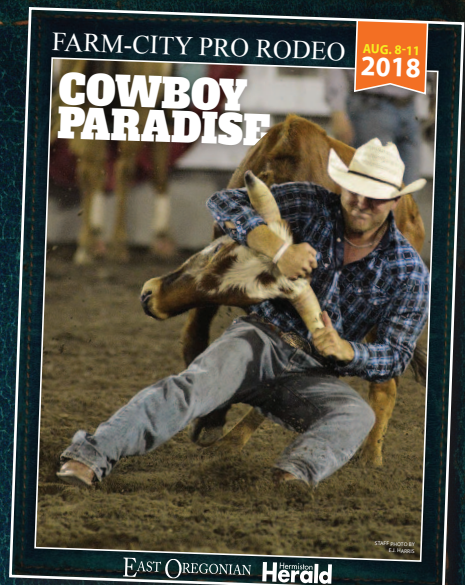


# Hermiston Herald

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**BIG SHOES**

Finalists for Port of Morrow general manager position look to fill Gary Neal's shoes after retirement.

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**BONUS CLUE**

The hunt for the National Night Out medallion is on, and the Herald has an exclusive clue to its whereabouts.

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**SPEED DEMONS**

A second generation of racers takes the wheel at the Hermiston Raceway.

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**BY THE WAY**

**City looking for time capsule items**

The City of Hermiston is asking for items to be placed in a time capsule that is scheduled to be opened in 50 years.

The city plans to seal the capsule underground to celebrate the dedication of the new Harkenrider Center on Sept. 8.

Items for consideration can be dropped off at the Hermiston Public Library until Sept. 5. City staff will choose photographs, documents and some small three-dimensional items to go in a small capsule for future Hermiston residents to unearth on Sept. 8, 2068. Items not chosen for inclusion will be returned to their owners, but items chosen for the time capsule will become property of the city.

The city asks that people donating items for consideration keep in mind that food, plants and other similar items could damage the capsule's content.

"Also consider that digital or electronic items may be unusable 50 years from now," the city news release reads. "For example, if a floppy disk were included in a capsule 20 years ago, the likelihood of the future residents being able to read its content is very low."

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## RAISE THE

# ROOF



*"Any skill you have, you can use to serve."*

Patrick Temple

### Church members sacrifice to help with capital improvements

By JADE MCDOWELL  
STAFF WRITER

When a church needs a new roof or more rooms, the members often sacrifice to make it happen.

Sometimes that sacrifice comes in the form of donations, like those that are helping pay for a new fellowship hall at Hermiston's Faith Presbyterian Church. Other times it is a sacrifice of time and talents — even talents as unusual as unicycling.

"Any skill you have, you can use to serve," Patrick Temple said.

On Thursday morning Patrick and his son Harrison, 17, put that idea to the test by unicycling their way from Pendleton to Hermiston to raise money for Hermiston Church of the Nazarene's parking lot repaving project. At one point they had to stop because the chase vehicle warning drivers of their presence on the interstate broke down, and Harrison had to hitch a ride in the truck outside of Stanfield after a crucial washer on his unicycle came loose. But at about 11:30 a.m. — and 91 degrees — Patrick rolled into the parking lot, drenched in sweat.

"I was starting to cramp up," he said, panting, as he hopped off the unicycle and turned off the bluetooth speaker attached to the handlebar blaring his favorite tunes.

The ambitious ride came about because Hermiston Church of the Nazarene has been needing a new roof and its parking lot was badly in need of repav-



STAFF PHOTO BY JADE MCDOWELL.

Faith Presbyterian Church sits under construction as the church adds a fellowship hall, left.

ing. The total between the two projects is about \$45,000 — a steep ask for a congregation of about 180 members.

Pastor Eric Fritz said members have been sacrificing and scraping money together for their meetinghouse since January, and at about \$3,000 short they were "pretty much tapped out." That's when Patrick came up with the unicycle idea, and Harrison volunteered to join in on the 30-mile ride from the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport in Pendleton to Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, putting in plugs on Facebook Live for people to donate to a GoFundMe account.

"Patrick has a very creative mind," Fritz said.

**Faith Presbyterian**

Hermiston Church of the Nazarene isn't the only church in Hermiston working on capital improvement projects. Faith Presbyterian Church is in the midst of a 4,120 square foot addition that will add a fellowship hall to the building.

Pastor Bruce Sexton said church members donated about \$140,000 in one-time donations and then have pledged enough in monthly donations to help pay off the loan just under \$300,000 that the church took out for the rest.

"Last build (when the original building was erected) we had a 20-year mort-

See SACRIFICE, Page A16

## Hermiston conducting feasibility study for indoor pool

### 'Health and wellness center' high on residents' wish list

By JADE MCDOWELL  
STAFF WRITER

The city of Hermiston is getting serious about an indoor pool.

A 2016 survey showed an indoor aquatic center was the top "livability" priority for Hermiston residents, and the city is in the midst of a feasibility study to determine what it would take to get there.

City Manager Byron Smith said he expected staff would have something to present to the city council

in October. He and parks and recreation director Larry Fetter have been working with consultants from ALSC Architects of Spokane to put together a report about preliminary designs, and what the Hermiston-area market would support.

"They've helped us work through a lot of analysis," Smith said.

He said the city was looking at the indoor pool in the context of a "health and wellness center" that would provide other recreational opportunities beyond year-round swimming. He said the city would need to determine what the project would include before looking at possible locations.

After the consultants' part of the study is put together, city staff plan to



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

Pierce Strong, 10, porpoises out of the water while doing the breast stroke during the junior swim team class earlier this summer at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center.

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