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HEPPNER TIMES GAZETTE

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VOL. 130 NO. 36 8 Pages Wednesday, September 14, 2011 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Fishing crew brings home the salmon for Ione Education Foundation dinner

By David Sykes

Another successful fishing trip means there will be lots of good salmon to eat at the Ione Education Foundation Fundraising Dinner Sept. 24.

Marvin Padberg, who each year arranges the fishing trip to provide the salmon, said there were several local people fishing this year including himself, Gary Neal, Howard Mullins, Don Russel, Howard's son Bill Mullins, and Keith Rea.

Padberg said they go down each year and stay at a friend's beach house near Warrenton where they fish out of. He said the group spent about three weeks this year fishing. "The fishing was good, the weather was good, a little bit of wind but not too bad," Padberg said. He said they caught all Chinooks, with the biggest being around 30 ibs.

In preparing the fish, Padberg says they first bleed out the fish and put them on ice right away. "We then fillet the fish and vacuum seal and flash freeze the fillets and that keeps them fresh and ready," he said. When ready for cooking, the fish are prepared with their secret recipe which includes maple syrup, Padberg reveals. The fish are then cooked on soaked cedar planks which cook both sides and "caramelize real nice," he says. It takes about 8-10 grills to cook the fish for serving at the Foundation Dinner.

Gary Neal shows a nice Chinook Salmon he caught at Buoy 10 out of Warrenton. The fish is one of many which will be served at the Ione Foundation fundraising dinner Sept 24.

Howard Mullins adds to the catch for the Foundation dinner.

The Ione Education Foundation Fundraising Dinner and Auction will be held on Saturday, September 24, at the Ione American Legion Hall... Social hour will begin at 6 p.m., with dinner to follow at 7 p.m.

Ticket prices are as follows: children six and under-free; children seven to 12 years-$10; and adults-$25.

The dinner menu includes: prime rib, salmon, salad, baked potato, bread and dessert. Two drinks are included with meal (beer, wine, soft drinks).

Tickets are available at Bank of Eastern Oregon or may be reserved by calling 541 422-7435.

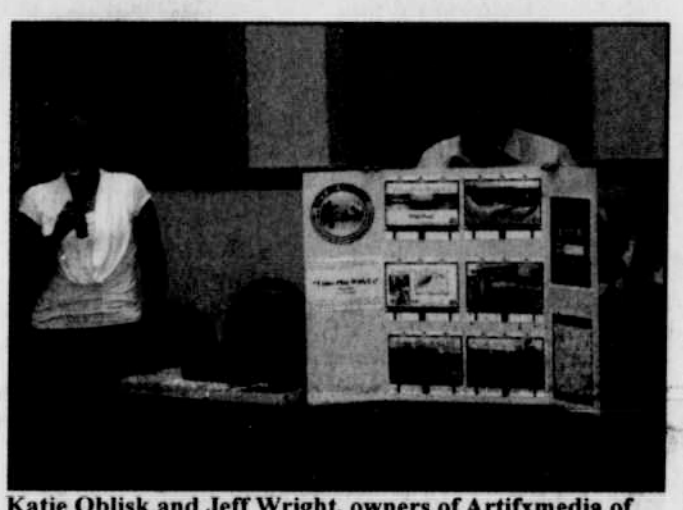
The evening will include a live auction and raffle items and musical performances by the Ione Community School Music Department.

Ad firm discusses marketing campaign with city council

Would promote tourism in Morrow County

By David Sykes

The owners of a Pendleton advertising company spent more than an hour Monday discussing with the Heppner City Council a possible advertising campaign aimed at attracting more tourism dollars to Heppner, Lexington, Ione, Boardman and Irrigon.



Katie Oblisk and Jeff Wright, owners of Artifxmedia of Pendleton, talk to Heppner City Council Monday about a proposed county-wide advertising campaign.

Neither a specific plan, nor the costs, was laid out at the meeting, but both Katie Oblisk and Jeff Wright, owners of Artifxmedia of Pendleton, said they are working with Boardman and Irrigon to get the campaign off the ground. The two said they had also talked with Lexington and Ione, and although both those cities declined to help fund the program, they would be included in the advertising.

When asked what the specifics and the cost of the campaign would be, Wright said the cost would depend on what the cities wanted accomplished and the media purchased to do it. He added that his company did not yet have a plan put together. "Actually we are kind of doing this backward," Wright told the council. He said normally the cities would approach the advertising agency, tell them what they wanted, and the agency would come up with a preliminary plan and the cost of implementing the campaign.

Wright said that if all the county's cities go in together they could "get more accomplished and get more bang for your buck." He said Boardman and Irrigon had indicated they may go it alone if a county-wide all cities program could not be put together.

