

MAYOR

continued from Page A1

His tenure on the city council was not always without controversy. He survived a recall election in 2012 and escaped losing his seat by two votes in 1998. And not everyone was supportive of naming the new senior center, scheduled to be complete in late 2017 or early 2018, the Harkenrider Center. He also had many supporters, however, who voted "Harkie" back into office repeatedly through the decades.

Harkenrider always considered his push for the city to hire its first city manager — Tom Harper — the best thing he did for the city.

"I love this town," he said in 2014. "I've given my heart and soul to the city. I made a lot of mistakes but I made some good votes too."

Harkenrider's professional career was mostly spent at Union Oil Distributorship, where he started working with his father George, also a former Hermiston city councilor and mayor. Later he spent five years working for PGG before retirement. He served in the armed forces, deploying to Guam and the Philippines after World War II.

He was born in Hermiston, and intensely proud to be a native — and was selected as the city's Man of the Year in 1987.

Harkenrider and his wife Beverly were married in on Nov. 4, 1954 in a double ceremony with her sister and sister's fiancé. He is survived by Beverly, three daughters and five granddaughters.

His youngest granddaughter, Kacie Jo Upper-



Frank Harkenrider passes out cantaloupes grown in Hermiston at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland during an event promoting Hermiston and the produce grown here.



Hermiston Mayor Drotzmann, former Hermiston Mayor Harkenrider, former Portland Mayor Bud Clark and then-Portland Mayor Charlie Hales pose for a photo during the 2015 watermelon giveaway.

man, said he used to babysit her from the mayor's desk and take her to everything from parades to a mayors' convention in Seaside. As a kid she knew "everyone" at city hall from her time sitting at the press desk with coloring books and dolls.

"I definitely have fond

memories of sitting coloring and waiting for Grandpa to run the city and come up with his next wacky idea to make Hermiston grow," she said.

He wasn't afraid to be himself, she said, and worked tremendously hard for the city he loved. She said he

new law a first offense may cost you a \$136 fine. A second offense withing 5 years results in a \$234 fine. For more information on the law and its consequences see <http://wadrivetozero.com/distracted-driving/>.

You can submit items for our weekly By The Way column by emailing your tips to editor@hermistonherald.com or share them on social media using the hashtag #HHBTW. Follow the Hermiston Herald on Twitter at @HermistonHerald.

BY THE WAY

BTW

continued from Page A1

Kara Taylor of US Bank is serving as the board's treasurer and Tammy Smith of Smitty's Ace Hardware and Tim Mabry of Credits Inc. joined the board as new members. Shirley Parsons of American West Properties was also recognized for her service as outgoing board chair. Executive director Debbie Pedro said the year "has not been an easy one, and I knew Shirley would be able to lead us

through thick and thin."

If you are driving across the river to attend the Tri-City Water Follies activities, go shopping for school clothes or have a night out, be aware that new distracted driving laws in Washington state make it illegal to have your cell phone or other electronic device in your hand while driving or even while stopped at a traffic signal. You can also now get a ticket for eating, smoking, reading or grooming while driving. If you are ticketed under the

MOONEY

continued from Page A1

She cited her familiarity with the district, staff and community as positives, as well as her investment in the schools as both a staff member and parent.

Mooney also discussed her experience with employee handbooks and evaluations, policy review and union negotiations.

"I'm passionate about the district," she said. "I have the ability to look at things from different perspectives."

Mooney said it is important to support teachers and staff as they face growing

class sizes, while continuing to explore the possibility of re-introducing a bond to upgrade facilities.

"We've begun that process and gone out to the community," she said. "We know we might have some bigger class sizes ... at this point some trust needs to be rebuilt."

When board members asked Mooney whether she had any questions for them, she asked what they were looking for in an interim superintendent.

Board members said they hoped to find someone who would not just maintain the district, but actively move it forward.

"I want someone who

will help us be in a better spot 18 months from now," said board member Ginny Holthus.

The other two candidates interviewed via Skype. The first, Richard Rundhaug, is an education consultant in Phoenix, Arizona. He had previously served as a superintendent for the Willcox Unified School District, and an assistant superintendent for the Coolidge Unified School District.

Brazeau was the principal of Hermiston High School from July 2007 to June 2012, and recently retired as the superintendent of the Central School District 13J in Independence.



HERALD FILE PHOTO

Lt. Col. Dan Vawter (left) of the Oregon National Guard accepts 6.6 acres of city-owned land in a presentation with Mayor Frank Harkenrider (right) in December 1991. The property, located in southeast Hermiston, was presented for construction of a new armory. Earlier plans to build near the Hermiston Butte were blocked by community opposition. "I'm sorry I was maybe against the other spot (at the butte)," Harkenrider said to Vawter, "but I think it worked out for the best."

and got to sneak in some basketball-watching on the side," she said.

