

Business Notes

Nutritious feed in pellet form is specialty of new Buxton Feed Co.

A new business in the area now makes it easy for livestock owners to get fresh feed in pellet form — it's even delivered free within 25 miles of Buxton.

Jim Sorenson started purchasing used equipment last fall, made the necessary modifications and opened Buxton Feed Co. on July 10 with his first pelletized feed for horses, cows, sheep, goats and llamas.

Sierra Pellet is a combination of alfalfa, grass hay, corn and oats ground together and pelletized in a formula that provides 12 percent protein. Other combinations provide more or less protein, as needed, such as omitting the grass hay for horses and increasing the protein. Sorenson is also willing and able to make custom blended feed to meet specific needs.

"Every precaution is made to ensure the highest quality in the manufacturing of our pellets," Sorenson emphasized. Sierra Pellets also contain a mold inhibitor and are flavored with a caramel-cherry syrup. "Our black angus love it," he said, "they even drool!"

Buxton Feed Co. is not a store, Sorenson said, and can't **Timberlands closed to public**

Severe forest-fire danger has forced closure of nearly all Columbia County commercial timberlands to public access, including hunting. Gates have been closed, entry points posted and timberlands security patrols increased for the duration of the fire season.

Longview Fibre, Olympic Forest Resources, Evenson, Hampton, Stimson and Swanson lands are closed to all access. Willamette Industries and Forest Systems Mist tree farm are open to walk-ins only.

Oregon Department of Forestry timberlands in the Wilkerson area and Bureau of Land Management timberlands in Columbia County are open.

Firefighting resources are stretched to the limit throughout the West, so substantial rainfall will be required before most timberlands are reopened. Hunters should check with the land owner or with the appropriate office of ODF before going on private lands.

accommodate drop-in customers. However, customers can arrange to pick up freshly made orders at the company's Pongratz Road location, or Sorenson will deliver orders of a half-ton or more. (When *The INDEPENDENT* was there, Sorenson had just arranged to deliver three tons of feed to a llama farm near Sacramento, Calif.) The minimum purchase is 10 bags of feed at \$6.50 per bag. With the purchase of a half-ton, the price goes down to \$5.85 per bag.

Sorenson is still employed full-time at Intel, but plans to retire in about two years, then devote more time to the feed business. Until then, his son, Beau, helps out when he's home from college. Sorenson hopes to hire FFA students, too, and expose them to the manufacturing process.

Buxton Feed Co. may be called at 503-324-1511, or check out blackangus.com and use the feed company link.



Beau Sorenson, left, will help his dad, Jim, at Buxton Feed Co. until he returns for the fall term at Eastern Oregon University.

Correct address needed to receive "Kicker" check

The Oregon Department of Revenue wants to make sure that this year's kicker checks get to Oregon taxpayers in plenty of time for the holidays. In 1999, over 15,000 taxpayers had their checks delayed because of incorrect mailing addresses.

"Taxpayers who have moved since filing their 2000

returns need to give us updated addresses. We'd like to know about name changes, too," said Sandy Bradley, the department's kicker project manager.

The surplus checks, commonly known as the kicker, are tax refunds the state sends to individuals when tax collections exceed official estimates by 2

percent or more. The refunds will be based on a taxpayer's 2000 Oregon tax liability and will be mailed by December 1.

Taxpayers may send their changes of address to Address Change, Department of Revenue, P O Box 14600, Salem OR 97309-5049. They should include their Social Security numbers and, in the case of joint returns, indicate if the address change is for both parties.

Addresses may also be changed by calling 503-378-4988 or toll free within Oregon at 1-800-356-4222. Spanish speakers may call 503-945-8618. For TTY (hearing or speech impaired only), the toll-free number within Oregon is 1-800-886-7204. The Spanish and TTY numbers are answered by machine; a representative will return the call.

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