

HEPPNER

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PMH hires new resources director



Gene Schmidt

Gene Schmidt, new human resources director at Pioneer Memorial Hospital, has the best of both worlds. Schmidt, 52, has the extensive experience that a large area can offer, but he loves a small town.

Schmidt recently moved from Central Oregon where he has lived for the past 12 years. He said that after many years in the timber industry he decided he wanted to break into the health services field.

"I hit the deck running," says Schmidt of his new position. "I'm a country boy and I feel right at home."

Schmidt grew up in Doty, WA, a mill town of about 200 people in the Centralia-Chehalis, WA, area. He went to school at Boistford High School in Curtis Valley. The school had 83 students and there were 14 in his graduating class. After high school Schmidt received a degree in business from Oregon State University.

He was employed by Weyerhaeuser for 16 years and D.A.W. (a forest products business) for eight years and then for Crown Pacific after D.A.W. sold out to them. While employed with Weyerhaeuser, he worked out of the corporate headquarters in Federal Way, WA, and traveled from Sequim to as far away as Klamath Falls.

He was Weyerhaeuser's western manager for forest nurseries, managing their genetics program. At D.A.W. and Crown Pacific, Schmidt he was director of human resources and safety management. At one point he "rode herd" on 750 people.

Schmidt says he enjoys working and doesn't ever plan on retiring. "I get so much out of my work," he said.

In addition to his new position at PMH, Schmidt has forest acreage in the Centralia-Chehalis area and also a pizza franchise in the Redmond-Prineville-Terrebonne area, which his daughter, Kristi Gerig, manages. He and his wife also have a son, Michael, who has a master's degree and teaches at Snoqualmie Falls and a 15-month old grandson, Nicholas. His wife, Bonnie, is employed at the Redmond School District as a confidential secretary.

Schmidt says that he is still looking for housing in the Heppner area.

Schmidt replaces Pam Sagely, who moved out of the area.

Booster Club steak feed, auction Saturday



Photo by Nova Rietmann
Lavar Bowles (right), Weaver Construction project manager, and Kit George, Lott's Electric, show television donated by Weaver Construction to the Heppner High School Booster Club's annual auction.

The Heppner High School Booster Club and the community are gearing up for the Booster Club's annual steak feed and auction planned for this Saturday, October 18, at the Heppner Elk's Club.

The steak feed will get underway at 6 p.m., with the auction beginning at 8 p.m. and expected to conclude around 9:30 p.m.

Tickets for the dinner, which includes steak, potato, salads, dessert and beverage, will be \$7.50 each.

In addition to the auction, the evening will feature a silent auction and a Ducks Unlimited-style raffle table with over 30 items.

Raffle tickets may be purchased at \$1 each, six for \$5, 15 for \$10 and 30 for \$20.

Anyone purchasing a dinner ticket will be eligible to win the television set, which will be given away as a door prize.

Auction items include tickets to sporting events, airplane rides, hunting, fishing and golfing packages, jewelry, a hunting dog, two tons of alfalfa, taxidermy and a horse, among others.

Raffle items range from cat food to golf balls, basketballs, clothing, oil service and fuel to a shotgun.

Silent auction items include food, photographs, toys, decorations, tickets, a load of gravel and even a dessert a month to the lucky winner.

Police confiscate seven bucks



Russ Morgan (left) and Bob Krein, both with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, measure rack on confiscated deer.

The Oregon State Police and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife officials have confiscated seven deer taken in the wrong hunt unit.

According to OSP Trooper Dave Rzewnicki, seven deer, six of those from one camp, were taken in the Columbia Basin Unit with Heppner Unit tags.

Rzewnicki said that the venison will be given to a charity or community group.

Elementary Carnival Oct. 30

It's time for carnival at Heppner Elementary. The annual carnival will be held at the Morrow county Fairgrounds Thursday, Oct. 30, from 6-8:30 p.m. This year will be double the fun with the addition of the book fair.

The carnival will feature some old favorites, like the gold fish toss and ghoulish grab. Bingo and pie will also return this year along with the haunted house. This will be Merry Brannon's fourth year to try to "scare the stuffing" out of carnival goers. Brannon says there are some big changes in the works for the haunted house this year and she says she hopes to make it scarier than ever. Brannon says that they are working toward extending the hours of the haunted house and hope to put it on two nights instead of one.

This year's carnival will also include the addition of a book fair. Brannon says the book fair will feature a buy one and get one free sale. Shoppers can buy anything and get another of the same value for free. The book fair held last spring was a huge success.

The book fair will run the same hours as the carnival on October 30. On Monday and Tuesday, November 3 and 4 it will be back at the Elementary School from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Seven deer killed in wrong unit confiscated.

4-H dog project plans first meeting

The first meeting of a 4-H dog project will be held Saturday, October 18, at 2 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Basic obedience and care of the dog will be for information and planning the year.

Guests from the Wallowa County Dog Club will demonstrate skills that have taken them to state fair.

For more information call Dick or Karen Temple, 989-8181.

Master Gardeners plan harvest

Sunday, October 26, at 2 p.m., the local chapter of OSU Blue Mountain Master Gardeners will harvest their pumpkin patch. The pumpkins are available to the public for Halloween use.

The Community Garden, sponsored by the Master

Gardeners, is located at the intersection of Riverside and Morgan streets in Heppner. Garden plots are available to people interested in gardening.

A contribution for a pumpkin will be used to sustain the garden.

Corps plans water release

The US Army Corps of Engineers plans to begin its yearly release of water down Willow Creek on Thursday.

According to a Corps of Engineer spokesperson, the amount of water released from the dam into Willow Creek will increase from 5 cubic feet per second, to 25 cfs.


The extra water release is down every year by the corp to get Willow Creek Lake ready for the winter runoff.

Sign up now for basket

Low and fixed-income individuals may sign up for the annual Thanksgiving basket at the Heppner Neighborhood Center. The deadline for sign up

is Nov. 7.

Those wishing to sign up should bring the required proof of income and their physical address.



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