Hermiston celebrates opening of Harkenrider Center

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Staff photo by Jade McDowell

Beverly Harkenrider speaks at the dedication ceremony for the Harkenrider Senior Activity Center, while Mayor David Drotzmann listens.

Staff photo by Jade McDowell

Community members enjoy refreshments in the new Harkenrider Senior Activity Center.

The sun was shining and the mood was festive as about 200 people gathered Saturday to celebrate the opening of the Harkenrider Senior Activity Center.

"This is what Eastern Oregon life is all about," Mayor David Drotzmann said.

Behind him was the new 7,000-square-foot senior center built on Ridgeway Avenue downtown. Its features include a large gathering area, breakout rooms, offices, gas fireplace, deck, unfinished basement and a commercial kitchen stocked with $100,000 of equipment.

The center was named after Frank Harkenrider, who served as city councilor or mayor of Hermiston for a total of 50 years. His wife Beverly Harkenrider noted that he was excited to be there to turn over the first shovelful of dirt for the groundbreaking, but did not live to see the building to completion.

"He would be thrilled to see everyone here today," she said.

Both she and Drotzmann noted Harkenrider's deep love of Hermiston that earned him the nickname of Hermiston's biggest cheerleader. Drotzmann gave a "Go Bulldogs!" cheer and congratulated the Hermiston High School football team for winning its football game against the Richland Bombers the night before.

"He wouldn't have let me get through a speech without that," Drotzmann said.

Several speakers at the dedication ceremony discussed the history of the new building, starting five years ago after Umatilla County sold the former fairgrounds where the old senior center was located to Hermiston School District. The district agreed to let the seniors lease the property until 2016, but the senior center board began looking for a path forward to a new center. Dennis Doherty, who was a county commissioner at the time, told the audience that it soon became clear that the best chance the seniors had at raising enough funds for a new building would be to apply for a federal Community Development Block Grant. The city agreed to be the governmental sponsor for that, and parks and recreation director Larry Fetter took point on the project.

Fetter said the grant came with a huge amount of strings attached, and dealing with the bureaucracy of that had been his biggest focus the last few years, along with working with multiple groups involved in the project who had strong and often differing opinions.

"In the end it was worth it, because our seniors are worth fighting for," he said.

He told the audience that the Harkenrider Center would be the seniors' home "forever," not just the five years required by the grant money.

Senior center board president Irene Miller thanked the many people involved in making the project happen, and encouraged all seniors in the community to participate in the meals and other activities that will be offered there.

"It's our dream that every senior will want to be a part of what's going on here," she said. "We need new hands, new ideas and new bodies — lots of new bodies."

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

FRIDAY

12:27 a.m. - A resident on North Loop Road, Stanfield, called for law enforcement when her neighbor came over to pick up her goats, which were on the caller's property.

7 a.m. - An archery hunter reported possible poaching. He was east of U.S. Forest Service Road 52-26 and saw a harem of elk enter a thicket of trees. Then a gunshot rang out, and all the cows bolted, but the bull did not come out. Oregon State Police investigated and did not find anyone.

9:01 a.m. - A Pendleton resident on Southwest Third Street asked to speak to an officer "regarding her neighbors congregating in her driveway and not moving."

11:22 a.m. - A man told Hermiston police his ex-girlfriend "got rid of a bunch" of his belongings, and he believed she may have pawned them at Columbia Outdoor Sports & Surplus, 395 E. Main St., Hermiston, because he found his generator there. Police took a report.

12:04 p.m. - Pendleton police took a report for an assault at Short Stop, 2012 N.W. Carden Ave.

2:53 p.m. - Stanfield police received a report of possible drug activity on East Wood Avenue.

4:47 p.m. - Pilot Rock police received a tip that a local woman was driving suspended.

SATURDAY

1:41 a.m. - The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a burglary on South Edwards Road, Hermiston.

12 p.m. - Pendleton police received a 911 report of drug activity in Brownfield Park, 12 S. Main St.

