Bessie Wetzell Newspaper Library
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403

Hayden Dental set to sell business

New owners plan to keep Heppner office open

Hayden Family Dentistry Group is on track to sell all but two of their offices to Advantage Dental Services based out of Redmond.

According to Jerry Slaughter of Hayden Family Dentistry Group, the new company would have no plan of selling the Heppner office. "The plan right now is not to close that office (Heppner) because it is profitable. We don't want to wreck a good thing."

According to The Lund Report, legal documents for the purchase of Hayden Family Dentistry Group were submitted on April 30, 2009 to state officials. The current projected date for closing on the sale is August 1. When the sale goes through, Advantage Dental Services will be the number two dental healthcare provider in the state with a membership of 111,990.

HEPPNER 50¢
Gazette Times
VOL. 128 NO. 29 10 Pages Wednesday, July 22, 2009 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Time changes announced for this year's rodeo

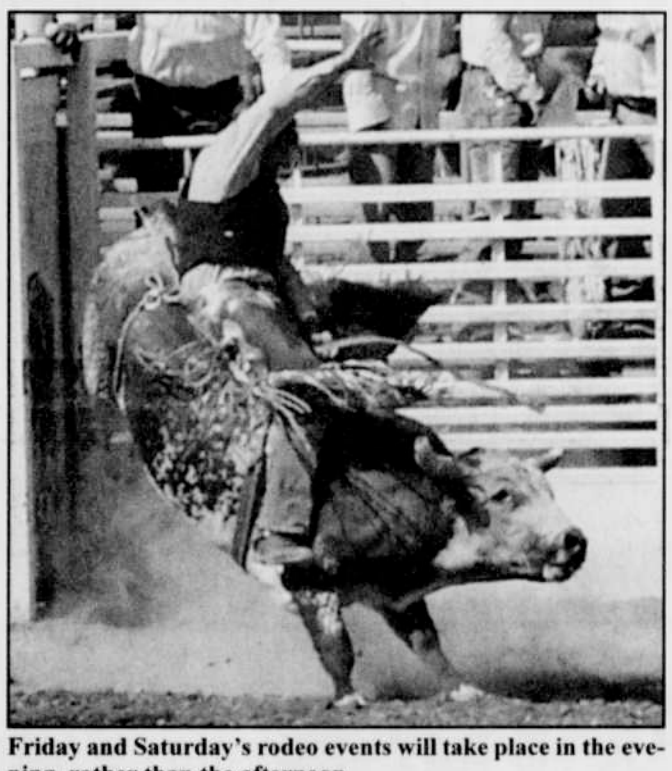
This year the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo will be moving to a nighttime venue.

Thursday night slack will begin at 7 p.m., the NPRA rodeo will start at 7 p.m. on Friday night, and Saturday night events will also begin at 7 p.m. On Friday and Saturday, Mutton Bustin' will begin at 6:30 p.m.

A live band will be performing on Saturday night following the rodeo at the beer garden. Joe Shinkle and his band, 99 West, will be performing.

VIP tickets are $12 per day in advance and $15 at the gate. A box for all three performances is $360. To purchase advance tickets call Camille Peck at 989-8351.

Sunday's activities will begin at 1 p.m. with Mutton Bustin'. All "Mutton Busters" are asked to call the rodeo office before the deadline on Thursday, August 6.



Friday and Saturday's rodeo events will take place in the evening, rather than the afternoon.

This year's bullfighter is Donnie Griggs of Hermiston and the clown will be Tracy Reed. The stock contractor is B-Bar-D. The announcer will be Curt Robinson of Pendleton and Wayne White will be in charge of sound.

Fair grill-off deadline July 23

Painted Hills Beef is providing amateur backyard grillers an opportunity to w off their skills during the 2nd annual Painted Hills Beef Backyard Grill-Off scheduled for August 6, at Morrow County Fair.

