

Seven promoted at Bank of Eastern Oregon

Seven veteran bankers were promoted at a recent organizational meeting of Bank of Eastern Oregon, according to President and CEO, E. George Koffler.

Dawna Dougherty, Compliance Officer, was promoted to Assistant Vice President of the bank. Dougherty started her banking career



Dougherty

with Inland Empire Bank in 1985. She has been with Bank of Eastern Oregon since 1988 in operations and loan processing. Dougherty was named Compliance Officer in 1997. Dougherty and her husband, Cliff, a local farmer and rancher, are raising three children, Taighler, Ryan and Coby.

Becky Kindle, Operations Support Manager, was promoted to Assistant Vice President of the bank. Kindle



Kindle

joined the bank in 1998 and spent time in teller operations and electronic banking before accepting her current position. Kindle and her husband, Jim, a Department of Corrections employee in Umatilla, have two children, Mekayla and C.J.

Ed Rollins, Commercial Loan Officer, Ione and Arlington Branches, was promoted to Assistant Vice President of the bank. His lending responsibilities include Ione, Arlington, and West Umatilla County. He joined the bank in February of 2004 after working for two different lending institutions in Montana. Rollins is a graduate of Montana State University in Bozeman. He and his wife, Tricia, who is the Operations Officer in the Heppner Branch of Bank of Eastern Oregon, live in Ione and are raising two young boys, Taylor and Bryce.



Rollins

Sharon Harrison, Heppner Branch Manager and Loan Officer, was promoted to Assistant Vice President of the bank. Harrison has a total of 25 years of banking experience, primarily with First Interstate, Wells Fargo and Klamath First. Harrison and her husband, Bob, a retired farmer and rancher, live in Lexington. They are the parents of four grown children and six grandchildren.



Harrison

Joyce Moser, Burns Branch Manager and Loan Officer, was promoted to Assistant Vice President of the bank. Moser is a 30-year veteran of banking, serving with First Interstate, Wells Fargo, and Klamath First in both Bend and Burns. Moser is the top producing real estate lender in the branch system and currently serves as project manager of the bank's initiative to gain market share through a free gift/free checking campaign.



Moser

Rhonda Shaffer, Loan Officer in the Condon Branch, was promoted to Assistant Vice President. Shaffer just celebrated her 30th year in banking, starting with First National Bank in Portland in 1976. Shaffer currently manages the VISA and Evergreen credit areas, along with her general lending duties in Condon. She and her husband, Steve, who works at Devin Oil, have two grown children.



Shaffer

Bob Quinton, Commercial Loan Officer in the John Day and Prairie City Branches, was promoted to Assistant Vice President. Quinton has 20 years in banking, including stints with Western Bank, Liberty Bank, and Klamath First. Quinton manages the lending duties in all of Grant County. He currently is serving as Mayor of John Day and is finishing a term as the President of the local Chamber of Commerce.



Quinton

Assistant Vice President. Quinton has 20 years in banking, including stints with Western Bank, Liberty Bank, and Klamath First. Quinton manages the lending duties in all of Grant County. He currently is serving as Mayor of John Day and is finishing a term as the President of the local Chamber of Commerce.

"We are very fortunate to have this talented and hard working group of veteran bankers working for Bank of Eastern Oregon. These promotions are a signal that we consider these people leaders in our organization and we really value their input and the effort they bring to the job," said President and CEO, E. George Koffler.

BEO Bancorp is the holding company for Bank of Eastern Oregon, which operates 11 branches in six eastern Oregon counties. Branches are located in Arlington, Ione, Heppner, Condon, Irrigon, Boardman, Burns, John Day, Prairie City, Fossil and Moro. Bank of Eastern Oregon also operates a mortgage division, loan production offices in Hermiston and Ontario, and offers brokerage services through BEO Financial Services. The bank's website is www.beobank.com.

