

City issues call to action on downtown revitalization

Anyone interested in taking action to help revitalize Hermiston's downtown is invited to a meeting on Feb. 28.

The meeting, planned for 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center (1705 East Airport Road in Hermiston), will be to discuss needs for downtown and will end with participants breaking into action groups

to tackle specific needs.

Presenters will include Sheri Stuart, Oregon Main Street coordinator; Emma Porricolo, Hermiston's Main Street program coordinator and Mark Morgan, assistant city manager.

Porricolo has been interviewing downtown stakeholders, including business owners and property owners, and has identified five major themes: a need for

more retail and restaurants, a need for more downtown events, a perceived lack of parking, needed building upgrades/upkeep and beautification.

The second hour of the meeting will consist of breaking into task forces with the goal of recruiting and establishing groups that will create action plans for tackling the issues listed above.

"This meeting will be both informational, and action-oriented" Porricolo said in a news release. "Everyone who is interested in seeing a vibrant downtown is invited to come learn what the priorities of downtown stakeholders are, and seize on an opportunity to volunteer on one of these committees and capitalize on the momentum that is building downtown."

HERMISTON HISTORY

25 YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 4, 1992

Community growth and available water are intertwined in Hermiston and the city is preparing to tap into new sources for improving the water system and encouraging economic development.

A work session of the Hermiston City Council gave leaders a new outlook on both issues and a renewed optimism.

City manager Ed Brookshier gave council members their first glimpse at a revised plan for improving the city's water supply and distribution system.

The plan calls for an eight percent increase in water and sewer rates in each of the next three budget years. The first increase will be seen in July.

The average resident's water and sewer bill will go up \$2.52 per month in July, from approximately \$32 per month at the current rate.

The rate increase is the first since 1984. The utility increase is being proposed to finance improvements to the city's water distribution system. Funds from the increase will be placed in reserve for that purpose.

"If we reach the point that we can not supply additional water we are affecting not only our ability to attract new industry and jobs to the community, but even the plans of our existing businesses, housing production and the housing market in general," Brookshier said.

The Hermiston High School boys' swim team remains unbeaten. The boys rolled up 114 points Saturday to easily outdistance Pendleton (75), The Dalles (69) and LaGrande (49) in a four-way meet at EOSC.

Senior Dan Henderson (200 and 100-meter freestyle) and sophomore Toby Wilcox (50 freestyle and 100 butterfly) were double winners for the Hermiston boys.

Rob Bauer won the 100 breaststroke for HHS boys.

50 YEARS AGO

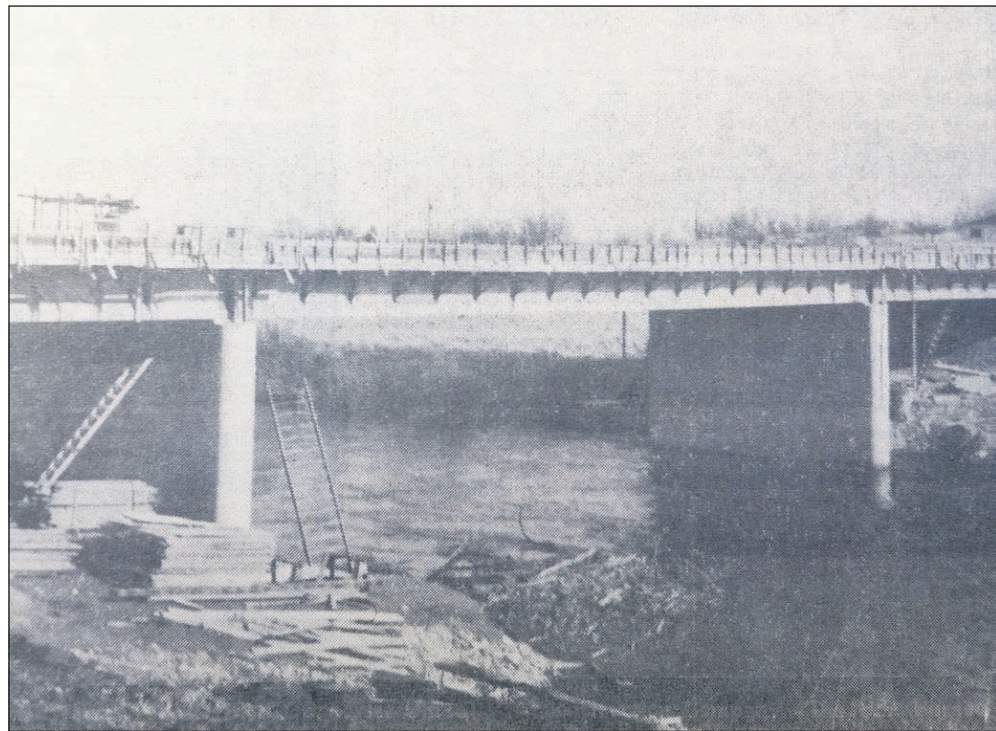
FEBRUARY 2, 1967

Frank Harkenrider was elected president of the city council at last Wednesday evening's meeting. Only other nominee was Councilman Lawrence Gray.

