raised in Boise, Twin Falls and Lewiston, Idaho, until high school when my family moved to Milton-Freewater. Following high school, I joined the U.S. Army and served eight years active, being stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Berlin and Panama. I returned to the area in 1999, and served two years in the Oregon Army National Guard and began my law enforcement career. I moved to Hermiston in 2014 after having been employed as a police officer at the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and Milton-Freewater Police Department.

#### What are a few of your hobbies?

I enjoy extended white water rafting trips, motorcycling and cycling.

#### How do you spend your free time?

I enjoy spending time with my family, and am currently furthering my education.

#### How would you describe yourself?

I would consider myself a go-getter, and dedicated to those I am responsible for.

#### What is something that you're passionate about?

I am passionate about honesty and truth, even when they may not be popular.

#### What are a few of your proudest accomplishments (can be personal or professional)?

Having raised children throughout my career, through crazy hours, shifts and absences, seeing them succeed in life probably tops any other accomplishments.

#### What do you like most about the community you live in?

One of the most important things to me about Hermiston is the community's support for the children and their education. I believe that is a great measure for any community and Hermiston leads the way in that regard.

### HERMISTON HISTORY

## Meals on Wheels in August 1997 delivers food and friendship

25 YEARS AGO  
SEPT. 2, 1997

When Darlene and Gary Riesland would come to the Hermiston Senior Center, they delivered much more than just hot meals.

For five years, the Rieslands volunteered with the local Meals on Wheels program. Funded by the Area Agency on Aging, a branch of the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon, the meals came at the cost of a mere two dollars. Originally only available to those who were classified as low-income, the program was expanded to all seniors with the only requirement being that the senior must be homebound.

Each Thursday and Friday, the Rieslands would deliver meals, along with compassion, to residents through the Hermiston Senior Center.

"It helps if you're alone; you don't cook much," Doris Swearingen said of its benefits. "It gives you something different."

Leila Leech, Hermiston Nutritional Program manager, added that "some are hard of hearing and some have a hard time eating, some don't like to eat with others."

The Rieslands thoroughly enjoyed volunteering, which gave them the opportunity to assist and connect with the seniors. "They're not just customers," Gary Riesland said, "they're our friends."



Hermiston Herald, File

Darlene and Gary Riesland in August 1997 deliver a hot meal with a side of friendship to 84-year-old Doris Swearingen as part of Meals on Wheels through the Hermiston Senior Center.

ton-Freewater Transient Aid.

Bud Draper, Marvin John's wife, Fred McIntyre, Jack Weemgoff, Rev. Harold McArthur and Rich Carson were also serving as chairs on the committee and would accompany Earnheart in his UGN endeavors.

75 YEARS AGO  
SEPT. 4, 1947

With a huge influx of enrollment and only one elementary school, Hermiston realized it was about time to create additional facilities to house their students.

Both the elementary and high school received a large boost in student figures. The high school count increased by 58 pupils, totaling 279. The biggest class were the freshmen, with 88 students, while the other three classes were all around the mid-60s in population.

The elementary school continued its growth trend, with a combined 1,054 students. This immense turnout was 104 students greater than the year before and 189 from two years prior.

Superintendent W.H. Bloom reported that the unexpected increase necessitated the second grade class, taught by Katherine Christensen, to function in the Methodist Church basement.

Now with six elementary schools — the newest, Loma Vista Elementary School opened this week — it would be quite a shock if the district had to use a

church basement for additional classroom space.

90 YEARS AGO  
SEPT. 1, 1932

A famous French singer, an American war general and several high-ranking individuals were among those planning to attend the State American Legion Convention in Portland in September.

Maurice Chevalier was asked by the French government to attend the convention for the reunion of the "Lafayette Escadrille." The French Embassy at Washington, D.C., also notified legion officials that the renowned French soldier, M. Rossingol, would attend the convention as well.

As if foreign fame was not enough, Gen. John J. Pershing would be present too. To add to the American pride, Rear Adm. Richard H. Leigh would be making a grand entrance by arriving in command of the flagship Omaha, accompanied by the cruiser Concord. Other war officials who would make their way over to Portland included Wartime Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels and Secretary of War Patrick J. Hurley.

Even the mayors of Detroit and Boston would be present at the convention, as guests of the Legion National Cmdr. Henry L. Stevens.

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

### By The Way

## Governor's luncheon rides into region

Giddy up, it's almost time for the **Eastern Oregon Women's Coalition Annual Round-Up Governor's Luncheon**. The event features special speaker **Katy Coba**, the state's chief operating officer and director of administrative services, and special guests **Happy Canyon** princesses, **Samantha Crain-Allen** and **Marley Johnson**.

The luncheon is **Friday, Sept. 16**, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — after the **Westward Ho! Parade** — at **Blue Mountain Community College**, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/eowc.biz](http://www.facebook.com/eowc.biz). RSVP to Bobby Levy at **541-561-5557** or [bobby@eowc.biz](mailto:bobby@eowc.biz).

If you plan on relaxing with a good book over **Labor Day** weekend, be sure to check out books early. The **Hermiston Public Library** will be closed **Sept. 3-5**. For more information, search [www.hermiston.or.us/library](http://www.hermiston.or.us/library) or call **541-567-2882**.

With fall just around the corner, the **Hermiston Harvest Bazaar** is plowing into town. In addition to marking your calendars for **Oct. 1, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** at the **Hermiston Community Center**, 415 S. Highway 395, organizers are seeking local artists and vendors.

Local artisans or craftspeople can get a jumpstart on the holiday bazaar season selling their wares. Coordinated by Hermiston Parks & Recreation, space options include one table with two chairs (\$40) or two tables and two chairs for (\$80).

The registration deadline is **Sept. 23**. However, don't dally as limited space is available. To register, call **Diana at 541-667-5014**.

The **Hermiston Downtown District** is preparing to rake in a barrel of fun on **Festival Street** with beer/wine tasting, food and live music. It might seem a bit *deja vu* — but why not? The **Cork & Barrel** event held in June was such a big hit, it's time to do it again.

The one-night adult festival is **Oct. 1, 5-10 p.m.** Additional details, including ticket availability, will be announced. For more information, search [www.facebook.com/Hermistondowntown](http://www.facebook.com/Hermistondowntown) or call **541-289-1112**.

For those needing to do some fall cleaning, **Hermiston Parks & Recreation** has the perfect event for you. A **Community Yard Sale** is **Oct. 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** in the parking lot at the **Hermiston Community Center**, 415 S. Highway 395.

Items for yard sale/garage sales — no vendors, home business products or bazaar items.

The registration fee of \$5 is due by Oct. 1. For more information or to register, visit [bit.ly/hermistonrecreation](http://bit.ly/hermistonrecreation). For questions, call **541-667-5018**.

The **Harkenrider Senior Activity Center** menu for **Thursday, Sept. 1**, is sloppy joe, macaroni salad, fruit and dessert. The menu for **Tuesday, Sept. 6**, is chicken cordon bleu, baked potato, 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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### PRIORITIES

A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove... but the world may be different because I was important in the Life of a Child.

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