4:48 p.m. - Two males arguing prompted a call for law enforcement because their conflict was escalating.

4:56 p.m. - Pendleton police took a report for an assault at Stillman Park, 413 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton.

9:26 p.m. - Hermiston police received a report of a fight at Victory Square Park at West Hermiston Avenue and Southwest 10th Street.

11:29 p.m. - People waved down a Pendleton police officer for a fight at Sorbenot's Coffee, 402 S.E. Ninth St.

11:53 p.m. - A 911 caller on Van Buren Drive, Umatilla, reported criminal mischief.

SUNDAY

1:45 a.m. - A 911 caller reported a disturbance at Cadillac Jack's Saloon & Grill, 1703 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton.

5:40 a.m. - Pendleton police received a 911 report of criminal mischief at McDonald's, 900 Southgate.

10:45 a.m. - Pendleton police took a report for criminal mischief from a residence on Southwest Emigrant Avenue.

11:06 a.m. - Pendleton police responded for a transient who entered one of the Royal Blue trucks in the former Albertson's parking lot on Southwest 12th Street.

11:32 a.m. - And Homestead Youth & Family Services, 816 S.E. 15th St., Pendleton, reported — yep — criminal mischief. Police cited a person for the offense.

12:40 p.m. - A caller asked Hermiston police for help with the vehicle someone abandoned three months ago in the right-of-way of their grandparents' property on West Hartley Avenue.

1:22 p.m. - Workers on the eastbound side Interstate 84 near mile post 210, Pendleton, contacted police after finding a small bag that may have contained methamphetamine. Oregon State Police responded, and a trooper took the bag for destruction.

4:07 p.m. - Just when you though it was over. Yet another report came into Pendleton police about criminal mischief, this time on Northwest Sixth Street.

11:11 p.m. - Pendleton police responded to Crabby's Underground Saloon & Dance Hall, 220 S.W. First St., on a 911 call about a fight.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

Friday

•Umatilla Tribal Police arrested Rosa Lara, 34, no address available, for dangerous drugs and criminal activity in drugs, both felonies, on the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

•Umatilla Tribal Police arrested Veronica Jayne Hall, 22, no address available, for disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, public intoxication, criminal activity in drugs and criminal use of drugs.

•Oregon State Police arrested Silvestre Julio Garcia, 25, of Hermiston, for driving under the influence of intoxicants and failure to carry a driver's license. State police reported he provided breath samples that showed more than .15 and .14 percent blood-alcohol content, almost twice the legal limit of .08 percent.

Saturday

•Umatilla Tribal Police arrested James Anthony Jones, 40, of Pendleton, for criminal activity in drugs and on a misdemeanor warrant.

•Oregon State Police arrested Karmen Lee Lexington, 65, no address available, for DUII (controlled substance) after pulling her over on Interstate 84 near milepost 204 west of Pendleton. The trooper brought her and her dog to the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton. She consented to a breath test and provided urine.

Law enforcement had nowhere to keep her dog, and a tow truck already hauled her vehicle, so the trooper gave her a citation and a ride to the Motel 6 in Hermiston.

•Pendleton police arrested Ryan Q. Laib, 29, of Pendleton, for DUII.

Sunday

•Oregon State Police arrested Kristal Doyle-Morales, 24, no address available, for DUII (controlled substance).

•Umatilla Tribal Police arrested Kevin James Crane, 26, of Pendleton, for menacing, assault and domestic abuse.

•Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Timothy Page Stacy, 34, of Irrigon, for menacing, harassment, fourth-degree assault, felon in possession of a weapon and second-degree criminal mischief.

•Boardman police arrested Manuel Lopez Pascual, 35, no address available, for DUII and hit and run causing injury.

Monday

•Pendleton police arrested Weston Edward Longhorn, 26, of Pendleton, for DUII (alcohol) and interfering with a peace officer.

