



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

Jesus Rome 'creates' his cha cha partner, Haley Wayt, of the Utah Ballroom Dance Company.



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Shannon Snyder gets down while disco dancing with Joey William of the Utah Ballroom Dance Company.



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Debbie Cissna gets ready to rumba with Collin Palian of the Utah Ballroom Dance Company.

**STARS:**

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"You couldn't hear him, but he was giving me quiet directions on stage," Preus said.

While Preus only scored 23 of 30 possible points from the judges — tying for last with Jesus 'Chuy' Rome — the win was determined through a combination of the judge's scores, audience votes and donations made to selected charities on behalf of each star.

With each dollar counting as one vote, all of the dancer's charities were winners — raising \$15,650, a record for the event, which is part of the Desert Arts Council season. Of

that, more than \$8,300 was donated to the Blue Mountain Community College Foundation.

"This will provide super support for students," Preus said.

The final dancer to take the floor — who was runner-up for the event — was Dan Briscoe, whose chosen charity was Vange John Memorial Hospice.

Performing the Argentine tango with Trina Morago, the two were as red hot as their costumes. One point shy of perfection with the sultry and flirtatious dance, they received 10s from judges Phil Hamm and T.J. Hansell, while Jackie Peterson, a local dance instructor, gave the couple a nine.

With a wild white wig and a bit of "Weird Science," Rome created his partner, Haley Wayt. Had he been judged for his facial expressions while doing the cha cha for CASA — the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program of Head Start — Rome would have carried home the trophy.

"The best part was your face ... but it took away from what was going on down there," Peterson said.

Collin Palian got Debbie Cissna ready to rumba for Pregnancy Care Services, where she is the center director. Peterson was impressed with Cissna's fancy footwork with the dizzying dance, while announcer Mark Lowes, executive director of the Utah Ballroom Dance Com-

pany, asked if she felt like she survived a tornado.

Goodness gracious "Great Balls of Fire," Blaine Ganvoa did the swing with Marina Hattan. Jiving for Martha's House, Ganvoa scored on Peterson's dance card.

"You can be my partner any time," she said.

Rocking a pair of white go-go boots while the beat of "Disco Inferno" blasted out loud, Shannon Snyder shimmied with Joey Wil-

liam for Made to Thrive. The dance may not be dead, but Snyder, who was born during the height of the disco era, was winded after the performance.

"I can't breath now," she said with a laugh.

Hansell called Snyder's moves a "weapon of mass seduction." And, before revealing her score, Hamm tricked Snyder into shimmying one more time.

While the results were being tallied for the com-

petition, the audience was treated to a dancing showcase by professionals in the troupe. Earlier in the evening, a group of local schoolchildren took the stage and presented a piece choreographed by the dance company.

Plans are already underway to bring the Utah Ballroom Dance Company back next January for another installment of the popular show, said Mary Corp of Desert Arts Council.

**PROPERTY:**

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seniors, the city requested that the district make the property available again.

Fetter said the city felt comfortable with a 50-year lease. He said it was highly doubtful a new senior center would be built by the time the current one is demolished in January 2017, but that he was in discussion with The ARC of Umatilla County about temporarily using their building at 215 W. Orchard Avenue for a lunch program until the new center is completed.

In answer to questions from the school board, Fetter said some senior citizens were not happy that the Harkenrider Center would feature breakout rooms and more recreational opportunities, or that it will be made available for city-sponsored classes in the evenings. Current seniors just wanted a place to eat lunch, he said, but research indicates that isn't what the younger Baby Boomers are interested in.

"This is a \$2 million investment. We want to take advantage of it," he said.

The school board voted unanimously to allow district staff to enter into a 50-year lease agreement with the city for the property.

The building will be named for Frank Harkenrider, who was on the city council as either a council member or mayor for more than 50 years and was a longtime advocate for senior citizens and the community as a whole. Harkenrider retired from the council in January 2015.

**Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Brody!**  
 Hip, hop hooray and happy 5<sup>th</sup> birthday! You are getting so big and we are so proud of you!  
 Love, Grandpa and Grandma Powell

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