"Irrigon and Boardman are waiting to see what you are doing," Wright said. He said the two cities will "do their own thing" if Heppner does not go along with the county-wide advertising approach.

On cost, Wright said his company had not come up with a figure for the campaign. "We are waiting for you guys to come to us and say this is what we have to spend," he said. He said a typical advertising campaign could run anywhere from $15,000 to $300,000." If all three cities in the county go along, the cost will be split between them.

City Manager Dave DeMayo said Heppner may be able to come up with $4,000 to $5,000 for the campaign. "Each year I underestimate how much tax money we will receive. But we will not know until November how much that is going to be," he told the council.

Each city in the county is different and each has its own drawing point, Wright told the council. He pointed out Irrigon's fish hatchery, Boardman's marina and Heppner's OHV Park, hunting and fishing opportunity.

The council questioned if the campaign would bring new businesses to Heppner, and Wright said it was aimed at tourism. "Bring in the tourism and the businesses will follow," he said. Some council members brought up that Heppner does not have restaurants open on a consistent basis if visitors do come here. It was also discussed that although the OHV Park does attract many visitors, getting them to spend money in Heppner is not always successful.

The council took no action on the advertising promotion, however, Mayor Les Paustian said he will be attending a county mayor meeting on Sept. 21 at which time he will discuss the issue with the other mayors in the county.

In other business, the council discussed management and financial problems the Heppner Housing Authority is having with the St. Patrick's Senior housing in downtown Heppner.

Head of the Housing Authority, Judy Buschke, said she was informed recently they owe $10,832 in back management fees to Cascade Management which the authority has hired to run the apartments.

The Housing Authority pays Cascade $798 per month in management fees. In addition the Authority pays for onsite manager, maintenance person, insurance and other fees. "We are not broke," Buschke assured the council, although she did say she is going to meet with a representative of Cascade to try and work out some of the problems.

There are 19 units in the apartment building and tenants pay an average of $444 per month rent. There are currently four units empty, but not because of a lack of potential renters. Because the city refinanced the remodeling of the building using government Housing and Urban Development money, if potential renters have too much money they are not allowed to rent the apartments. Although Buschke said she did have three interested renters that will probably be able to qualify for the income limits. "We took HUD money and for 30 years we have to abide by HUD rules," Buschke said.

In other housing business, Buschke said the heat pump at the apartments

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Representative Greg Smith announces campaign for re-election

Rep. Greg Smith (R-Heppner) has announced his campaign for re-election to the Oregon House of Representatives. Rep. Smith, seeking his seventh term, said he'll continue to focus on improving the economy, creating jobs, and continuing to give Eastern Oregon a strong voice in Salem.

"It's an honor to represent the citizens of District 57 in the Oregon House of Representatives," Rep. Smith said. "I'm running for re-election because Eastern Oregon's future is at stake. I'm proud of the things we've been able to accomplish for our region, and I remain committed to putting people back to work in our rural communities."

Rep. Smith, a longtime member of the budget-writing Joint Ways and Means Committee, says he'll work to build on accomplishments from the 2011 session. This year he secured funding for critical economic development projects in Eastern Oregon, provided long-term tax relief for loggers and wheat farmers, and protected critical economic development incentives for rural communities. He has also made progress on several Eastern Oregon priorities, including establishing a new compensation fund for local ranchers who've been affected by wolf depredation.

Rep. Greg Smith

Rep. Smith's voting record recently earned him a 100 percent score on bills promoting job creation and economic growth, according to the Oregon Prosperity Project, a coalition of Oregon businesses and trade associations.

This accomplishment was preceded by Rep. Smith's 2009 voting record where he was named, "Champion for Oregon

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Town Hall meeting to feature citizen's constitutional rights

Public invited to hear about individual liberties and their relationship to government power

By David Sykes

A town hall meeting to discuss the US Constitution, its foundations, history and interpretation over the last 200 years, will be held in Heppner Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 7 p.m. at city hall.

Leading the discussion will be professor of Constitutional law Jim Huffman, who has been on the faculty of Lewis and Clark College since 1973 and served as dean there for nine years. Huffman was also the Republican candidate for US Senate in 2010.

Prior to the Heppner town hall Huffman will give a presentation on the Constitution to both the Ione and Heppner junior and senior high schools.

Jim Huffman, constitutional scholar and former US Senate candidate, will present a program on the US Constitution Sept 21.

During the town hall Huffman says he will give particular emphasis to "individual liberties and their relationship to government power, to the separation of powers at the federal level and the division of powers between the federal government on the one hand and state and local governments on the other." He also says he will address current issues in the news, "particularly the scope of the commerce clause power and the constitutionality of the new health care legislation and the scope of federal executive power."

The town hall is sponsored by the Willow Creek Tea Party Patriots. The program is free, the public is invited and refreshments will be served.

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