

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX

Board Meeting

April 6, 2005

Floral Building

Washington County Fair Complex

873 NE 34th Avenue

Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Regular Session – 4:30 p.m.

Executive Session – 5:30 p.m.*

* If necessary.

AGENDA

NOTICE OF MEETING

Washington County Fair Complex Board of Directors
Regular Meeting: Wednesday, April 6, 2005, at 4:30 p.m.
Executive Session: Wednesday, April 6, 2005, at 5:30 p.m.*
Floral Building
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

A. Richard Vial, Chair
Herbert Hirst, Vice Chair
Kathy Christy, Secretary
Dan Logan, Member
W. Rafe Flagg, Treasurer
Kathy Schmidlkofer, Member
Ken Madden, Member

Standing Committees

Air Show & Airport Interface
Herbert Hirst, Board Member

Booster/Coalition Liaison
Kathy Schmidlkofer, Board Member
Dan Logan, Board Member

Development Committee
Rich Vial, Chair
Herbert Hirst, Board Member
W. Rafe Flagg, Board Member

Fair Visioning Committee
Kathy Christy, Chair
Dan Logan, Board Member
Ken Madden, Board Member

115 Days to the 2005 Washington County Fair & Rodeo

- A. **Call the Regular Meeting to Order:** All matters noticed and listed on this agenda, in any category, may be considered for action in any order at the discretion of the Board Chair. Items not so noticed may be discussed at the discretion of the Board Chair, but cannot be considered for action.
- B. **Public Welcome – Audience Time:** This time is provided for members of the audience to comment on any item(s) not on the regular agenda. At the discretion of the Board Chair, each individual's comments may be limited to two minutes. Audience members, when recognized by the Board Chair, may also comment at the time agenda topics are being discussed by the Board. It is requested that those addressing the Board state their full name, address and organization represented.
- C. **Consent Agenda:** All Consent Agenda items shall be approved without discussion and with one motion except those items removed from the Consent Agenda by a Board member or a member of the public attending the meeting so requesting. If a matter is removed, it shall then be considered, discussed and voted on individually, after the Consent Agenda has been approved.
1. Financial Statements
 - A. Budget Overview – February 2005
 - B. Balance Sheet – February 2005
 - C. Other, if any
 2. Fair Board Minutes – March 2005
 3. Facility Use Schedule – April 2005
 4. Other, if any

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), this material, in alternate formats, or special accommodations for the meeting, will be made available by calling (503) 648-1416 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.

D. Special Reports

1. 4-H Report – John Baggott, OSU Extension Service
2. Fair Boosters Report – Ed Kristovich, Booster President
3. Air Show & Airport Interface Committee – Herbert Hirst, Board Member
4. Fair Visioning Committee – Kathy Christy, Board Members
5. Booster/Coalition Liaison, Kathy Schmidkofer, Board Member
6. Treasure's Report – W. Rafe Flagg, Board Member
7. Operations Report – Don G. Hillman, Executive Director
8. Other, if any

E. Old Business

1. Redevelopment Update, if any
2. Fair Booster MOU
3. Other, if any

F. New Business

1. 4H Uses of Complex Facilities – Staff Report
2. Loan with County for Portable Bleachers
3. Personal Services Contract – Scott Hookland LLP
4. Executive Director Annual Evaluation*
5. Other, if any

G. Announcements

1. Calendar of Events
2. Other, if any

H. Correspondence

1. Letters and Cards, if any
2. Other, if any

I. Board Oral Communications

J. Other Matters of Information

1. Newspaper Articles, if any
2. Website Activity
3. Other, if any

K. Adjourn

*Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.610-192.690 to discuss Real Estate matters and/or Personnel issues immediately following the regular Fair Complex Board meeting, if deemed necessary.

CONSENT ITEMS

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX
Budget Overview July 2004 - February 2005

3/30/05

Mission Statement: The mission of the Washington County Fair Complex is to provide excellent facilities and services in a self-supporting manner for the following purposes:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Preserve the annual County Fair & Rodeo and its heritage. | 2. Promote the "World-Class" agriculture of the County. |
| 3. Provide a welcoming environment for all volunteers. | 4. Commitment to life-long learning with a special emphasis on youth. |
| 5. Promote year-round facilities for consumer trade shows, public expositions and special gatherings. | 6. Promote a sense of community among County residents. |

Description	July 2004	August 2004	September 2004	October 2004	November 2004	December 2004	January 2005	February 2005	Year to Date 2004/05	Adopted 2004/05	%
1 Opening Balance	\$ 397,999	\$ 145,239	\$ 351,993	\$ 299,382	\$ 375,413	\$ 393,093	\$ 387,786	\$ 418,225		\$ 379,757	
2 Interim Operating Revenues											
3 Parking	\$ 75	\$ 28,965	\$ 70	\$ -	\$ 7,697	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,807	\$ 26,000	142%
4 RV Park		930	1,680	332	1,910	543	403	613	6,411	15,350	42%
5 Rentals	13,005	4,100	16,531	18,312	28,721	21,164	20,963	17,365	140,161	174,894	80%
6 Concessions	2,813	200	1,078	100	100	200	100	200	4,791	6,000	80%
7 Misc Income	6,181	2,425	1,794	297	213	-158	-32	-32	10,688	10,500	102%
8											
9 Total Interim Operating Revenues	\$ 22,074	\$ 36,620	\$ 21,153	\$ 19,041	\$ 38,641	\$ 21,749	\$ 21,434	\$ 18,146	\$ 198,858	\$ 232,744	85%
10 Interim Operating Expenses											
11 Personal Services	\$ 14,081	\$ 23,727	\$ 28,541	\$ 38,147	\$ 27,311	\$ 27,351	\$ 25,373	\$ 25,261	209,792	\$ 306,419	68%
12 Supplies	4,636	3,116	2,367	201	424	445	1,362	225	12,776	22,000	58%
13 Professional Services	672	783	-	473	-	629	202	-	2,759	8,000	34%
14 Advertising	273	748	33	395	277	199	546	-	2,471	6,000	41%
15 Communications	32	75	44	44	87	-	45	45	372	-	-
16 Utilities	489	2,613	5,605	3,124	3,906	4,034	7,362	3,601	30,734	77,000	40%
17 Repair and Maintenance	6,736	3,553	241	2,271	2,017	1,940	15,733	841	33,332	45,000	74%
18 Rentals	665	796	484	215	215	215	456	215	3,261	6,000	54%
19 Dues and Memberships	-	30	30	55	337	311	60	229	1,052	1,125	94%
20 Training and Travel	-	-	393	-	-	-	121	-	514	400	129%
21 Insurance	13,009	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	13,037	13,250	98%
22 Postage	-	-	-	49	77	-	-	-	126	1,600	8%
23 Printing Internal	190	-	10	778	-	-	-	-	978	1,000	98%
24 Telephones	-	-	655	494	625	467	491	509	3,241	6,500	50%
25 Special Expenses	131	402	1,945	(680)	109	821	473	80	3,281	6,000	55%
26 County Legal	-	-	-	769	-	135	1,620	-	2,524	5,000	50%
27 County Indirect Cost	-	3,319	-	-	3,319	-	-	3,319	9,957	13,936	71%
28											
29											
30 Total Interim Operating Expenses	\$ 40,914	\$ 39,162	\$ 40,348	\$ 46,363	\$ 38,704	\$ 36,547	\$ 53,844	\$ 34,325	\$ 330,207	\$ 519,230	64%
31											
32 Net Interim Revenues/Expenses	\$ (18,840)	\$ (2,542)	\$ (19,195)	\$ (27,322)	\$ (63)	\$ (14,798)	\$ (32,410)	\$ (16,179)	\$ (131,349)	\$ (286,486)	