Grilling teams will be provided with Painted Hills Natural Beef for grilling, team gifts, and great prizes. 1st place prize is a Traeger Lil Tex Wood Pellet Grill and ribbon; second place prize is a Kershaw Knife Set and a ribbon and third place prize is a grill accessory kit and a ribbon!

The deadline for application for Foster Painted Hill's Beef Backyard Grill-Off is July 23. Participants can sign up for a competition by going to the Oregon State Fair website at www.oregonstatefair.org for official rules and registration form.

The first-place winners of Painted Hills Beef Backyard Grill-Off from participating county fairs will meet for a final competition at the Oregon State Fair on Sunday, August 30. Teams will compete to win a Traeger Texas Wood Pellet Grill or one or many other big prizes.

Lexington Precinct and Elizabeth Slottee Memorial Scholarship applications available

Applications are available for the Lexington Precinct and Elizabeth Slottee Memorial Scholarship. They may be picked up at Spicer- Kuhn Law Office in Heppner, from Barb Hayes, or by calling Sharon Harrison at 989-8496. The deadline for these to be turned in is August 31, 2009.

The Lexington voting precinct award is given to a sophomore, junior or senior who lives in the Lexington Voting Precinct.

The Slotee Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a junior, senior or graduate student at an accredited four year college or university. The scholarship is given annually in order of priority. First - student majoring or minoring in music; second - student who has been accepted into a school of education.

Criteria used in awarding this scholarship include scholarship, leadership, citizenship, financial need, and probability of success in the student s chosen field.

Heppner FFA to hold basket auction during fair

The Heppner FFA chapter will have a basket auction during the Thursday evening activities at Morrow County Fair. The auction will begin around 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 6.

The baskets vary in themes but include "Pendleton," "A Day at the Spa," and "Back to School."

This auction will be a fundraiser for the FFA chapter. Thirteen chapter members will be traveling back to Indianapolis, IN this October for The National FFA Convention. The trip includes travel to Nashville, TN; stops in Lexington and Louisville, KY and Indiana.

Ione School Board votes to uphold education reimbursement

By April Sykes

The Ione School Board voted Monday night to reimburse teacher Erin Heideman $769 toward reimbursement of education expenses incurred by Heideman in pursuing an administrator's certificate. Heideman already holds a master's degree.

The board agreed to uphold a verbal agreement between Heideman and past superintendent Bryn Browning that was made last year. The board hopes to include the amount in last year's budget if possible.

The district allows up to $2,500 per year per teacher in reimbursement for those pursuing an "approved" master's program.

Board Chair Joe McElligott swore in newly-elected board members, Bill Jepsen and Lisa Rietmann. Board member Anne Morter was not present. McElligott was reelected board chair and Morter, vice chair. Jepsen and McElligott were named to the Building and Grounds Committee and Morter and Lisa Rietmann to the Negotiations Committee.

Also at the meeting the board:

-approved a rafting trip for ASB officers to White Salmon or Deschutes later this summer.

-approved annual designations, which consist of annual housekeeping chores, such as naming superintendent/clerk and executive officer, chief financial officer and custodian of funds, etc., for 2009-10.

-approved a personal services contract for Harvey Carruth for investment management for the 2009-10 school year.

-accepted the resignation of Terri Schaber as a teacher's aide.

-approved staff contract recommendations, including special education teacher Gail Pratt and custodian.

-discussed the possibility of having the Missoula Children's Theater come to the Ione School during the upcoming year.

-announced the following upcoming meetings: August board meeting, Monday, August 17, with a work session at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m.; the Oregon School Boards Association annual conference, November 13-15, Portland.

-held an executive session to hear a complaint against a public employee.

Strategic plan schedules announced for Heppner, Lexington and Ione

Heppner has held their first strategic plan meeting. Subsequent committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, July 28, and Wednesday, August 12. Both meetings will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at City Hall.

Lexington will be starting the development of their strategic plan with a community meeting on Monday, August 17, starting at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Subsequent committee meetings will be held, starting at 6 p.m. at City Hall, on Wednesday, September 2, and Wednesday, September 16.