Cyclists hitting Eastern Oregon roads by the thousands this week

Oregon Department of Transportation

BAKER CITY — Motorists can expect to see 1,500 bicyclists on Eastern Oregon routes this week as Cycle Oregon continues its week-long event that started Saturday in Baker City. The annual two-wheeled pilgrimage saw hundreds of bicyclists travel along OR86 between Baker City and Halfway on Sunday. The group will ride the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway and other routes as they visit Wallow Lake, Elgin, Pendleton and La Grande, before returning to Baker City next weekend.

Motorists are advised to drive with extra caution, watch for bike riders and share the road. Heavy bike traffic can be expected on the following routes.

- **Monday, September 10**: Halfway to Wallowa Lake State Park via Highway 86, FSR 39, Highway 350 and Highway 351.
- **Tuesday, September 11:** Wallowa Lake State Park to Elgin via Highway 82.
- **Wednesday, September 12:** Elgin to Pendleton via Highway 204, Pambrun, Thornhollow, Cayuse and Mission roads, and Court Avenue.
- **Thursday, September 13:** Pendleton to Pendleton via Echo following Highway 37, Despain Gulch Road, Highway 395, Thielsen and Rieth roads.
- **Friday, September 14:** Pendleton to La Grande via Court Avenue, Mission Road, Old Highway 30, I-84 between Mileposts 248 and 259, with a lunch stop at Hilgard Junction State Park off Highway 244.
- **Saturday, September 15:** La Grande to Baker City via Highway 30, Highway 203, Highway 237, Anthony Lakes Highway, Pocahontas Road and Hughes Lane.

Oregon Department of Transportation crews performed road sweeping operations along state routes prior to the ride and will continue to monitor the shoulders and construction work zones to help provide safer travel for the bike riders. Highway variable message reader boards will display safety reminders along

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CRAZY RICH ASIANS [PG13] 4:10 6:50 9:30
THE MEG [PG13] 4:50 7:20 9:50
ALPHA [PG13] 4:30 6:40
MILE 22 [R] 7:10 9:40
MAMMA MIA! HERE WE GO AGAIN [PG-13] 4:20
SLENDER MAN [PG-13] 10:00
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Pendleton, OR I-84 - Exit 216

Thursday, September 20, 2018
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
CHI St. Anthony Hospital
Conference Rooms 1 & 2 • 2801 St. Anthony Way
Pendleton, Oregon 97801
REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Class fee is $40.
Pre-registration is required by September 19, 2018.
To register, call 541.278.2627 or email emilysmith@chiwest.com.
Register early as classes fill quickly!
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CALL 541.278.2627
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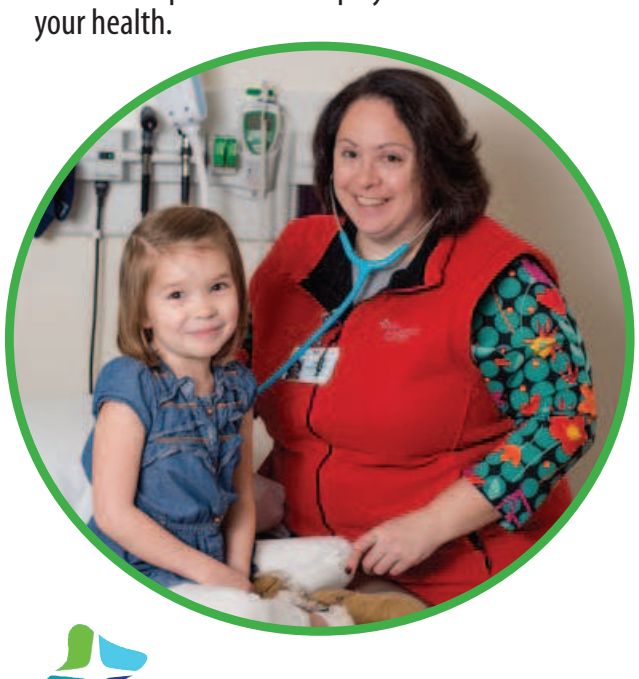

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