

Celebrate

Continued from Page A1

midpoint, but the biggest challenge was keeping the tires on the wheelchair rims. Some repair work will be needed before next year's race.

"We are thankful for all that joined us this year and appreciate their time and effort," Galbreath said. "We awarded first, second and third places, but everyone was a winner in our book."



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

From left, Amber Britt and Julie Bowling ride in the '62 Days parade in Canyon City on June 8.

Parade results

Mounted individual

First: Grant County Fair Queen Courtney Nichols
Second: Jenny Taynton and rider Tyson

Mounted group

First: Julie Bowling and Amber Britt

Second: Baker County Fair and Panhandle Rodeo, Queen Kelsei Kiser with Lady-in-waiting Jaeden Forrey (Nyssa Nite Rodeo), Princesses Laramie and Lavina Kiser

Walking group

First: Boy Scouts, led by Greg Floyd

Second: Kim's Taekwondo, instructor Laurel Coombs

Antique car

First: Ron Phillips driving Loyce Phillips

Group entry

First: Sleep in Heavenly Peace, led by Susie and Mark Brown

Second: Grant Union Class of '99

Third: Grant County Snowballers and trail riders

Business entry

First: Station 62 in "Minion" 1972 Volkswagen Beetle, with Emma and Tori

Second, tie: Saul's Mobile Pressure Washing with little prospectors Mayley, Emmie and Dalley; and AAA Thunderbolt Fire Ser-

vice of Mt. Vernon

Third: John Day Polaris

Derby car

First: Steve and Georgia Patterson

Best representation of 1862

First: Whiskey Gulch Gang

Honorable mention: Canyon City Fire Department, John Day Volunteer Fire Department, U.S. Forest Service and Smokey Bear, Grant County Search and Rescue, Canyon Mountain Racers and Coach Shane Koppel's Grant County Little League minors baseball tea



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

A growing pile of logs from the Malheur National Forest unsuitable for milling lies waiting to be chipped for processing in the new torrefaction plant in John Day.

Plant

Continued from Page A1

Quality also gave permission for work on a new boiler system to begin ahead of air quality permit approval, Krumenauer said. A hearing will be held on the permit application at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, at the Canyon City Community Hall.

New emissions

Ochoco Lumber Co., which owns Malheur Lumber Co. and is applying for the permit, proposes increasing the current limit for particulate matter from up to 34 tons per year to 42 and for nitrogen oxides from up to 50 tons per year to 77. The mill is not a major source of hazardous air pollutants, according to the DEQ application.

As part of the torrefaction project, plans call for replacing two Wellons wood-fired boilers currently used for heating the mill's seven lumber-drying kilns with a single Hurst wood-fired boiler that can meet the mill's current needs as well as those of the torrefaction plant.

The Hurst boiler, which was a standby boiler at a timber plant in Mississippi, is more modern and efficient than the current boilers, so total emissions should be reduced, said Joe Koerner, the operating manager for Restoration Fuels. The same crew that took apart the boiler in Mississippi will reassemble it in John Day.

New emissions for the site will come from a 15-foot-wide belt dryer, which will be heated by the boiler through a heat exchanger, and the rotary torrefier unit, which take dried wood chips from the belt dryer and heat them into a charcoal-like material.

The low-temperature belt dryer will be capable of drying up to 149,000 tons of wood per year.

It was designed and will be built by Industrial Mechanical Inc. of Georgia, which sent a crew to oversee the overall construction project.

The torrefier came from a mill that produced oriented-strand board, where it was used to dry wood chips. The large triple-pass rotary torrefier will be heated to

a higher temperature using a mixture of propane and syn-gas, which is emitted by wood chips during the torrefying process.

The belt dryer and torrefier are expected to produce particulate matter, nitrous oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, methanol and visible emissions. A large electrostatic precipitator unit will be installed to control particulate emissions.

Forest health

Restoration Fuels' overall goal is to support stewardship work on national forests, marketing the smaller diameter logs and twisted or partially rotten logs removed as part of fuel reduction thinning projects.

A large supply of logs ready for torrefaction already sit at the mill's log yard on Lower Yard Road in John Day. The mill's existing chipping facility will be used to convert the logs into material for the new plant.

A machine from Denmark will be used to compress the torrefied wood into briquettes or pellets. Much of the mill's current pellet plant machinery will remain, but the plant will be reconfigured so the mill can continue to produce white wood pellets and bricks as well as torrefied pellets and briquettes.

Japan — which has imposed tariffs on power produced by nuclear and coal, making torrefied wood competitive — has shown interest in torrefied wood mass.

Restoration Fuels expects to ramp up production at the John Day torrefaction plant — the first commercial plant in North America — to more than 100,000 tons per year.

"That's about one log truck or one chip truck of biomass per hour," Krumenauer said.

Proposed plans call for transporting the torrefied wood to a rail line in Prineville, at which point it can move on to domestic or international customers.

Comments on the air quality permit are due by June 24. For more information on the air quality permit, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xmdjG>. For more information about the new torrefaction plant, visit restorationfuels.com.



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

Ron Phillips took his mother, Loyce, for a ride in his 1927 Model T during the '62 Days parade in Canyon City on June 8.

Ranch

Continued from Page A1

covered, he said.