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX
Budget Overview July 2004 - February 2005

33												3/30/05
34	Description	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	Year to Date	Adopted	%
35		2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2005	2005	2004/05	2004-05	
36	Fair Revenues											
37												
38	Commercial Booth Rentals	\$ 43,957	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48,557	\$ 64,325	75%
39	Dept of Agriculture	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,141	-	35,141	38,000	92%
40	Parking Fees	1,055	76,755	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,810	81,000	96%
41	Admissions	724	30,776	-	652	-	-	-	-	32,152	60,000	54%
42	Sponsorships	36,750	8,500	-	11,250	-	5,500	-	-	62,000	60,000	103%
43	Carnival Income	-	67,572	-	-	-	-	-	-	67,572	65,000	104%
44	Advertising	1,150	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,450	1,500	97%
45	Entry Fees	4,147	299	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,446	4,600	97%
46	Rentals	-	(11)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(11)	-	-
47	Concessions	12,850	67,064	-	-	-	-	-	-	79,914	81,675	98%
48	Other Revenues	248	7,166	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,414	12,600	59%
49												
50	Total Fair Revenues	\$ 100,881	\$ 259,421	\$ -	\$ 11,902	\$ -	\$ 9,100	\$ 35,141	\$ -	\$ 416,445	\$ 468,700	89%
51	Fair Expenses											
52	Personal Services	\$ 6,634	\$ 13,007	\$ 11,481	\$ 16,950	\$ 11,577	\$ 11,255	\$ 11,368	\$ 11,370	\$ 93,642	\$ 184,548	51%
53	Supplies	8,558	1,750	529	16	6	-	29	-	10,888	12,500	87%
54	Professional Services	20,577	41,458	13,880	750	(1,230)	-	-	-	75,435	72,000	105%
55	Advertising, Promotions, etc.	88,278	3,416	-	-	1,784	45	3,483	1,500	98,506	100,000	99%
56	Utilities	-	1,936	1,099	-	-	-	-	-	3,035	14,000	22%
57	Repair & Maintenance	-	2,773	14	-	-	-	-	-	2,787	2,500	111%
58	Rentals	1,178	3,997	173	-	-	579	-	-	5,927	8,000	74%
59	Dues and memberships	-	-	-	-	-	775	-	-	775	750	103%
60	Travel and Training	-	-	-	613	210	277	1,293	399	2,792	4,500	62%
61	Insurance	13,009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,009	13,250	98%
62	Postage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	900	0%
63	Printing	1,198	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,198	3,000	40%
64	Telephone	506	800	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,306	2,500	52%
65	Other/Special Expenses	77,987	23,174	2,811	1,325	19,876	2,316	5,743	33	133,265	132,650	100%
66	Awards	27,996	11,826	(1,570)	-	2,476	22	-	-	40,750	46,150	88%
67	Indirect	-	3,319	-	510	3,319	-	-	3,319	10,467	14,436	73%
68												
69	Total Fairtime Expenses	\$ 245,920	\$ 107,456	\$ 28,417	\$ 20,164	\$ 38,019	\$ 15,269	\$ 21,916	\$ 16,621	\$ 493,782	\$ 611,684	81%
70												
71	Net Fairtime Revenues/Expenses	\$ (145,040)	\$ 151,965	\$ (28,417)	\$ (8,262)	\$ (38,019)	\$ (6,169)	\$ 13,225	\$ (16,621)	\$ (77,337)	\$ (142,984)	

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX
Budget Overview July 2004 - February 2005