Ione will be holding their community meeting for development of their strategic plan on Tuesday, August 18, starting at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Subsequent committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. at City Hall on Tuesday, September 15, and Tuesday, September 29.

There is no better time than now to get involved in your specific community in helping to develop the strategic plan. Community members are always welcome to attend.

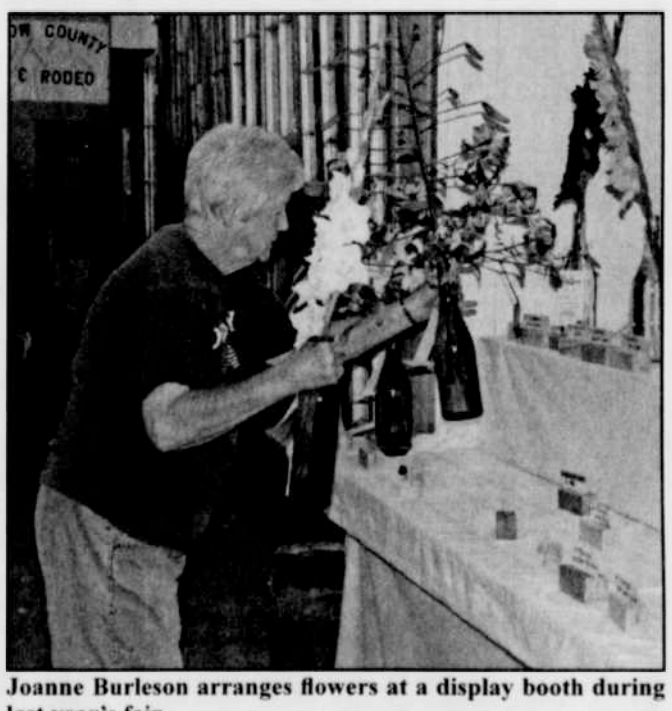
For additional information, please contact Karen Kendall/GEODC, project facilitator at 541-276-6745 or Sheryll Bates/ WCVEDG project coordinator at 541-676-5536.

Fair exhibit setup to begin August 3

Once again the Fair Superintendents will be anxiously awaiting exhibitors on Monday afternoon August 3 from 1 to 8 p.m. to receive all the entries in the fair.

Open Class fruits, vegetables and flowers will also be accepted on Monday from 4-8 p.m. and Tuesday morning from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. This year all Open Class exhibits will be released on Sunday morning from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the same time 4-H exhibits are released.

If for some reason you cannot make it on Sunday morning, the Fair Office will be open Monday through Friday the week following fair from 8-12 and 1-5 for pick-up of items. After 30 days those exhibits that are left will become the property of the Morrow County Fair and may be discarded.



Joanne Burleson arranges flowers at a display booth during last year's fair.

Ployhar awarded Bronze Star

Staff Sergeant Kent Ployhar of the United States Army was recently awarded The Bronze Star Award for exceptionally meritorious service during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"His outstanding dedication to duty during combat operations in Iraq contributed to the overwhelming success of the command's mission," said Michael J. Lally, Brigadier General. Ployhar completed over 70 tactical missions, logging over 10,00 miles across several Iraqi provences, through some of the most dangerous cities and along the most hazardous routes throughout Iraq. His actions in identifying an IED that was targeting fule convoys directly contributed to preventing a potentially catastrophic event, according to Army reports.

Ployhar is the son of Alice Ployhar of Heppner. He lives in Kennewick, WA. He has a 15 year-old son, Kent Ployhar II who lives in Idaho.

Entry forms available for fair and rodeo parade

The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo will be held August 5-9. This year, the parade will be held on Saturday, August 8, beginning at 10 a.m. Entry forms can be picked up at the chamber office or give the chamber office a call and one can be mailed or emailed to you. All entries must be received by Friday, July 31.

For more information contact the chamber at 676-5536.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.