As president of the council he will preside during council sessions in the absence of the mayor and serve as acting mayor if Walter Pearson is out of town. This is Harkenrider's second term as council president.

State police of the Hermiston detachment reported that an Irrigon young man had accidentally shot himself in the leg with a .44 caliber rifle at Boardman.

State Police who investigated said that Morris



EO FILE PHOTO

The new Westland Bridge across the Umatilla River was near completion in early 1967. The bridge cost \$110,635 and cost was shared by the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, the Oregon State Highway Department and Umatilla County.

Thomas Thompson, 22, had accidentally shot himself in the leg while in a car in the Riverside high school parking lot at 8:45 p.m. Saturday during the Riverside-Stanfield basketball game. He was taken to Umatilla hospital, where he remained through Tuesday. His condition was reported as good.

In a game played at Echo Saturday, Umatilla defeated the Cougars 60-44. The win placed the Vikings second in Umatilla-Morrow standings at 8-3. Lonnie Buck and Steve Eldridge, with 17 points each, were high for the Vikings. Joe Rosenberg with 20 points led the Cougars. Umatilla Junior Varsity won over Echo JV 51-47 in overtime.

75 YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 5, 1942

The Hermiston Commercial Club committees have been appointed for the new year and new activities will be launched. Following a hectic year of boom business, Hermiston merchants and businessmen are again fronted with the need of new endeavors and enterprises. Just what the new year will bring in the way of activities here can not be determined as yet but the Commercial Club members are determined to be better prepared should another "boom" appear on the horizon. The year 1941 brought much new business but also some brand new lessons in merchandising and public service.

A short program for 1942 will be outlined at the meeting Tuesday and it is urged that as many as possible attend. New businessmen and women are especially invited to make their acquaintance with fellow workers in the city.

All Red Cross sewing, finished or otherwise, must be turned in at once, according to word received from the county sewing chair-

man, Mrs. C.E. Lemons of Pendleton. It is urged that as many articles as possible be completed and returned to the U.S.O. Building this week.

The new quota will be distributed soon.

Hermiston will meet the strong Parkdale quintet on the local floor Friday night. Although little is known of the actual strength of the visitors, it is known that they have put up a good showing in their district. This will be the final game prior to the district playoff.

100 YEARS AGO

FEBRUARY 3, 1917

By an almost three to one vote, property owners of the Westland Irrigation District last Saturday decided on its formation and elected a board of directors. There were 33 votes for the district and but 13 against. The directors elected were J.M. Prindle. C.R. Roberts, J.W. Messner, O.D. Teel and J.H. Strohm, with G.W. Rugg as treasurer. Tuesday the county court formally signed the order creating the district after canvassing the vote earlier.

The organization proposes to take water out of the Umatilla River just below the Furnish dam, siphon it across at the Bond Bros. Ranch and convey it by canal several miles to

the mouth of Alkali Canyon where the proposed reservoir will be built. Plan calls for an expenditure of something like \$200,000. The project now has splendid water rights covering winter and spring irrigation, but the river is dry before the season is through and settlers cannot get the full benefits from their land. The reservoir will store sufficient water to supply all the lands under the Westland district for the remainder of the season after the regular flow of the river is down.

The land under the new district is some of the best and lays easiest to prepare that there is to be found in the Columbia River irrigation belt. The completion of the reservoir will mean almost 50 per cent greater crops to the settlers and will also bring new people.

The Irrigon Commercial club is doing nicely for an organization only a few weeks old, having now a membership of thirty. Thanks to our Hermiston friends whose efforts have so greatly aided us in beginning to do our share relative to the Columbia highway route up the river to Umatilla and thence to Pendleton. A set of resolutions were sent to Salem the first of last week and this club will do all in its power to get the highway where it should be.

THREE MINUTES WITH ...



KELLY NOBLES

UPS Center Manager

When did you come to the area and what brought you here?