												3/30/05
72												
73	Description	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	January	Year to Date	Adopted	%
74		2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2005	2005	2004/05	2004-05	
75	Rodeo Revenues											
76	Admissions	\$ 2,679	\$ 34,752	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,431	\$ 57,600	65%
77	Sponsorships	150	22,922	-	6,900	(1,750)	-	-	-	28,222	50,600	56%
78	Queen Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,750	0%
79	Miscellaneous	765	628	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,393	3,000	46%
80	Total Rodeo Revenues	\$ 3,594	\$ 58,302	\$ -	\$ 6,900	\$ (1,750)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,046	\$ 112,950	
81												
82	Rodeo Expenses											
83	Supplies	\$ 2,861	\$ 121	\$ (407)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2,575	\$ 3,000	86%
84	Professional Services	14,351	488	1,046	-	1,229	-	-	-	17,114	16,375	105%
85	Advertising	448	2,492	468	-	-	-	660	-	4,068	5,000	81%
86	Rentals	7,142	1,402	-	1,325	-	-	-	20	9,889	10,000	99%
87	Training and Travel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500	
88	Stock Contract	20,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	22,000	91%
89	Other Misc Expenses	1,855	1,293	604	-	590	588	-	-	4,930	10,000	49%
90	Awards/Prizes	35,850	770	-	-	-	776	-	-	37,396	35,500	105%
91	Total Rodeo Expenses	\$ 82,508	\$ 6,566	\$ 1,711	\$ 1,325	\$ 1,819	\$ 1,364	\$ 660	\$ 20	\$ 95,973	\$ 104,375	92%
92												
93	Net Rodeo Revenues/Expenses	\$ (78,913)	\$ 51,736	\$ (1,711)	\$ 5,575	\$ (3,569)	\$ (1,364)	\$ (660)	\$ (20)	\$ (28,926)	\$ 8,575	
94												
95	Frite Lites											
96	Frite Lite Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ 16,530	\$ 25,587	\$ 4,600	\$ 390	\$ 18	\$ 47,725	\$ 60,500	79%
97	Frite Lite Expenses	-	434	2,008	25,480	1,815	1,042	1,360	60	32,199	38,750	83%
98	Net Frite Lites Revenues/Expenses	\$ 0	(\$434)	(\$1,408)	(\$8,950)	\$23,772	\$3,558	(\$970)	(\$42)	\$15,526	\$21,750	71%
99												
100	Non-Operating											
101	Non-Operating Revenues											
102	Hotel/Motel Taxes	\$ -	\$ 4,536	\$ 3,888	\$ 118,142	\$ 37,591	\$ 13,123	\$ 78,404	\$ 37,173	\$ 292,857	\$ 518,000	57%
103	Interest	471	613	454	458	342	1,080	642	778	4,838	5,000	97%
104												
105	Total Non-Operating Revenues	\$471	\$5,149	\$4,342	\$118,600	\$37,933	\$14,203	\$79,046	\$37,951	\$297,695	\$523,000	57%
106												
107	Non-Operating Expenses											
108	Purchase/Lease	\$ 613	\$ 613	\$ 613	\$ 613	\$ 613	\$ 613	\$ 23,584	\$ 613	\$ 27,875	\$ 67,790	41%
109	Equipment	8,899	(1,493)	-	-	-	-	3,920	801	12,117	15,044	81%
110	Development Reserve	936	-	1,709	2,997	1,761	-	135	1,000	8,538	50,000	17%
111												
112	Total Non-Operating Expenses	\$10,438	(\$880)	\$2,322	\$3,610	\$2,374	\$613	\$27,639	\$2,414	\$48,530	\$132,834	37%
113												
114	Net Non-Operating Revenues/Expenses	(\$9,967)	\$6,029	\$2,020	\$114,990	\$35,559	\$13,590	\$51,407	\$35,537	\$249,165	\$390,166	64%
115												
116	Net Fair Complex Revenues/Expenses	(\$252,760)	\$206,754	(\$48,711)	\$76,031	\$17,681	(\$5,183)	\$30,592	\$2,675	\$27,078	(\$8,979)	
117												
118	Ending Fund Balance/Contingency	\$145,239	\$351,993	\$303,282	\$375,413	\$393,093	\$387,910	\$418,378	\$420,900		\$370,778	
Note: Difference in September ending Fund Balance and October beginning fund balance of \$3,898.37 is due to A/P entries made for August and September after prior reports were run. Note: Difference in December ending Fund Balance and January beginning fund balance of \$124.85 is due to A/P entries made for prior periods after reports were run. Note: Difference in January ending fund balance and February beginning balance of \$152.80.												

Washington County Fair Complex

Balance Sheet

February 2005

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash

Fairplex..Petty cash..	\$ 200
Fairplex..Cash drawer.Frite Lites.	500
Fairplex..General Cash Account..	39,757
Fairplex..USNB WASHCO ACH Clearing..	-
Fairplex..CCB-General Account..	1,794
Fairplex..CCB-Money Market Account..	354,255
Fairplex..CCB-ATM Account..	9,685
Total Cash	\$ 406,190

Accounts Receivable

Fairplex..Accounts receivable - Sub..	\$ 5,260
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Prepays

Prepaid items	\$ 34,912
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Total current Assets

\$ 446,362

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Fairplex..Accounts Payable..	\$ (2,189)
Fairplex..Accounts payable- other..	-
Fairplex..Deposits payable-subsida..	(800)
Fairplex..Retainage payable..	(1,118)
Total Payables	\$ (4,107)

Other Current Liabilities

Fairplex..Amounts due to others..	\$ -
Fairplex..Conversion Account..	-
Fairplex..Payroll payable..	-
Fairplex..Deferred revenue- unavail..	-
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne..	6,870
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Main Exhibit Hall.	-
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Cloverleaf Building.	(468)
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Grounds/General.	2,095
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Deferred Advertising Inco.	-
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Deferred Airshow Income.	-
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Deferred Commercial Exhib.	(2,400)
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Deferred Concession Reven.	-
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Deferred Sponsorship Inco.	1,800
Fairplex..Deferred revenue -unearne.Deferred Facilities Renta.	(29,252)
Total Deferred Revenues	\$ (21,355)

Total Liabilities

\$ (25,462)

Equity

Fairplex..Fund Balance..	\$ (418,225)
Net (Income)/Loss for the Period	(2,676)
Net Equity	\$ (420,901)

Total Liabilities and Equity

\$ (446,362)

Minutes
Washington County Fair Board
Wednesday, March 2, 2005

Convened: 4:30 pm

FAIR BOARD:

Chair Rich Vial

Vice Chair Herbert Hirst - Excused

Board Member W. Rafe Flagg

Board Member Kathy Christy

Board Member Kathy Schmidlkofer (Joined the meeting in progress at 6:36 pm)

Board Member Ken Madden

Board Member Dan Logan

STAFF:

Don Hillman, Executive Director

Lisa DuPre, Marketing/Events Director

Leah Perkins, Fair Coordinator

PRESS: None

Chair Vial called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., and welcomed the Hillsboro High School students who were observing the meeting. Chair Vial called for audience time from those individuals wishing to address to Board on items not on the agenda. None was requested.

1. Consent Agenda

Chair Vial asked the Board and the public if any items were requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Board Member Flagg to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Board Member Christy. Board Member Schmidlkofer absent. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Special Reports

A. 4-H Report – John Baggott, OSU Extension Service, reported that the Coalition attended the Superintendents meeting. Moving forward for the fair.

Chair Vial asked about plans for 4-H relocation during the development. John Baggott explained that he is working with staff regarding this subject. Chair Vial asked staff to come up with a summary, in the next 30 days, of all 4-H usage of the facility from 2004.

B. Boosters Report – Booster President Ed Kristovich reported they have thirteen new members and meetings will be held in the Floral building in the future. The Boosters

are planning on doing more for the fair this year as a direct result of the proposed M.O.U. Ed Kristovich expressed concern that the Boosters were not being included in the talks for the M.O.U., only the Coalition members.

Board Member Flagg asked who was responsible for the maintenance of the Boosters building. Executive Director Hillman stated that the Boosters are responsible for all upkeep and maintenance.

C. Airshow & Airport Report – Chair Vial reported that Board Member Hirst was out of town and referred to the letter from the Port of Portland regarding development.

Judy Marsh – Wanted to know if Board Member Hirst had approached the Airshow for money for the fair kids.

