

Hermiston Herald

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BONUS CLUE

Hermiston's 'No. 1 fan' gone



STAFF PHOTO BY JADE MCDOWELL

Frank Harkenrider looks through scrapbooks in his home that depict the early days of Hermiston's watermelon giveaway in Portland.

Former mayor and councilor Frank Harkenrider, 90, died Monday in Hermiston

By JADE MCDOWELL
STAFF WRITER

Hermiston lost its biggest cheerleader on Monday.

Frank Harkenrider, 90, died in Hermiston Monday night. He served in Hermiston's city council chambers as a councilor or mayor for more than 50 years before taking his last vote in December 2014.

Harkenrider was known for his intense loyalty to Hermiston, which grew from 800 residents to more than 17,000 during his lifetime. He faithfully lost bet after bet with Pendleton city officials on Hermiston High School's football team during their growing years and his last few months on the city council was peppered with frequent references to the fact that the team had finally won a state championship.

"I'm still Hermiston Fan Number One," he said during an interview the afternoon of his last city council meeting.

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HERMISTON HERALD FILE

Former Hermiston City Councilor Frank Harkenrider rides on a float in the Umatilla County Parade in this file photo. The city will name a new senior center, now under construction, after Harkenrider, who served in City Hall for more than 50 years as a councilman and mayor.



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

The person who finds this golden medallion, which is hidden somewhere on public property in Hermiston, wins a National Night Out ice cream social block party Tuesday, Aug. 1.

Herald offers bonus clue for treasure hunt

Each year, the *Hermiston Herald*, *East Oregonian* and city of Hermiston hosts a National Night Out treasure hunt. The person who finds the golden medallion is treated to an ice cream social block party Tuesday, Aug. 1 during Hermiston's National Night Out festivities.

Tim Miers, training officer/evidence custodian with Hermiston Police Department, hid the medallion, which is about 3 inches in diameter and is attached to a red, white and blue ribbon, somewhere within Hermiston. For full rules, grab a copy of the Tuesday, July 25 edition of the *East Oregonian*. Daily clues will be published in the EO until the medallion is found.

Bonus clue:

The Motor City Madman could give you a hint.

If you're headed to the river, there's no fever.

Typha could be what's meant.

BY THE WAY

Giving back to the community

The **Hermiston Senior Center** recently felt the love after receiving a donation from **Harley Swain Subaru**.

The Hermiston-area car dealership held a "Share The Love" event and presented a check for \$4,814.10 to the Hermiston seniors.

Mike Boedigheimer, Harley Swain general manager, was on hand to present the check from the customer-selected charity contribution for 2016. Representatives accepting the donation on behalf of the senior center included **Audri Crabtree**, **Perry Hawkins**, **Julie Rozner**, **Virginia Beebe** and **Irene Miller**.

The group is excited about the donation, which will go toward the construction project to build a new senior center.

At its Business to Business luncheon Tuesday the **Greater Hermiston Area Chamber of Commerce** introduced its new board. **Josh Burns** of the **Wal-Mart Distribution Center** is the chamber's new board chair, with **Paul Keeler** of **Eastern Oregon Telecom** serving as chair-elect ready to take office in 2018-2019.

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Board selects Mooney as interim superintendent

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
STAFF WRITER

The Hermiston school board selected Tricia Mooney to lead the district for the next year and a half.

Mooney, who is currently the district's assistant superintendent of human resources, was unanimously elected by the board Monday to serve in the temporary role while Superintendent Fred Maiocco takes a leave of absence to serve a tour of duty in Europe for the U.S. Army Reserves. She assumed the role immediately, stepping in as superintendent for the rest of that evening's board meeting.

"I'm humbled and honored to head the district during Dr. Maiocco's absence," Mooney said. "We're going to be ready for over



Mooney

5,600 kids on Aug. 28."

Mooney was one of three finalists for the position. The others were Philip "Buzz" Brazeau and Richard Rundhaug. The board spent nearly four hours interviewing candidates on Monday before deliberating in executive session.

During the open session, the board conducted all three interviews before a crowd of 30 to 40 administrators, teachers and community members. Audience members could turn in sheets grading the candidates on their capability and their perceived fit for the district.

Mooney has spent most of her education career in the Hermiston School District, beginning in 1995 as a teacher at Sunset Elementary School. She has also spent time as the principal of Rocky Heights Elementary School and Armand Larive Middle School.

In 2008, Mooney moved to the Pendleton School District to serve as the director of human resources, and was hired as assistant superintendent there in 2009. She returned to the Hermiston School District last year.

Mooney said her priority for the district was to guide it through a transitional period.

"We have a little healing and rebuilding to do as a staff," she said.

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