His approach is to leave each year's "fall greenup" ungrazed so the third leaf on the tiller can fall to the ground as litter. It's a temptation to let cattle graze on the fall bunchgrass, but the soil will lose moisture and grass will not fill in the seed drill pattern.

Southworth also relies on more intensive grazing

— four cows per acre with a hoof print on every square foot to pound that litter into the soil. This is something he learned in just the past few years, he said.

Portable electric fencing is used to control stock density by dividing his 100- to 200-acre pastures into smaller sections. Grazing periods are limited to a week or less to minimize rebiting of regrowth.

The fact that the seed drill pattern was still visible at this site after seven years and a few years of higher-density

grazing didn't deter Southworth. The missing litter might be the fault of elk grazing, he said.

Jenni Moffitt, a soil scientist with NRCS in Bend, easily dug a 4-foot-deep hole to see the soil conditions. There was very little compaction, and the deep grass roots showed evidence of moisture in the top 6 inches, she said. The soil at one level was "fluffy," Moffitt reported, to Southworth's delight.

Keeping track

Soil moisture probes

could be used to keep Southworth informed in real time, one participant said. Southworth is not averse to high-tech solutions — he has DNA profiles for all his cows and sorts them by the expected progeny differences index.

He also tracks how his 50-some pastures are faring using formulas on a computer spreadsheet. If he finds unexpected conditions, he can change one figure and see all the other grazing dates adjust in line. He can also adjust figures backwards to account for Forest Service changes in opening dates for grazing on leased land.

Southworth said he likes to do his monitoring in September, when he evaluates steps he took to improve grasslands by looking at how much stubble was left.

At one site, he lined up the 18 participants in a transect and had them march off three steps. About 55 percent of them were stepping on a perennial grass when they stopped,

which was good.

This site was planted in 1984 and litter concealed the seed-drill pattern, but the individual plants were not as big as the site planted in 2012. The question for Southworth was if he should spray this site and till it back up.

"I'd prefer to plow," he said. "Is that now considered a mortal sin even if it's done just once every generation?"

Seed mixing

The next site was planted in 2018 with a "forage cocktail" composed of crested wheatgrass, intermediate wheatgrass, Western wheatgrass, ladak alfalfa, yellow blossom sweet clover and groundhog forge turnip.

Forage cocktails can range up to 30 species at a time. Southworth said his mixture cost about \$40 per acre, which is more than grass seed alone, but the last time the site saw a plow and seed drill was 40 years ago. So that comes to about \$1 per acre per year, he said.

He recommended seed-

ing in the spring for high elevation arid places like this. Turnips are an annual that help break up clay soil, Southworth said, something his father read about in 1948. Antelope had eaten the leaves, and only the pale white stalks remained.

Back at the shop building, Southworth demonstrated his spreadsheet and the flip board his crew uses to track all their changes. Resting plants is against the ranch's philosophy, he said. Instead, he is always tweaking figures, tweaking infrastructure.

What motivates him, he asked. Some ranchers don't want to make so many changes. Is it a question of tradition — just leaving things the way they were always done?

A lot of the ideas he showed the touring professionals are not based on proven theories, he said. He's still learning. His father was an intellectual, ranching in different ways than others in Bear Valley. He is continuing that heritage.

Committee Volunteers Needed

Grant County is now recruiting volunteers to serve on active boards and committees.

Obtain an Application to Volunteer from County Court, 201 S. Humbolt, No. 280, Canyon City, OR 97820; (541-575-0059) wright1@grantcounty-or.gov or online at www.grantcountyoregon.net.

Applications are due by Friday, June 28th, 2019

Committees are formal public bodies required to comply with Oregon Public Meetings Law ORS 192.610.

Extension & 4-H Service District Advisory Council.

Eleven members serve three year terms and meet semi-annually to provide guidance and assistance to local OSU Extension staff in planning, developing, and evaluating balanced educational programs directed to high priority needs of county residents. Membership is limited to one re-appointment.

Planning Commission

ORS 215.020. Nine members serve four year terms and two alternates serve two year terms, meeting as needed to review land use and zoning applications and discuss city and county growth issues and the siting of new facilities. Members must be residents of various geographic areas within the county and no more than two voting members shall be engaged in the same kind of business, occupation, trade or profession with agriculture designations of livestock / forage crop production and horticulture / specialty crop production. Commissioners serving in this capacity must file an Annual Verified Statement of Economic Interest with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission. Members must re-apply to the County Court before their term ends if they wish to be re-appointed.

Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee

OAR 603-019-0015. Members include one County Commissioner, two members who own or manage livestock and two members who support wolf conservation or coexistence with wolves. These members agree upon two business representatives to serve as additional members. The committee oversees the procedure established by Grant County for its Wolf Depredation Compensation Program. The current vacancy is for one business representative.

TREAT YOUR FEET

Our Services Include:

- Skin Inspection
- Nail Trimming
- Callus and Corn Reduction
- Electric filling of thick, hard to cut nails
- Basic foot care provided by a trained CNA
- Advanced foot care provided by a Certified Foot Care Specialist
- Monument/outlying foot clinic every 8 weeks

541-575-1648

Call for an Appointment
\$35 fee

Services available at
Home Health Office,
422 W. Main, John Day.



Blue Mountain Hospital
FOOT CLINIC
bluemountainhospital.org

We provide Basic and Advanced foot care nursing based on current medical research and professional guidelines. Reduce your risk for foot infection and injury by scheduling with our professional staff today.