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Hughes to retire from Chamber

By Doris Brosnan

Claudia Hughes will retire from the position of Executive Director of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce on June 30. On that date, the Chamber will host an afternoon of refreshments at City Hall from 2-5 p.m. for everyone who wishes to stop by to visit Hughes on her last official afternoon in the office. That evening, the Chamber will sponsor a steak dinner prepared by Rick and Cheryl Smith and a program at the Elks Lodge in honor of Hughes. Tickets are \$16 per plate and may be purchased through Sharon Harrison at the Bank of Eastern Oregon or by calling her in the evening at 989-8496. Reservations must be made by June 25.

Anyone who has worked closely with Hughes will not be surprised to learn that she was reluctant to discuss herself when this writer asked for an interview as her retirement nears. Hughes heaps praise upon the many volunteers responsible for success of Willow Creek Valley projects and events and she would prefer to stay in the background.

But anyone who knows Hughes knows that her personality is not one for only "background" work. When she married Merlin Hughes over 40 years ago and moved to Little Butter Creek, she welcomed her new home with open arms, adopting the Valley community as her own and quickly became one of its outstanding volunteers. Even after she went to work part time at Heppner TV, Inc., she continued to chair and work on many committees. Today, that volunteer attitude keeps Hughes in the office, about Heppner, at local functions and in attendance at meetings around the state many hours beyond those for which she is employed part time by the Chamber.

Hughes calls it proof that she should retire when she responds, "I can't remember" to a request for her employment history. She says she went to work part-time at the TV office "soon after a few mishaps at the ranch" suggested that she was not cut out for traditional ranch work. This writer remembers hearing when visiting in the area those many years ago about

this ranch wife who seemed to be cut from a different cloth and was maybe a trendsetter with her working in town.

Hughes remembers that she later went to work part-time for the Extension Office, as the 4-H secretary and that the new work overlapped for a time with the TV office job. Working for many bosses prepared her for the work she went to in 1986 ("easier to remember since it was exactly 20 years ago"), Hughes says, for as director of the Chamber, she has worked with 18 chamber presidents and several boards of directors over these past 20 years. "I think I have run presidents out of town. Eleven of them no longer live here," she laughs.

From the Chamber office that was shuffled about town for many years before finding its present home, Hughes has seen programs come and go and remembers them all with enthusiasm for the volunteer efforts that made them success stories for the community. Some standout memories revolve around the Main-Street project, the "Best Dam Event," Town and Country and St. Patrick's Day. "Heppner is now in the tourism guides, has a web site and participates in the 'Bite of Oregon' in Portland," Hughes notes, "and these are especially important because tourism and visitors are so important."

Hughes delights in remembering some of the surprises that keeps her from being able to describe a typical day in the office and she will miss these sometimes bizarre and sometimes humorous episodes. She will miss the interaction with the diverse chamber membership, the pressures of deadlines and the hustle and bustle of business-as-usual in the community. Maybe that is why this exemplary volunteer will still be seen around the office off and on for a few more months. Hughes has volunteered to co-chair the Cycle Oregon event scheduled to come to Heppner in September. People who know Hughes suspect that she will have her hand up now and then for some time to come and this writer believes that Heppner's most enduring cheerleader will never totally sit on the sidelines.

St. Patrick's Senior Center news

The Seventh Day Adventist Church is providing volunteers to host the June 28 noon meal at the senior center. The menu is stuffed peppers with meat and rice, apple sauce, wheat rolls and cup cakes.

A bus trip to Monument is coming up on Tuesday, June 27. The bus will roll south to the John Day River, then the group will have lunch at the Monument Senior Center. Going to Monument is a nostalgic drive through familiar landscape to a homecoming for a number of local people. Now is the time go, there may be spring flowers blooming among the trees and in the grassy fields.

Thirteen passengers took advantage of the drive to see the Native American Museum, to have lunch at Wildhorse, and test the slots if they wished. Rain did not dampen anyone's enjoyments.

Some of the bus drivers work in the local harvest. More bus trips will come later in the summer.

- *Wedding Tables* -

Kylee Graybeal & Casey Evans
Wedding ~ Saturday, June 24th

Melanie Silvia & Clifford Shiley
Wedding ~ Saturday, July 22nd

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