

River Dawgs does booming business in its first week

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Hot dogs are in high demand in Umatilla, if the response to the city’s newest business is any indication.

After a little-advertised soft opening on Monday, River Dawgs sold out of hot dogs before closing time on its third day. Owner Shana Mason said on Wednesday that she had opened at 10:30 a.m. that day and had sold all 165 hot dogs she had on hand before 2 p.m.

“Now I know to really, really stock up,” she said. “It’s been crazy.”

Mason, who lives in Irrigon, said she has experience in management and in the food processing industry but this is her first foray into the restaurant business.

“I’m a hot dog lover,” she said. “There are no hot dogs around and I said, ‘You know, I should give people that choice.’”

She said she has wanted to open her own business since she was 25.

“I’m really happy,” she said. “It’s very exciting at 56 to be able to do that. How fun is it to be able to live out a dream?”

River Dawgs is located 1300 Sixth St., Suite D. Barring more sold-out-early days, its hours will be 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Mason said she might end up staying open later during the summer months if the demand is there.

The hot dogs are all-beef, half-pound hot dogs. A basic hot dog is \$4.50 with whatever combination of ketchup, mustard, relish and onions the customer desires. Gourmet dogs run between \$5.50 and \$7 and are all named after rivers in Oregon. The Klamath Dawg, for



Shana Mason opened River Dawgs in Umatilla on Monday.

Staff photo by Jade McDowell

example, comes topped with chili, cheese, bacon, sour cream and a pickle spear. A build-your-own hot dog option is also available, and the menu includes sides such as coleslaw, potato chips and a warm pretzel with cheese sauce.

Mason said she plans to have a grand opening sometime in the next couple of weeks after she gets into a rhythm with the business.

“I’ve gotten fantastic feedback,” she said. “People are excited. They really like the choices.”



The Crooked Dawg, left, and Klamath Dawg, right, are on the menu at the new River Dawgs in Umatilla.

Contributed photo by River Dawgs

Council to discuss industrial land use on Monday

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Monday’s Hermiston City Council meeting will kick off with a 6 p.m. work session to discuss plans for the industrial land south of Hermiston.

Assistant city manager Mark Morgan said he will be presenting the council with some concepts to “make a run at” federal grant funding for improved road access to industrial land east of Pioneer Seed. He will also update the council about the land known as the Cook Industrial Site, which has recently changed ownership.

During its regular business meeting at 7 p.m. the council will be presented with a finalized report from a goal-setting session that council members and department heads participated in on Feb. 8-9. The

report can be found in the agenda packet at hermiston.or.us/meetings.

Goals are organized by topic and assigned a completion date sometime in 2019. They include such items as adopting an urban renewal agency plan for the North Highway 395 area, researching creation of a parks and recreation district that could assist in the development of a recreation center, pursuing an agreement with Umatilla County for development of Gettman Road and seeking outside funds to examine the possibility of a bridge to Interstate 82.

On Monday the council will vote on an updated version of the city’s 20-year water system master plan, last updated in 1996. They will also discuss a request from LuLu LLC to rezone 6,200 square feet of land on Popular Avenue from residential to commercial.

Pilot Rock man seeks appeal of sex crime conviction

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

A Pilot Rock resident who began serving prison time in February for sexual abuse wants the Oregon Court of Appeals to look at his case.

Hussein Ibrahim Hassan, 66, went to trial Jan. 17 and 18 to face two counts of first-degree sexual abuse. The Umatilla County District Attorney’s Office accused Hassan of molesting a girl younger than 14 in August 2018. The jury found Hassan guilty on both counts.

State court records show that was Hassan’s second conviction for first-degree sexual abuse of a child. He pleaded no contest to one count of the crime in 2008 and received three years in prison.

Hassan filed motions 10 days after the trial to fight the verdict. In one hand-written pleading to the court, he claimed the

video tape the state used as evidence against him at trial contained false information not in the original recording. In another, he asked the court to “revoke and dismiss” the verdict based on “false reasonable doubt.” His attorney, Robert Klahn of Pendleton, also filed a motion for Hassan to set aside the verdict and grant a new trial.