D. Fair Visioning Committee Report – Board Member Christy reported that the sub-committee had met and discussed their purpose and will be having a meeting soon. A report will be available next month.

Board Member Flagg asked if the Board could be informed of who will be represented on this committee.

Board Member Logan stated that the committee would need to be formally adopted.

E. Boosters/Coalition Liaison Report – Board Member Schmidlkofer reported that the last meeting of the whole group was held last Monday. Requested that another member of the Board be appointed to assist her with this committee.

Motion by Board Member Schmidlkofer to have Board Member Logan appointed to the Boosters/Coalition Liaison Committee. Second by Board Member Christy. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Treasurer Report – Board Treasurer Flagg reported that January was a quiet month. Will be meeting with the County C.F.O. to work on customized reports.

G. Operations Report – Executive Director Hillman added to his written report that Safway Steel, the company that our fairtime bleachers are rented from, went out of business and staff will be looking for a replacement. Also working with the Fire Marshall on a new layout for fairtime that will result in movement of some electrical boxes and that some paving repairs will occur prior to Fair to correct safety concerns and repair damaged pavement.

3. Old Business

A. Redevelopment Update – Executive Director Hillman reported the field trip to Deschutes County was insightful. Public rollout has not yet happened due to discussion

with the City regarding zoning, streets, ball fields, etc. Conversations with the City will continue and a public rollout will happen once these discussions wind down.

Chair Vial discussed the hiring of an attorney to represent the Complex during the Definitive Agreement negotiations. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Board Member Flagg to recommend to County Counsel, Mike Scott, Attorney at Law, for negotiations on the development for the Fair Complex. Second by Board Member Madden. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Member Madden asked about a construction auditor. Chair Vial explained that would be included in the contract.

B. Board Reorganization – Draft Document – Board discussed the conclusion of the document. Chair Vial agreed that it is premature to make any changes to the Complex Governance Structure at this time due to the on-going experiment with the Fair Boosters.

Motion by Board Member Christy to accept and move the draft Governance Structure document dated January 28, 2005, to the County Commissioners. Second by Board Member Flagg. Motion carried 4-0. Board Member Schmidlkofer abstained.

4. New Business

A. Fair Boosters Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Staff reported that discussions are still on-going, but moving forward with a new fairtime operating model involving the Fair Boosters. Staff has been operating the competitive exhibits program in the same manner for many years and is looking forward to the Boosters revitalizing and reinventing this program.

Executive Director Hillman explained some of the specifics, noted that the MOU involved the use of public funds and the need for a possible contingency for premiums.

Chair Vial asked that the reference to the public meeting law be removed and to move forward even without a signed M.O.U. Would like to see this refined and formalized in the next 30-days. Also, Chair Vial noted that the M.O.U. needs to have insurance language clarified. Discussion ensued regarding insurance coverage and waivers.

Board Member Flagg would like to have wording included regarding the handling of grievances and the development of an evaluation process to measure success.

Board Member Christy commented that staff did not misinterpreted the desired use of the Armory as stated by the Visioning Committee.

Board Member Schmidlkofer stated that the Fair Boosters should not have to be bound by recommendations from the Visioning Committee.

Motion by Board Member Christy to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding in concept for formalization in 30-days. Second by Board Member Schmidlkofer. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Executive Director Evaluation – Chair Vial explained that the Board packet included the evaluation form that was used last year. It is to be filled out by each board member by the next board meeting.

Board Member Madden asked that Executive Director Hillman also use the form to evaluate himself.

Chair Vial asked staff to participate and have Lisa DuPre coordinate their involvement.

Board Member Schmidlkofer asked for a copy of the Executive Director job description.

Chair Vial asked that Board Member Flagg collect and summarize the evaluation responses.

5. **Announcements** – None other than what was in the packet
6. **Correspondence** - None other than what was in the packet
7. **Board Oral Communications** - None other than what was in the packet
8. **Other Matters of Information** -
 - A. Newspaper Articles, if any
 - B. Website Activity
 - C. Other, if Any

With no further business before the Board, Chair Vial adjourned the meeting at 6:35 pm.

Don G. Hillman
Recording Secretary

Rich Vial
Board Chair



WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON Fair Complex

FACILITY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL-2005

(Highlighted items indicate no-charge events)

Saturday, April 02, 2005

Main Exhibit-North Gun & Knife Show

Sunday, April 03, 2005

****Floral Bldg.** 4-H Rabbit/Bird Clubs

Main Exhibit-North Gun & Knife Show

Monday, April 04, 2005

****Main Exhibit-North 4-H Club Meeting**

****Cloverleaf Bldg.** 4-H Guide Dog Meeting

****Main Exhibit-North 4-H Club Meeting**

****Main Exhibit-South 4-H Club Meeting**

Tuesday, April 05, 2005

****Cloverleaf Bldg.** 4-H Guide Dog Meeting

Covered Show Ring Dog Agility Class

Wednesday, April 06, 2005

Main Exhibit-North Dog Obedience

****Main Exhibit-South 4-H Dog Club Meeting**

Cloverleaf Bldg. Martial Arts Class

Saturday, April 09, 2005

Main Exhibit Hall Spring Plant Sale

Sunday, April 10, 2005

Main Exhibit Hall Spring Plant Sale

Monday, April 11, 2005

****Main Exhibit-South 4-H Club Meeting**

****Main Exhibit-North 4-H Club Meeting**

Tuesday, April 12, 2005

Covered Show Ring Dog Agility Class

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

Main Exhibit-North Dog Obedience

Cloverleaf Bldg. Martial Arts Class

Saturday, April 16, 2005

****Cloverleaf Bldg.** 4-H Small Animal Event

Sunday, April 17, 2005

****Floral Bldg.** 4-H Rabbit/Bird Clubs

Monday, April 18, 2005

****Main Exhibit-North 4-H Club Meeting**

****Main Exhibit-North 4-H Club Meeting**

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Friendship Plaza Smoke School

Main Exhibit-South Bazaar

Covered Show Ring Dog Agility Class

****Cloverleaf Bldg.** 4-H Guide Dogs

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

****Floral Building** 4-H Dog Club Meeting

Main Exhibit-South Bazaar

Main Exhibit-North Dog Obedience

Cloverleaf Bldg. Martial Arts Class

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Main Exhibit-South Bazaar

Friday, April 22, 2005

Main Exhibit-South Bazaar

Saturday, April 23, 2005

Main Exhibit-North Belly Dance Showcase

Main Exhibit-South Bazaar

Cloverleaf Bldg. Dodge Ball Tournament

Sunday, April 24, 2005

Main Exhibit-North Belly Dance Showcase

Monday, April 25, 2005

****Main Exhibit-North 4-H Club Meeting**

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Friendship Square Dog Obedience