I was born in Hermiston. Went to 16 elementary schools across the U.S., then we settled in Bellevue, Washington, where I completed junior and senior high school. In 1989 I returned and started my career with UPS as a truck driver and spent the last 10 years as the manager of six UPS centers in Eastern Oregon.

What is your favorite local place to eat?

I love Stockman's Steakhouse. Best food in town, love Chuck and Karen. Oh yes, they have the best bartender around.

What is your favorite activity in your free time?

Playing music in Blue Tattoo and RAIL. Last year Blue Tattoo played with Lover Boy, Vince Neil, Ratt, Quiet Riot, Twisted Sister, Skid Row, Autograph, Great White and others. RAIL did 46 cities on the 1980 U.S. tour with Van Halen. Had three videos on MTV and still perform nationally with acts like Ted Nugent, Boston, Heart, BOC, Foreigner, Three Dog Night, Kansas, The Guess Who, Beach Boys, Blue Oyster Cult and many others.

What's the last book you read? Would you recommend it?

"The Speed of Trust" by Stephen Covey. If you are interested in how leadership challenges need to cultivate and leverage trust, it is a must-read.

What app or website do you use most, besides Facebook or email?

I find myself using the Google voice app for almost everything. "OK Google call ..." or "OK Google find ..." the voice command feature is very user friendly.

What surprises you about Hermiston?

I was surprised to meet Terri, my wife of 20 years, in Hermiston and have four great kids. When I moved back to Hermiston I was not expecting to be so lucky.

Describe your perfect travel destination.

San Juan, Puerto Rico. Not only did we get to perform at Roberto Clementi Stadium with Rick Derringer, Pat Travers, and the Romantics but we spent two weeks in the warm waters and white sands of the San Juan. Love the Caribbean, my favorite place to go.

What's the funniest thing that's ever happened to you?

When RAIL won the MTV basement tapes. In 1983 MTV had a best band video contest for \$100,000 and an EMI record contact. 2,200 bands from London to Tokyo entered the six month contest and RAIL was voted #1 winning the contest. Along with \$100,000 we recorded an album in LA with Night Ranger's producer.

What is one of your goals for the next 12 months?

Retiring from UPS this year. Getting more involved with real estate. Spending more time with my family, and performing as many shows as Blue Tattoo and RAIL (and another new band called KTF) can set up.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

My family, all of them, however I am not sure I would call that an accomplishment.

TOOTH WISDOM

Whether you have your own teeth or dentures, this class will help improve oral health and increase your knowledge about its importance to health and well-being. FREE! Includes goodie bag



Attend one of these classes:
Feb. 7, 14, 21 or 28 • 10-11am
GS Medical Office Plaza - Meeting room 2
Contact Facilitator Helena Wolfe at 541-561-5443

DIABETES LIVING WELL

Learn more about your diabetes, its effect on your mind and body, and ways to better manage it.

6 weekly classes
Starting Feb. 2 • 3-5pm
GSMC Conference Center 7
Must pre-register, call 541-667-3509



HEART-TO-HEART

Join us for this FREE class about heart health. Bring your lunch and questions to learn simple changes that lead to a heart healthy life



Feb. 15 • 11am-1pm
45 minute presentation, repeated
GS Conference Center 2

HEALTHY FRIDAYS

FREE health screenings & health coaching: Blood pressure checks, weigh-ins, body mass index, cholesterol and glucose.

First Friday of every month
8am-11am
GSMC Conference Center 7 (by Education Dept)



Information or to register
call (541) 667-3509
or email
healthinfo@gshealth.org
www.gshealth.org



When they say "It's cold out!"
and you say "Don't Shout?"

Verna Taylor, HAS
Ric Jones, BC-HIS
Forrest Cahill, HAS

SOUND ADVANTAGE
HEARING CENTER

541-567-4063
405 N. 1st St., Suite #107,
Hermiston

541-215-1888
246 SW Dorion, Pendleton

OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

HUNTER'S RIGHTS • HUNTABLE WILDLIFE • HABITAT

**Banquet, Raffle & Auction Featuring
An All State ELK Tag Sponsored by
the Access and Habitat Program**

February 11th • 5:00 pm
at the Pendleton Convention Center

**Raffle & Auction Items including a D&B
Treasure Chest & M2D Properties Youth Hunt**
To Register Call Rebecca 541-379-1074
or Terry 541-231-4384

**MONEY RAISED BY OUR BANQUET
STAYS IN OREGON!**
Columbia Basin Chapter supported the
following events and many others:

- Youth Bow Hunt
- Coyote Predation Management
- OHA/ODFW Pheasant Hunt and Skeet Shoot