Instead, Circuit Judge Jon Lieuallen went forward with sentencing on Feb. 12 and gave Hassan six years, three months in state prison with credit for time served plus several years of post-prison supervision.

But Hassan is not done fighting the verdict. He filed a notice of appeal on Feb. 21. The case is pending.

In the meantime, Hassan remains an inmate at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution, Pendleton.

BRIEFLY

Walla Walla hospice extends its coverage area to Pendleton

With the recent closure of the hospice at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton, Walla Walla Community Hospice is attempting to fill the void.

The Walla Walla hospice announced March 12 that it will extend its coverage to the Pendleton area in light of the St. Anthony hospice’s closure in December.

Its clinical staff is dual certified in Oregon and Washington, and Walla Walla Community Hospice already serves patients in Milton-Freewater, Athena, Weston, Adams, and on the Umatilla Indian Reservation in conjunction with the Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center.

The press release announcing the development states that Umatilla

County patients have historically utilized end-of-life care services at a rate lower than the state and national average, and Walla Walla Community Hospice will make an effort to make the public aware about their services.

For more information, people can contact Brad McMasters at brad@wwhospice.org or at 509-525-5561.

DEQ fines Pendleton homeowner for asbestos removal

PENDLETON — A Pendleton man faces a state fine exceeding \$3,500 for illegal asbestos removal.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality reported its staff on Oct. 9, 2018, observed workers removing and breaking

cement roofing shingles at 616 N.W. Ninth St., Pendleton, the home of Frank Ashbeck. An inspection three days later found 13, 30-gallon double-layer plastic bags full of shattered concrete, according to the report from the DEQ.

Samples of the roofing shingles revealed they contained 20 percent chrysotile asbestos, but the DEQ stated the workers on that job lacked the state certifications to handle asbestos abatement.

That led the environmental agency to issue a civil penalty in mid-February against Ashbeck for \$3,534.

The Pendleton fine was among 12 the Department of Environmental Quality issued statewide in February, totaling \$112,576 for various environmental violations. The penalties ranged from \$1,050 to \$23,461.

The DEQ also recently

reported in late 2018 it fined Calbee North America \$1,800 for inaccurate reports about the level of air pollution for 2014-17 from its potato processing and frying plant in Boardman.

Free Medication Safety Evaluation!

FREE in-home assessments of your medications to help you safely use, store and dispose.

Free supplies for medication management such as a medication planner, lock box or safe disposal information available after assessment.

Call for an appointment today:
541-676-2946



By appointment only, we will come to you.
541-676-2946



The most valuable and respected source of local news, advertising and information for our communities.
eomediagroup.com

WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO
3/22 - 3/26
Cineplex Show Times
\$5 Classic Movie
3/27 • 12PM
MATILDA

Us (R)
11:40* 2:10* 4:50 6:50 7:20
9:30 10:00

Wonder Park (PG)
11:50* 2:00* 6:40
ED 4:30 9:20

Captain Marvel (PG13)
1:20* 4:10 7:00 9:50

How To Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World (PG)
12:00* 2:20* 4:40 7:10 9:40

Captive State (PG13)
1:50* 4:20

* Matinee Pricing
wildhorseresort.com • 541-966-1850
Pendleton, OR 1-84 - Exit 216

FREE DENTAL DAY

8:00am -6:00pm, April 5th, 2019

First come first serve.
For patients with no insurance.
Emergency care Only.

McEntire DENTAL

1100 Southgate, Suite 3, Pendleton OR 97801
541.276.5272

McKay Creek Estates

FREE Cognitive Screening

Is Mom a little more forgetful lately?

There are many early warning signs of a potential memory disorder, such as Alzheimer’s disease. That’s why we’re offering a **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL** cognitive screening. We encourage anyone who is concerned about cognitive decline to take this short, in-person screening. The screening is administered by a qualified health care professional.

To schedule your cognitive screening today, please call **(541) 704-7146**.

McKay Creek Estates
1601 Southgate Pl.
Pendleton, OR 97801

www.PrestigeCare.com
Prestige Senior Living, L.L.C.