Cloverleaf Bldg. Martial Arts Class

Friday, April 29, 2005

Main Exhibit Hall Quilt Show

Saturday, April 30, 2005

Main Exhibit Hall Quilt Show

****Floral Bldg.** 4-H Wagon Train

Friendship Plaza Plant Sale

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..... SPECIAL REPORTS

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County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex
873 NE 34th Avenue
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
Phone: (503) 648-1416
Fax: (503) 648-7208
donh@faircomplex.com
www.faircomplex.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2005

To: Washington County Fair Complex Board
Washington County Fair Complex

From: Don G. Hillman, Executive Director
Washington County Fair Complex

Re: March 2005 Operations Report

Paving – Staff has identified approximately \$8,000 of paving that needs to be completed prior to our busy summer event schedule. Most of this paving involves patching areas where the pavement is showing signs of cracking or to correct possible tripping hazards.

Arena Panels – Staff has found panels on-site that can be used to extend the arena panels in the area once occupied by the recently deconstructed Grandstands. This project will be scheduled prior to the late June 4H Horse Fair.

Maintenance Compound Fencing – Staff has recommended installing an additional vehicle gate and fencing east of the Maintenance Compound to better control access to the interior grounds during the day and weekend events. The additional gate will also help control unauthorized access during the County Fair. Cost of the additional fencing and gate is estimated to cost approximately \$2,500 and will be scheduled before June 30th, if the budget contains sufficient funds.

OLD BUSINESS

County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex
873 NE 34th Avenue
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
Phone: (503) 648-1416
Fax: (503) 648-7208
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www.faircomplex.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2005

To: Washington County Fair Complex Board
Washington County Fair Complex

From: Don G. Hillman, Executive Director
Washington County Fair Complex

Re: Booster MOU

Staff has met with representatives of the Booster to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the 2005 Competitive Exhibits Program.

Find attached the final draft. New or modified language is underscored for easier reference.

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX
873 NE 34TH AVENUE
HILLSBORO, OR 97124
PHONE 503-648-1416 FAX 503-648-7208

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

RECITALS

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Washington County Fair Complex, a department of Washington County, a political subdivision of the State of Oregon, and hereafter referred to as "Complex," and the Washington County Fairgrounds Boosters, a non-profit mutual benefit corporation, duly recognized by the State of Oregon, and hereafter referred to as "Boosters."

This MOU is intended to outline the roles and responsibilities of the Complex and Boosters, collectively referred to as the "Parties", as they apply to the production and management of the Competitive Exhibits Program, including, but not limited to, activities associated with the 4H, FFA and Open Class Departments associated with the 2005 Washington County Fair.

This MOU is not intended to provide the Booster or the Complex with any obligation or right to provide similar services in the future.

BACKGROUND

The Washington County Fair Complex produces an annual County Fair. The annual County Fair traditionally showcases and celebrates Washington County's agricultural excellence and community talents, both in youth and adult categories. As such, the annual County Fair has established a 4H, FFA and Open Class Competitive Programs for that purpose.

Production and management of these programs have generally been the responsibility of the Complex. Recently, the Boosters, who have a history of assisting and/or participating in these programs, have expressed an interest in providing a greater role in the production and management of these aforementioned programs. For that reason, it has been determined that it would be in the best interest of the Complex to assign the production and management of these programs to the Boosters for the 2005 County Fair.

A number of meetings between representatives of the Complex and Booster have taken place recently to discuss these matters. Both parties have agreed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to outline the roles and responsibilities of the Complex and the Boosters as they apply to the production and management of the Competitive Exhibits Program associated with the 2005 Washington County Fair.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Both Parties agree to work in a spirit of cooperation for the benefit of the 4H, FFA and Open Class Competitive Programs, including the farm equipment exhibits, hereafter referred to as "Competitive Exhibits Program," and for the advancement and success of the annual County Fair for all residents of Washington County.
2. Both Parties recognize that the Boosters will be acting as an agent of the Complex and the Boosters will be the organization on record as being responsible for the production and management of the 2005 Competitive Exhibits Program.
3. Both Parties recognize that all monies or funds allocated by the Complex for the implementation of this MOU, and any funds or monies to received and/or generated for the Complex as a result of this MOU, are to be considered public funds of the Complex.
4. Both Parties agree that no monies or funds allocated by the Complex or to be received and/or generated by this MOU, shall benefit, directly or indirectly, the Boosters, or any member of the Boosters or their immediate family members, or any board member or employee of the Complex including their immediate family.
5. Both Parties agree to identify two individuals, associated with each Party, who will act as liaisons and primary contacts for all matters related to this MOU, and will discourage communications between both Parties by others not so identified.
6. Both Parties agree to determine, in advance, times and dates for Boosters' access to Complex grounds and facilities for the purposes associated with the Competitive Exhibits Program.
7. Both Parties agree that all policies currently adopted by the Fair Complex Board related to the annual County Fair shall remain in affect and apply to the implementation of this MOU.
8. Both Parties agree to work cooperatively to review and establish locations and facilities for the Competitive Exhibits program including the farm equipment exhibits.

Subject to the limitations of liability for public bodies set forth in the Oregon Tort Claims Act, ORS 30.260 to 30.300, and the Oregon Constitution, each party agrees to hold harmless, defend, and indemnify each other, including its officers, agents, and employees, against all claims, demands, actions and suits (including all attorney fees and costs) arising from the indemnitor's performance of this MOU where the loss or claim is attributable to the negligent acts or omissions of that party.

Complex – To support the execution and success of this MOU, the Complex shall do the following:

1. Provide sufficient funding for the execution of this MOU, whether expended by the Booster or the Complex, in an amount not to exceed \$63,000, which includes a contingency of \$5,962. The Complex must be advised, in advance, of any amounts to be expended from the contingency.
2. Provide Boosters with reasonable access to the Complex grounds and facilities as is necessary for the execution of this MOU. Access may be limited or denied, in Complex's sole discretion, during certain times due to activities associated with the Complex's Facility Rental Program or for violations of the general operating requirements and policies of the Complex.
3. Provide reasonable access to Complex records associated with Competitive Exhibit Program activities.
4. Provide, in Complex's sole discretion, reasonable administrative and operational functions to support the Competitive Exhibits Program such as executing judging contracts, paying judges, updating and maintaining the Competitive Exhibits Program information on the Complex web site, facility setup and support consistent with the 2004 County Fair, etc.
5. Provide purchasing and/or contracting assistance for those expenditure where a competitive procurement process is required.
6. Provide as reasonably requested by the Booster and at no additional cost, those facilities, equipment, and utilities, owned or made accessible to the Complex, and that are customarily available to support the Competitive Exhibits Program.

