



# Hermiston Herald

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

HERMISTONHERALD.COM

## Council welcomes new member

Board OK's preparing settlement agreement over street vacation

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

The Hermiston City Council welcomed a new member and said goodbye to longtime public servant Frank Harkenrider Monday.

At the City Council meeting, new Ward IV Councilman Douglas Smith was sworn in for a four-year term after being elected in May.

"I can't guarantee I'm going to be the best, but I guarantee I'm going to give it my best shot," he said.

Councilwoman Clara Beas-Fitzgerald was also elected for the first time in May but took the oath of office for the second time Monday after being appointed to the position in

SEE CITY/A9

## TODAY'S WEATHER



Partly cloudy  
High: 39° Low: 29°

## OUTLOOK

- THURSDAY  
Mostly cloudy  
High: 41° Low: 33°
- FRIDAY  
Partly cloudy  
High: 53° Low: 37°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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FOR LOCAL BREAKING NEWS

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## HPD implements changes

New 12-hour team shifts provide accountability, new mission statement provides more focus

BY SEAN HART  
HERMISTON HERALD

The Hermiston Police Department is starting the year by changing officer schedules and its mission statement.

Chief Jason Edmiston said the more concise statement will help officers remember and focus on the department's mission, and the new 12-hour shift schedule will foster a more team-oriented environment.

The old two-paragraph, five-sentence, 130-word mis-

sion was replaced with these 46 words: "Without fear or favor and in partnership with our diverse community, we will create and maintain a safe environment with the reduction of crime through problem-oriented and community-based policing strategies. The quality of life for those we serve takes precedent over our individual needs."

Edmiston said the statement would be easier for the officers to memorize and remind them they

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### HPD mission statement

Hermiston Police Department's new mission statement: "Without fear or favor and in partnership with our diverse community, we will create and maintain a safe environment with the reduction of crime through problem-oriented and community-based policing strategies. The quality of life for those we serve takes precedent over our individual needs."

HPD's old mission statement: "The Hermiston Police Department exists as a unit of municipal government for the provision of police and emergency services in the most cost effective manner, consistent with prescribed ethical and constitutional limitations. The Department will be responsive to community priorities, and through contemporary administrative practices and employee development, will initiate proactive, effective programs to fulfill its role. Departmental efforts will emphasize protection of life and property, suppression of crime, enforcement of laws and ordinances, apprehension and prosecution of offenders, and the safe, expeditious flow of traffic. The application of Community Oriented Policing, emphasizing the partnerships with various community members and businesses will be encouraged. The implementation of a problem solving approach to address chronic locations and activities will be utilized, to specifically address quality of life issues within the community."



## LOCAL DANCERS SHINE

MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTO

Kristi Smalley performs her dance routine with partner Seth Ward Saturday night during the Dancing with the Hermiston Stars event at Hermiston High School.

## Smith crowned victor in movie-themed Dancing with the Hermiston Stars

BY MAEGAN MURRAY  
HERMISTON HERALD

Six contestants portrayed characters from movies to perform ballroom dances Saturday night during Dancing with the Hermiston Stars, but just like in the film "Hun-

ger Games," only one person was victorious.

This year, the odds were in Hermiston O So Kleen owner Dave Smith's favor. Smith was crowned the winner after taking the stage to swing dance to "Jailhouse Rock" with partner Dani Dunmire

while impersonating Elvis. Decker out in a bright orange jumpsuit and a fresh head of flowing black hair that wasn't his own, Smith swung his hips and completed a number of athletic moves with ease that impressed the audience even more than the judges.

After Smith's performance, announcer Mark Lowes and judges Phil Hamm, Angela Pursel and Mark Ettesvold were quick

to give him a hard time about his hair.

"All week, I hadn't seen you with that particular hair style," Lowes said. "Being the owner of O So Kleen, I thought you were just shaving your head to go for the Mr. Clean look but come to find out, it is real."

Ultimately, the judges were impressed with Smith's performance.

"You are a fearless

dude," Ettesvold said. "You just had no fear up there."

Smith didn't receive the highest scores of the night from the judges, but he raised the most money for Campus Life, the charity he represented for the event, through donations that counted as audience votes. He ended up receiving scores of two sevens

SEE DANCERS/A12

## ASPIRE mentors help students develop future plans

### Hermiston High School celebrating National Mentoring Month

BY MAEGAN MURRAY  
HERMISTON HERALD

In the last few years, Hermiston High School senior Jazmin Gutierrez said she has changed her mind eight times about what she wants to major in at college.

It was only after she suffered a knee injury that she realized what she wanted to do. Gutierrez said she tore her anterior cruciate ligament last summer and had to go through months of physical therapy. Without the rehabilitation, she said, her basketball career could have ended. Because of the experience, Gutierrez realized she want-

ed to major in human physiology and become a physical therapist so she could one day help athletes recover from similar injuries.

Without her ASPIRE mentor, Greg Cortaberria, however, Gutierrez said she would not have known where to start on her journey to becoming a physical therapist.

Gutierrez said when she first came to see Cortaberria as a sophomore, she was uncertain about how she wanted to accomplish getting into college and how she was going to pay for it.

"Greg helped me open my eyes to how many other options are out there," she said.

Cortaberria said Gutierrez had some unrealistic expectations about how she was going to achieve everything she wanted to while in high school so she could end up on the right track.



MAEGAN MURRAY PHOTO

Hermiston High School senior Jazmin Gutierrez meets with her ASPIRE mentor Greg Cortaberria Thursday afternoon at the high school.

"She came to me and said she wanted to do it all," he said. "I said 'Oh, OK. What is all?'"

Cortaberria was able to help Gutierrez narrow her focus to

what she needed to accomplish now so she could get into the right colleges that would support her

SEE ASPIRE/A9

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