

Herald Business

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BRIEF CASE

Hermiston company's sausages win award

Follett's Meat Company of Hermiston walked away with a major win at the Northwest Meat Processors Association 2016 Convention over the weekend.

Travis Calhoun said the company's fermented summer sausage with jalapeño and cheese won the grand reserve champion prize in the cured meats contest. He said attending the convention was "great fun with good people" and it was gratifying to be recognized for one of their creations.

"We focus on trying to make our product better and better," he said.

Judging for the sausage categories includes points in 10 categories, including workmanship, flavor, aroma and mouth feel.

The convention was held in Moscow, Idaho, on March 17-19.

Follett's Meat Company is based in Hermiston and provides custom meat processing for beef, pork, lamb and wild game that offers both stationary and mobile slaughter. According to the company's website, it has been a family-owned and operated business since 1921.

Ordnance Brewing adds marketing positions

Ordnance Brewing has added two key staff positions to handle anticipated growth in the company.

The Boardman-based brewery hired Dewey Weddington as Director of Sales and Marketing, and hired Will Menderhout as Portland Metro Field Rep.

Weddington is former VP of Marketing at Forest Grove's SakeOne. He said in a news release that the company had a strong selection of everyday beers and experimental brews.

"With a solid line up of quality beers, packaging developed to work hard, and a statewide sales team ready to support our distribution partners, we've got the foundation set to run hard and long," he said.

Menderhout is the former

Oregon Manager for Portland's Reverend Nat's Hard Cider. He said in the news release that he chose Ordnance Brewing as his next career step because he wanted to help build an "important Oregon brand."

The new positions will help Ordnance Brewing's marketing efforts keep pace with its growth as it expands to a 50 barrel system with production capability of up to 150,000 barrels annually, according to the company. Currently, the brewery offers a set of five core beers and a series of limited edition beers. It is seeking distribution domestically and internationally and is poised to expand into five states this year.

Hermiston Liquor Store moving to new site

The Hermiston Liquor Store is moving to a new location next week.

The store will open Monday, March 28, at 1565 N 1st St. at the Highway 395 mall.

In order to move operations to the new location, the store will close at 5 p.m. on Saturday and be closed all day on Easter Sunday.

Once the move is complete the store will go back to its regular hours of 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Bloomz Boutique at new Main St. location

Bloomz Floral & Boutique has changed locations.

The Hermiston florist, which also offers gourmet chocolates, soaps, jewelry, tuxedo rentals and other items, is now located at 215 E Main St. behind Goss Family Jewelers.

All retail has been moved over to the new location, and owner Rod Zumwalt said they should finish moving their workshop over soon. He said the new location has several advantages, including more parking and better lighting.

"We're really excited about it," he said.

The store is open 9 a.m. to

5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

BMCC offers real estate course this spring

Blue Mountain Community College will offer a real estate broker pre-license course at several of its campuses during Spring Term.

The class will offer a unique opportunity for remote students as it can be accessed on a home computer or at BMCC class sites in Hermiston, Milton-Freewater, Baker City, Boardman and also at the Ione Public Library.

The accelerated course prepares students to qualify for the Oregon Real Estate Broker's License exam in just 10 weeks. It is a hybrid course, combining once-a-week lecture with online home study to meet the 150 hour requirement of the Oregon Real Estate Agency.

The class will be held Thursdays from 6-9 p.m. at beginning March 31. The cost is \$600. Students may register at www.bluecc.edu or stop by any BMCC locations. For more information or assistance with registration, call Anne at 541-481-2099 or 541-422-7040.

Chamber accepts professional assistant nominations

Does your professional assistant go above and beyond the call of duty — if so, the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce encourages you to nominate them to be recognized.

Nominations are being accepted for top-notch administrative professionals, who will be recognized at the chamber's annual Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon. The form is available at the chamber or its website and is due Friday, April 15. Also, sponsorships are needed for the event.

The special luncheon is Tuesday, April 26 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Tickets

for the meal are \$20 each or \$140 for a table of eight.

All nominees will be honored with a token of appreciation and the winner will receive numerous gifts. In addition, Anne-Louise Sterry, an internationally known motivational speaker, will speak about the power of audacious joy.

For more information, contact 541-567-6151, info@hermistonchamber.com or visit www.hermistonchamber.com.

Training focuses on board officers

A special training workshop for nonprofit board members is planned in Pendleton.

The session will present information that will be helpful to new members as well as veteran officers who would like to brush up on their skills and network with others.

Offered by Center for Nonprofit Stewardship, the training is Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate. An early registration discount is offered to those who sign-up by Friday. The cost is \$75 or \$60 for graduates of the Ford Institute Leadership. The fee increases by \$15 after March 25.

Presentations are made by the Oregon Department of Justice along with a leading nonprofit certified public accountant, nonprofit consultant and board leadership specialist.

For more information or to register, contact thecenter@nonprofitsteward.org, 541-929-9320 or visit www.nonprofitsteward.org.

City gains \$60 million to tax rolls

Expired enterprise zone investments will fund services

The expiration of two enterprise zone tax exemptions added \$60 million to Hermiston's tax rolls in 2015.

A \$35 million investment in 2009 by DuPont-Pioneer Seed and \$25 million by Shearer's Foods in 2011 both had their property tax incentives expire on July 1, 2015.

The enterprise zone was designed to encourage economic development by giving businesses in certain industries a three-to-five-year property tax break on new construction or equipment if the investment adds new jobs to the economy.

Both DuPont-Pioneer Seed and Shearer's Foods still have enterprise zone exemptions on other investments, according to a news release from the city of Hermiston, and their exemption claim forms filed for those projects show they added a combined 51 new full-time jobs in the Hermiston area in 2015.

Since DuPont's 2009 expansion, the two companies have added a total of 306 new jobs with a payroll of \$8.67 million in the enterprise zone.

The property taxes paid on DuPont's \$35 million investment and Shearer's \$25 million investment will go to support the city of Hermiston, Umatilla County and taxing districts such as Hermiston School District and Hermiston Fire & Emergency Services.

Grants increase public safety in Hermiston

The Hermiston Police Department received almost \$29,000 in two grants to benefit public safety.

Hermiston Chief Jason Edmiston in a written statement reported a grant of \$26,985 from the Oregon Department of Transportation will cover overtime costs for officers to enforce the rules of the road during upcoming construction along the Highway 395 corridor.

"We would encourage our citizenry to slow down and avoid distractions during the construction," he

added. And the department will buy three automated external defibrillators for patrol cars thanks to an \$1,800 grant from the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation.

Edmiston stated the foundation has provided opportunities to numerous organizations and groups in the Hermiston area, and the three defibrillators will be beneficial to patrol officers, who are often the first responders to arrive on scene during an emergency.



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This special section will be full of adorable little darlings that have arrived over the last 3 years to bless many families and our communities.

Families will want to keep this special keepsake for their child and family for years to come.

Submit a photo of your Little Darling (Age 0 - 3) & be entered into a drawing for prizes by local sponsors!

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