

Chamber plans events Aug. 25

The Hermiston Chamber of Commerce will host two events Aug. 25.

A supply chain opportunities conference will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395.

The event is designed to help manufacturers generate new opportunities, partnerships and awareness about suppliers and customers in the Northwest. The conference will feature presentations from large manufacturers and round-table discussions. Kerry Bass, from Pacific NW National Laboratory, and Josh Burns, from Wal-Mart Distribution Center, will speak at the event.

The conference is a collaboration between the chamber, Business Oregon, the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce and the Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition. PNDC and chamber members can register for \$20 by Aug. 12 or \$35 after. Non-members can register for \$40 by Aug. 12 or \$55 after. The cost includes breakfast and lunch at the Business to Business luncheon that follows. For more information or to register, visit www.pndc.us or call 888-701-PNDC.

People who do not wish to attend the entire conference can attend only the Business to Business luncheon, which begins at 11:45 a.m. The luncheon costs \$10 for chamber members or \$13 for non-members. For more information or to register, call 541-567-6151.

Craft brewer started with root beer

Beer dude looks for ingredients that play well together

By KATHY ANEY
Staff Writer

Craft brewer Logan Mayfield got his start as a boy in his family kitchen.

"I started when I was eight or nine with my dad. He made homemade root beer," he said. "If I helped out, I could drink as much as I wanted."

Mayfield is head brewer at Ordinance Brewing in Boardman with an unofficial title of "the brew dude." The beer maker oversees his collection of fermenting tanks, mash tuns and wooden sour barrels. He spends countless hours there separating wort from spent grain, boiling, adding hops and transferring the liquid to fermenters — a complex process that allows for plenty of inventiveness.

Mayfield so far sticks to traditional ingredients, but adds his own personal twists and tweaks in a quest to find beer nirvana.

The brewer is a personable 28-year-old who drives a rusted Toyota pickup with a crooked license plate and a bumper sticker that says "Be kind to animals — kiss a rugby player." As a teenager, he washed dishes at the Standing Stone Brewpub in Ashland and later learned to brew there as an intern. He skipped college for a trip around the world that introduced him to brewing styles on different continents. He rode a Russian motorcycle that he could fix with "a fork and a paperclip." He turned 19 in Germany with a bierstein in his hand.



STAFF PHOTO BY KATHY ANEY

Logan Mayfield, head brewer at Ordinance Brewing in Boardman, got his start making homemade root beer with his dad.

Recently, Mayfield sat on a stool at a table made from a huge wooden spool that once held wire. The table was one of four scattered around the brewery's tasting area, which sits in a corner of the 10,000-square-foot space. Onto the tabletop, visitors had used permanent markers to pen messages such as "Aaah beer" and "Happy fermenting." Mayfield sipped one of his favorite creations, RX Pale Ale, a straw-colored brew featuring a lingering hoppiness and a spiciness born of an encounter with rye malt. His other favorite is Old Craig, an English strong ale named after Craig Coleman, who is one of six owners of Ordinance and the associated Neighbor

Dudes Tap House in Hermiston. The current beer list offers some heady choices of lagers, wheat beer, a rainbow of ales (pale, golden, red and brown), porter, Kolsch, English bitter, imperial stout and inventive names such as Harry the Porter and Of Chimpanzees.

The key to brewing excellent beer, Mayfield said, "is learning how different ingredients play together." In RX (short for Rye Extra), he found a balance between rye and hops.

Mayfield moved to Boardman from a Colorado brewery when offered the Ordinance head brewer position by Coleman, who launched the brewery in 2014 with his friend and

neighbor Mark McLeod. McLeod has since died.

"We brewed our first batch on Halloween of last year," Mayfield said.

The craft brewery gets its name from a ghost town between Boardman and Hermiston, once populated by those who worked at the now-closed Umatilla Chemical Depot, which was known in its earlier life as the Umatilla Ordnance Depot.

Mayfield said he has bonded with Boardman. One plus, he said, is the lack of traffic.

"I do horribly with traffic lights," he said with a slow grin. "Morrow County doesn't have a single one."

Asked to describe a typical day at the brewery,

Mayfield took a sip of RX and pondered. The life of a brewer, he said, is predictable in only one way.

"There's never a typical day," he said.

Supply and demand often dictates his schedule. Recently, a boiler went down in the middle of a batch. Mayfield averted disaster by substituting an old German process called kettle sour. He finally made it to bed at 2:30 a.m.

Mayfield's beers are starting to get noticed. Full Metal Jacket, an English IPA, got Best Beer at the Beerex Fest in February. Oregon Beer Growler Magazine named Wheatville and RX Pale Ale as "Perfect Pints." He loves trying new techniques. At the moment, he has what he calls "the sour project." Sour beer is more tart and acidic than traditional beer and ages in oak barrels for months, letting the microorganisms do their work.

"Sour beer is becoming really popular on the west side of the Cascades," he said. "Hopefully, it appeals to locals soon."

Ordinance, currently a seven-barrel brewery, will soon expand into a 30-barrel brew house, increasing capacity from 240 to 900 gallons.

Coleman has watched (and tasted) Mayfield's work with increasing approval.

"We got really lucky," he said. "Someday, if he sticks with it, he'll be one of the old gray hairs in the business that everyone looks up to."

The brewery, at 405 N. Olson Road in Boardman, celebrated its grand opening on Aug. 1.

Learn more about the brewery on its website at www.ordnancebrewing.com.

Hermiston Herald

VOLUME 109 • NUMBER 46

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The Hermiston Herald (USPS 242220, ISSN 8750-4782) is published weekly at Hermiston Herald, 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838, (541) 567-6457, FAX (541) 567-1764. Periodical postage paid at Hermiston, OR. Postmaster, send address changes to Hermiston Herald, 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, OR 97838.

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"Summer Days & Country Ways"

August 19-23, 2015



FAIR: www.morrowcountyyoregon.com/fair

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Wednesday, Aug. 19th

Exotic Animals
Mechanical Bull
Kid Fun Zone
Animal Weigh-In
4-H Food Contest
FFA Tractor Driving
Pet Show for public
4-H Fashion Revue
4-H/FFA Livestock Judging
Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest
RDO Tractor Pull

Thursday, Aug. 20th

Exotic Animals
Mechanical Bull
Kid Fun Zone
Ice Cream Social
Talent Show
Old Time Fiddlers
FFA Floral Design
OTPR/NPRA Slack
Murray's Wine Tasting
Featuring:
Joe Lindsay
Luke Basil

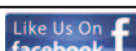
Friday, Aug. 21st

Exotic Animals
Mechanical Bull
Kid Fun Zone
4-H/FFA Showmanship
Master Showmanship
Youth Dance 4-H sponsored
OTPR/NPRA Rodeo
After Rodeo Band
Michele Drey & Branded

Saturday, Aug. 22nd

Exotic Animals
Mechanical Bull
Kid Fun Zone
Parade
FFA Awards
Buyers Luncheon
Livestock Auction
OTPR/NPRA Rodeo
After Rodeo Band
Michele Drey & Branded
Sunday, Aug. 23rd
All Exhibits Released
Morrow Country Rodeo

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Staying Active to Prevent Falls

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 3:30 PM

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Don't Let the Blues Get You Down

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 3:30 PM

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