

City councilor plans retirement after lifetime of public service



Photo by Andre Kaniers

Freeman Holmer, a Eugene city councilor with a history of serving in the state's higher education system, could retire as early as January.

By Janis Joseph
Emerald Reporter

After more than six and a half years as a member of the Eugene City Council, Freeman Holmer is retiring.

Holmer said he intends to retire at the end of June, 1990 if a single candidate is nominated in May and has a majority of votes. If two candidates are nominated, the councilor from Ward 5 (northeast Eugene) said he will not retire until the end of his term, January 1991.

"Next month I'll be 72," Holmer said. "And I still play tennis and travel and I haven't done all the tennis playing and traveling that I want to do."

He said he also believes that "there ought to be a turnover in public office. After about eight years, one has done all that one can do that is really important."

Holmer said he sees two of his "really important accomplishments" as a councilor were his being the creator of a voter's pamphlet for city measures and recognizing the need

for a new bridge over the Willamette River to replace or complement the Ferry Street Bridge.

"I was the one who really started the planning for the new Ferry Street Bridge," he said. "These are the two accomplishments that I feel will have a permanent influence on the city."

City councilors are elected every four years on a nonparti-

knew his extensive background and experience in public service.

He "won quite substantially" in the first election and ran unopposed three years ago.

Holmer said he believes that the most important part of being on the council is to set the agenda for the city government so that it is doing things that will serve the public.

(T)here ought to be a turnover in public office. After about eight years, one has done all that one can do that is really important.

— Freeman Homer

san ballot to represent one of eight wards. Councilors are not paid a salary.

Holmer said that he has spent his "whole life in public service."

He first ran for city council in 1982, at the request of many people in the community who

Councilor Emily Schue said she will remember Holmer most for being a "detail man."

"He reads all the fine print and all the ordinances and pays attention to all the little issues," she said.

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INFORMATION TABLE

October 10-11, 9:00am to 3:00pm, EMU Lobby

PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday, October 10, 3:30pm

"Let it Begin Here", EMU Maple Room

Wednesday, October 11, 12:00

"Peace Corps Impressions", EMU Maple Room

Wednesday, October 11, 7:30pm

"Putting your Science degree (or Liberal Arts degree) to work in the Peace Corps", EMU Gumwood Room

INTERVIEWS

October 30-31, 9:00am to 4:00pm,

Hendricks Hall, Career Planning and Placement Center

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Campus Visit: Nov. 2, 9-4:30

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