Boosters - For the 2005 Washington County Fair, the Boosters shall serve as the organization of record for, and have the obligation and responsibility to produce and manage the Competitive Exhibits Programs. The Boosters' obligation and responsibility to produce the Competitive Exhibits Program is all-inclusive and includes, but not limited to the following:

1. Oversee and coordinate superintendents and clerks; premium book changes and modifications; clerking entries; selection and compensation of judges; judging schedule; set entry fees and entry deadlines; barns layout and setup (setup to start on or after July 19); stall and pen assignments; dates for animals to move-in and move-out; space for static exhibits; dates for receiving and releasing static exhibits; static exhibits setup; payment of premiums; inventory and order ribbons; order shaving/straw and arrange for manure removal; animal welfare policy; adhere to Complex's procedures regarding E-Coli and infectious diseases prevention; and hiring and scheduling night watchperson.

2. Oversee and coordinate activities associated with the campground, camping fees, and campground operating rules, setup and teardown. The Boosters recognize that the Complex requires all exhibitors and volunteers to pay the same fee and to stay in one central campground, including draft horse exhibitors and rodeo volunteers.
3. Oversee and coordinate activities associated with the farm equipment exhibits.
4. Establish appropriated fiscal controls and procedures, and oversee and approve all appropriate expenses and revenues associated with the Competitive Exhibits Program and campgrounds operations. The Boosters shall keep and maintain accurate fiscal records and account for all funds provided to Boosters by Complex and all funds collected by Boosters from the 2005 Competitive Exhibits Program. Upon request, Boosters shall provide Complex with access to and or copies of all such fiscal records. Both parties may mutually agree in writing to have the Complex collect and deposit certain revenues or fees covered by this MOU, such as entry and campground fees. Both parties may mutually agree in writing to have the Complex pay for expenses common to other County Fair programs such as portable restrooms, tents, canopies, etc.
5. Timely notify the Complex in advance of any need to access Complex grounds and facilities.
6. Pursue and undertake additional fundraising for activities and expenses related to the Competitive Exhibit Program. Such fundraising activities shall be coordinated with the Complex to prevent any overlap or duplication and any proceeds derived therefrom shall belong to the Complex.
7. Provide a reasonable grievance procedure for exhibitors in the competitive exhibits information.
8. Provide monthly reports at regularly scheduled Fair Complex Board Meetings. The monthly report may be given by the Fair Complex Board member liaison assigned to the Boosters.
9. Provide a recap and evaluation of the Competitive Exhibits Program on or before the October 2005 Complex Board Meeting. The form and method of providing the recap and evaluation shall be developed and approved by the Complex Board on or before its July 2005 Board meeting.

OTHER PROVISIONS

DISPUTE RESOLUTION. Should a dispute arise regarding the execution or application of this MOU, such dispute shall be submitted to a committee of the Complex Board, consisting of no more than three members of the Complex Board, for resolution. If the committee so appointed by the Complex Board cannot resolve the dispute, the dispute shall be forwarded to the Complex Board for resolution, and whose decision shall be final.

INSURANCE. Boosters shall purchase and maintain, at the Booster's expense, comprehensive general liability insurance covering personal injury and property damage with a combined single limit, or the equivalent, of not less than \$500,000 with Washington County, Washington County Fair Complex, its officers, employees and volunteers listed as additional insured.

WHOLE AGREEMENT. This MOU is the complete and exclusive statement of the agreement between the parties relevant to the purpose described and supersedes all prior agreements, oral or written, and all other communication between the parties relating to the subject matter of this MOU unless specifically provided for herein.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS. Boosters shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, rules, and regulations. All provisions of ORS Chapters 279A, 279B, and 279C (Public Contracts and Purchasing) are incorporated herein to the extent applicable to this MOU.

NONDISCRIMINATION. No person shall be denied or subjected to discrimination in receipt of the benefits of any services or activities or activities made possible by or resulting from this MOU on the grounds of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, or marital status. Any violation of this provision shall be considered a material breach of this MOU and shall be grounds for cancellation, termination, or suspension of this MOU, in whole or in part, by the Fair Complex.

SUBCONTRACTING/ NONASSIGNMENT. No portion of this MOU may be subcontracted or assigned to any other individual, firm, or entity without the express and prior approval of Fair Complex.

FOR FAIR COMPLEX:

FOR CONTRACTOR:

Signature Date
Executive Director

Title

Signature Date

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Social Security No. or Tax Identification

NEW BUSINESS

County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex
873 NE 34th Avenue
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
Phone: (503) 648-1416
Fax: (503) 648-7208
donh@faircomplex.com
www.faircomplex.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2005

To: Washington County Fair Complex Board
Washington County Fair Complex

From: Don G. Hillman, Executive Director
Washington County Fair Complex

Re: 4H Use of Facilities

As directed by the Board at the March 2005 Board meeting, find attached a summary of 4H uses of Complex facilities for 2004. A recap showing 225 total uses, not counting Horse Far, can be found on the last page of the report.

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM'S USE OF THE FAIR COMPLEX IN 2004

JANUARY	LOCATION	SQUARE FOOTAGE OF AREA
1/7-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
1/11-Rabbit Club Meeting	Floral Building	2,040
1/12-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
1/12-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
1/12-Waggin' Masters Mtng.	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
1/12-Guide Dog Club Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
1/13-Guide Dog Club Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
1/14-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
1/21-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
1/21-Wagon Train Meeting	Floral Building	2,040
1/23-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
1/25-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
1/26-Waggin' Masters Mtng.	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
1/26-Archery Club Practice	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
1/26-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
1/28-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
FEBRUARY	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
2/2-Guide Dog Club Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
2/2-Waggin' Masters Mtng.	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
2/2-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
2/2-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit hall-South	8,000
2/2-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
2/3-Guide Dog Club Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
2/4-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
2/8-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
2/8-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
2/9-Waggin' Masters Mtng.	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8000 or 16,000 if all is used
2/9-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
2/9-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
2/11-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
2/13-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
2/18-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit hall-South	8,000
2/21-Tack and Gift Sale	Cloverleaf/Floral/Show Ring.	3,200, 2,040, and 7,200
2/22-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
2/22-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
2/23-Waggin' Masters Mtng.	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
2/23-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
2/23-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
2/25-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
2/25-Wagon Train Meeting	Floral Building	2,040
2/27-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
2/28-Rabbit Show	Cloverleaf Building	3,200