It was Harkenrider who took a truck full of watermelons to Portland in 1991 and handed them out on the street, beginning a tradition that lasted for 17 years and was revived two years ago. Harkenrider was there for the resurrection of the giveaway in 2015. He kept photos of the events in the bookshelf full of scrapbooks in a small room of his home lined with Hermiston-related photos and memorabilia. During his time on the council he provided a deep institutional memory.

As news of Harkenrider's passing spread on Facebook, residents commented that he will be missed, calling him a "wonderful man," a "huge part of our great town" and "the nicest man I ever met."

"Harkie embodied the true spirit of Hermiston and of course was Hermiston's BIGGEST FAN!" Kelly Schwirer wrote on the Hermiston Herald's Facebook page. "He will be missed dearly."

Mayor David Drotzmann offered up condolences as well in a statement on behalf of the city.

"We're extremely saddened to hear about the passing of Frank Harkenrider; undeniably Hermiston's 'greatest cheerleader.'" he said in a written statement. "This community would not be where it is today without Frank's nearly five decades of direct service to the City of Hermiston. I think naming the new Harkenrider Center after Frank was the least we could do to honor his unrivaled level of community service."



STAFF PHOTO BY KATHY ANEY

Frank Harkenrider (right) stands with Hermiston Mayor David Drotzmann at the official groundbreaking of the Harkenrider Center in Hermiston earlier this year.

loved sports and went to many Portland Trail Blazers games after Upperman's sister Kelly Robinson became a Blazer Dancer.

"He loved supporting her

TRCI inmates raise \$7,266 for backpack program

HERMISTON HERALD

The Agape House already has a third of its funding for the coming school year's backpack program thanks to a fundraiser by inmates at Two Rivers Correctional Institution.

TRCI chaplain Don Hodney presented a check for \$7,266 to Agape House director Dave Hughes on Thursday. The money will go to a program that sends a backpack full of food home with students in poverty to help feed them through the weekend.

Hughes said the money presented by Hodney is enough to get the program

through about a third of the 2017-2018 school year. He said the donation is just the latest example of the prison staff and inmates being a "great support" to the Agape House.

"We're thrilled," he said. "It's just great. Two Rivers is such a great community partner."

Hodney said in the past, a committee of inmates has come up with fundraisers that have raised about \$4,000 for the Agape House's Christmas meals for families, so Thursday's donation was almost double anything they've done before.

The committee wanted to do another fundraiser

sooner than Christmas and came up with the idea to let residents of the prison place orders of approved snack food like trail mix or candy from Wal-Mart, with the profits going to the backpack program. Hodney said considering an incarcerated person's paycheck may be \$25 a month, most of which goes toward toiletries, the orders represented a significant investment for the more than 700 men who participated.

"It's not about the indulgence," he said. "I've been told over and over again that they're happy to be able to do something for someone else."

33rd Annual

IRRIGON

WATERMELON

FESTIVAL

JULY 29TH
ALL DAY LONG

IRRIGON MARINA PARK
IRRIGON, OR 97844

BREAKFAST • 6:30 – 10:00 • HOT COFFEE
(Hosted by The Irrigon Moose Lodge)

DOWNTOWN PARADE • 10:00

CRAFT VENDORS • FOOD VENDORS • KID'S GAMES
WATER SLIDE • DUNK TANK • CAR SHOW
AND!!! HELICOPTERS!!
Life Flight • Air National Guard • United States Coast Guard

ENTERTAINMENT ALL DAY LONG!
IRRIGON CHEERLEADERS & GEMS CHEER
LINDZOLIE SINGERS • COMMUNITY LIP SYNC CONTEST • THE MISSY G BAND
COYOTE DANCERS • ALY THE TRAVELING MARIMBA BUSKER
CITY LEADER SEED SPITTING CONTEST • BRASS FIRE

FOOD • FOOD • FOOD
Hamburgers • Hot Dogs • French Fries • Chicken • Coleslaw
Corn on the Cob • Homemade Pies • Ice Cream
Fresh Cut Watermelon & Cantaloupe

EVENT FUNDED BY:

MORROW COUNTY
UNIFIED
RECREATION
DISTRICT

Introducing Silk hearing aids from Signia



Easy on the ears,
easy on the eyes

- The world's most powerful small hearing aid
- Same-day fitting and delivery for the ultimate convenience
- Gel sleeves ensure snug and comfortable fit
- Clinically proven* Better than normal hearing in noisy situations



2237 Southwest Court Place
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-276-5053

*An independent clinical study in the US has shown that primax provided a significant improvement in ease of listening in demanding listening environments. A newly developed methodology using objective brain behavior measures (Electroencephalographic data), showed a significant reduction in listening effort for mild to moderate hearing impaired subjects using primax hearing aids in speech-in-noise situations applying advanced features such as Narrow Focus and EchoShield. Copyright © 2016 Signia GmbH. All rights reserved. Siwanos, Inc. is a Trademark Licensee of Siemens AG. 12/16 SU17245D-17

