

Business Notes

Attorney Jim Lucas opens office in Banks at US Bank building

As a high school student in Carrollton, Ohio, Jim Lucas dreamed of one day becoming a practicing attorney. That dream finally became a reality when he opened his office in the U.S. Bank Professional Building in Banks.

A graduate of Willamette University Law School, Lucas passed the bar in March of 1994. During his years as a law student, he worked as a law clerk in the Oregon State Department of Justice, Tax Section. After becoming a member of the bar, he initially worked as a contract attorney

with the Portland firm of Schroeder Law Offices.

The achievement of his high school dream was reached by a circuitous route, for, while he was dreaming his dream, he lived with his family on a small farm and operated a small dairy, milking six cows before and after school. By the time Lucas graduated from high school, he had acquired a vested interest and fondness for cows. Consequently, when he matriculated at Ohio State University, he declared himself a major in Dairy Science in the School of Agriculture, and

graduated with a B.S. degree.

Lucas says that, if he'd had the money at that point, he would have launched a career as a dairy farmer. Instead he was offered a teaching fellowship at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, from which he emerged two years later with an M.S. degree in Agriculture, specializing in animal genetics.

He was now prepared to take on the world of cows and bulls, developing breeding stock to improve the quality of future generations of milk producers.

He worked for a time as a consultant to dairy farmers in Ohio and, later, as Genetic Manager for Tri-State Breeders Cooperative in Baraboo, Wisconsin. In this capacity, Lucas' career became one of extensive travel throughout cow country in multiple states, including all of the west coast, searching for, and buying, bulls for research and development.

After six years, the stress of this life-style began to take its toll so, on the advice of his physician, he decided to rekindle his high school dream.

Another significant factor was the extended absences from June, his wife. "Once I met June," he said, "traveling

around the country lost its luster."

Lucas' ad is in the Banks-

Manning section on page 9 of this paper. Stop in and visit him at his office.



Attorney Jim L. Lucas opens office in Banks.

Former hardware store will begin anew as restaurant and art gallery



Debbie Sturdefant outside her newly acquired building.

The Sidetrack Restaurant, a crafters' mall and art gallery will soon open at 736 Bridge Street, Vernonia, in the building that housed Brunsmann Hardware for many years.

Debbie Sturdefant, who recently purchased the building from Wally and Rose Detmers, will operate the restaurant, with Alicia Day and Chong Cradit in the kitchen weekdays. Priscilla Cradit will handle the weekend cooking. Space will be available for crafters on a rental basis and Michelle Blum will run the art gallery.

The country-style restaurant will feature a railroad log-

ging theme with artifacts and photographs from early logging operations in the area. Initial plans call for the restaurant to be open from 5:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, plus 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for Sunday brunch.

The operation will also include an espresso bar that will be open daily. Future plans include banquet and meeting rooms.

Though she has a major remodeling job to complete, Sturdefant plans to open for business in February.

Electronic tax filing offered locally

Electronic tax filing is now available to taxpayers in the Vernonia area through Nehalem Valley Accounting & Tax Service. Owner Anita Maller said she thinks she's the first local tax consultant to add electronic tax filing to the services she has to offer.

The most obvious reason to add the service, is that it greatly speeds up income tax refunds from the IRS. Instead of waiting weeks for a refund, taxpayers who have a refund coming from the IRS can get it in only days, Maller said.

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