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM'S USE OF THE FAIR COMPLEX IN 2004

MARCH	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
3/1-Guide Dog Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
3/1-Waggin' Masters Mtng.	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
3/1-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
3/1-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/1-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
3/2-Guide Dog Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
3/3-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/7-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
3/7-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
3/8-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
3/8-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/8-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
3/10-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/12-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
3/15-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
3/15-Paula Petsche Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
3/15-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/15-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
3/17-Wagon Train Meeting	Floral Building	2,040
3/22-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
3/22-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/22-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
3/26-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
3/29-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
3/29-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
3/29-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
3/31-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
APRIL	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
4/4-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
4/4-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
4/5-Guide Dog Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
4/5-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
4/5-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
4/5-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
4/5-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
4/6-Guide Dog Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
4/7-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
4/10-Nancy Mills Club (HORSES)	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
4/12-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
4/12-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
4/13-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
4/14-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
4/16-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
4/17-Rabbit Show	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
4/18-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
4/18-Best Friends Dog Club	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
4/19-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
4/19-Fairhaven Farms' Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
4/21-Best Friends Dog Club	Friendship Square	3,840 (Covered Outdoor Space)

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM'S USE OF THE FAIR COMPLEX IN 2004

APRIL (Cont.)	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
4/24-Wagon Train Box Social	Floral Building	2,040
4/25-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
4/26-Waggin' Masters Meeting	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
4/26-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
4/27-Paw Power Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
4/28-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
4/16-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
MAY	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
5/1-Feathered Friends Bird Show	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
5/2-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
5/2-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
5/3-Guide Dog Club	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
5/3-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
5/3-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
5/3-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
5/4-Paw Power Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used.
5/5-Best Friends Dog Club	Outside on Lawn	(Non-specific. Could use any grass area.)
5/7-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
5/8-Rabbit Show	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
5/10-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
5/10-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used.
5/10-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
5/11-Paw Power Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used.
5/12-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
5/16-Striding Out (HORSE CLUB)	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
5/17-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
5/17-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
5/17-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
5/17-Archery Club	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
5/19-Best Friends Dog Club	Outside on Lawn	(Non-specific. Could use any grass area.)
5/21-Happy Hoppers	Meeting Room	532
5/22-Nancy Mills Club (HORSES)	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
5/23-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
5/23-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
5/24-Archery Club Meeting	Covered Show Ring	7,200
5/24-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used.
5/24-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
5/25-Paw Power Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used.
5/26-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
5/26-Wagon Train Meeting	Floral Building	2,040

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM'S USE OF THE FAIR COMPLEX IN 2004

JUNE	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
6/1-Paw Power Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
6/2-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/6-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
6/6-Summerfield Farms (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/7-Guide Dog Club	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
6/7-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/7-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
6/7-Waggin' Masters Dog Club	Outside on Lawn	(Non-specific. Could use any grass area.)
6/9-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/9-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/10-Lechevel Riders (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/10-Striding Out Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/11-Happy Hoppers Club	Meeting Room	532
6/13-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
6/13-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
6/13-Striding Out Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/14-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
6/14-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/14-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/14-Archery Club	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
6/16-Best Friends Dog Club	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
6/16-Lechevel Riders (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/17-Rebel Rousers (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950
6/17-Striding Out Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/18-Summerfield Farms HORSES	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/18-Paula Petsche (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/19-Nancy Mills (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/19-Highland Hunters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/19-Linda Schade (HORSES)	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
6/20-Striding Out Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/20-Striding Out Club (HORSES)	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
6/21-Waggin' Masters Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
6/21-Paula Petsche's Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000
6/21-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/21-Lechevel Riders (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/22-Guide Dogs Dinner	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
6/22-Mavericks Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/22-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/23-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/23-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/23-Mavericks Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/24-Rebel Rousers (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/24-Renegade Riders (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/24-Paula Petsche (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/24-Mavericks Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/25-Mavericks Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/25-Summerfield Farms HORSES	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/25-Happy Hoppers Meeting	Meeting Room	532
6/26-Pre-Fair Dog Fun Match	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
6/27-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM'S USE OF THE FAIR COMPLEX IN 2004

JUNE (cont.)	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
6/27-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
6/28-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
6/28-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/28-Paula Petsche (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/28-Archery Club	Covered Show Ring	7,200
6/29-McCarter's Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/29-McCarter's Club (HORSES)	Covered Show Ring	7,200 (Covered Outdoor Space)
6/30-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/30-Lechevel Riders (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
6/30-Toelle Lane Trotters HORSES	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
JULY	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
7/6-Mavericks Club (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
7/6-Ranch Riders (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
7/7-Nancy Mills (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
7/7-Bronco Busters (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
7/7-Finley (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
7/7-Rebel Rousers (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
7/14-7/18-HORSE FAIR	All barns, Covered Show Ring and Large Arena	
7/14-Best Friends Dog Club	Outside on Lawn	(Non-specific. Could use any grass area.)
7/19-Fairhaven Farms Dog Club	Outside on Lawn	(Non-specific. Could use any grass area.)
AUGUST	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
8/12-Rebel Rousers (HORSES)	Large Arena	57,950 (Outdoors, not covered)
SEPTEMBER	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
NO USE BY 4-H PROGRAM THIS MONTH AS MOST CLUBS AREN'T MEETING THIS EARLY IN THE SCHOOL YEAR.		
OCTOBER	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
10/3-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
10/4-Guide Dogs Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
10/5-Guide Dogs Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
10/17-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM'S USE OF THE FAIR COMPLEX IN 2004

NOVEMBER	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
11/1-Guide Dogs Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
11/1-Fairhaven Farms	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
11/2-Guide Dogs Meeting	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
11/3-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
11/6-Horse Gift and Tack Sale	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
11/6-Horse Gift and Tack Sale	Floral Building	2,040
11/7-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
11/8-Fairhaven Farms	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
11/10-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
NOVEMBER (cont.)	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
11/15-Fairhaven Farms	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
11/17-Best Friends Dog Club	Floral Building	2,040
11/21-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
11/21-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
11/22-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
11/24-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
11/29-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
DECEMBER	LOCATION	SIZE IN SQUARE FEET
12/1-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
12/5-Tailblazers Rabbit Club	Floral Building	2,040
12/5-Parrot Pals Club	Floral Building	2,040
12/6-Paula Petsche Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-North	8,000 or 16,000 if all is used
12/6-Waggin' Masters Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
12/8-Best Friends Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
12/13-Guide Dogs Party	Cloverleaf Building	3,200
12/13-Waggin' Masters Dog Club	Main Exhibit Hall-South	8,000
TOTALS:		
225 Total uses, not counting Horse Fair		
113 uses are by Dog clubs		
47 uses are by Horse clubs, not counting Horse Fair with most of that in June, July, and August		
30 uses are by Rabbit clubs		
17 uses are by the Archery Club		
13 uses are by Bird Clubs		
5 uses are the Wagon Train Meetings		

County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex
873 NE 34th Avenue
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
Phone: (503) 648-1416
Fax: (503) 648-7208
donh@faircomplex.com
www.faircomplex.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2005

To: Washington County Fair Complex Board
Washington County Fair Complex

From: Don G. Hillman, Executive Director
Washington County Fair Complex

Re: Portable Bleacher Purchase

In mid-March, Invitations to Bid (ITB) were issued for the purchase of three (3) sets of portable bleacher to replace the seating lost from the deconstruction of the Grandstands. The ITB requested trailer-style bleachers that can be moved off-site (highway series); that include a middle aisle with an ADA handrail; that can accommodate up to 275 seats per bleacher; and that can be operated either manually or via a battery operated hydraulic system. It is estimated that total purchase will range from \$110,000 - \$125,000. Depending on price comparison of the requested features, we may have to forgo the cost of the battery operated hydraulic system although such a system could reduce labor costs when moved from site-to-site.

The bid opening date is April 5, 2005.

As discussed during the budgeting process, the County has been asked to assist with the financing of the bleachers through an inter-agency loan that will provide for annual payments of \$30,000 per year plus interest. Interest will be assessed at the same interest rate that the County receives on their surplus investments. Currently, this rate is approximately 2 to 2½ %. Payments would be made each January with the first payment due January 2006.

Staff requests Board approval to proceed with the purchase of the bleachers and the financing agreement with the County.

County of Washington

Washington County Fair Complex
873 NE 34th Avenue
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
Phone: (503) 648-1416
Fax: (503) 648-7208
donh@faircomplex.com
www.faircomplex.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2005

To: Washington County Fair Complex Board
Washington County Fair Complex

From: Don G. Hillman, Executive Director
Washington County Fair Complex

Re: Personal Services Contract – Scott Hookland LLP

Be advised that based upon the Board's directive at its March 2005 Board meeting, the Fair Complex has secured the services of Michael Scott, Attorney at Law, with the law firm of Scott Hookland LLC.

The personal services contract, coordinated through the Office of County Counsel, Washington County, provides for professional services not to exceed \$49,999, with regards to the Definitive Agreement to be negotiated with Opus Northwest, LLC.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*Calendar of Events
April - August 2005*

Date	Event	Location
<u>April</u> 6 6	Board Meeting Booster Meeting	Floral Building (4:30 PM) Floral Building (7:00 PM)
<u>May</u> 4 4 6 - 9 6 - 9 30	Board Meeting Booster Meeting Oregon Fairs Assoc. Mgmt Conference IAFE Spring Mgmt Conference Memorial Day	Floral Building (4:30 PM) Floral Building (7:00 PM) Burns, Oregon Houston, Texas Office Closed
<u>June</u> 1 1 25 -26	Board Meeting Booster Meeting 4H Horse Fair	Floral Building (4:30 PM) Floral Building (7:00 PM) Arena and Grounds
<u>July</u> 4 6 6 7 - 9 23 28 - 31	Fourth of July Board Meeting Booster Meeting 4H Horse Fair Pre-Fair Promotional Event 2005 Washington County Fair	Office Closed Floral Building (4:30 PM) Floral Building (7:00 PM) Arena and Grounds Pioneer Square Grounds
<u>August</u>	No Board Meeting Planned	

CORRESPONDENCE



WASHINGTON COUNTY

OREGON

Fair Complex

March 31, 2005

Commissioner Andy Duyck, Vice Chair
Washington County Board of Commissioners
155 N. First Street
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Re: Organization and Governance Structure Report

Dear Commissioner Duyck,

As requested by your office earlier this year, please find attached a report discussing the Washington County Fair Complex's organization and governance structure.

The draft report was included as an action item at Fair Complex Board meetings held in January, February, and March 2005. The draft report was subsequently modified by comments received at those meetings, and was formally approved by the Fair Complex Board on March 2, 2005.

The report concludes that with the recent expansion of the Fair Complex Board from five to seven members, and given the current on-going efforts to construct new public exposition facilities, it may serve well the interests of the County to allow the present Fair Complex Board to move forward with its current governance structure in place, and that placing greater emphasis on the appointment process of future Fair Complex Board members will likely serve the County's interest best.

The Board and staff appreciate the opportunity to research this topic and provide the attached discussion for your consideration.

Sincerely,
WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR COMPLEX

Don G. Hillman, CFE
Executive Director

Cc: Board of County Commissioners
Charlie Cameron, CAO
Dan Olsen, County Counsel

Attachment

Hillsboro FFA Alumni
Auction Fun Night

Saturday, April 2, 2005

At
The Harris Center
In Verboort

4285 Visitation Rd, Forest Grove, Or 97113
Located next to Visitation Catholic Church

6:00 ~ 7:00 PM Social time
7:00 ~ 8:00 PM Silent Auction
8:00 ~ 9:00 PM Oral Auction

Complementary desserts and beverages will be served

The Hillsboro Area FFA Alumni are sponsoring this event.
All proceeds will go to the enhancement of leadership
abilities and scholarships. We support students from Glencoe
High School, Hillsboro High School,
Century High School and Liberty High School

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

OTHER MATTERS OF INFORMATION



OregonLive.com

Everything Oregon

The Oregonian

Fair boosters feel pressure of 'progress'

Wednesday, March 30, 2005

The Oregonian

Dale Scheller remembers when the Washington County Fair Complex was nothing more than 100 acres of swampland.

"You couldn't even grow grass on it," he says. "That's the reason it was cheap."

That was more than a half-century ago, when Scheller and other members of the old Washington County Fair Movers worked with the Fair Board and county government to relocate the fairgrounds from Shute Park in Hillsboro to a remote site south of the Hillsboro Airport.

The all-volunteer group worked weekends and summers to construct some of the buildings and find money for the work they couldn't do themselves. They still provide many of the volunteer hours worked during the annual fair and serve as advisers to the fair's board.

"I loved the fair," says Scheller, 80. "I still do."

Scheller, who showed cattle as a 4-H member in 1939, grew up with roots deep in the county's rich soil.

When he moved to Washington County, you could house its entire population of 34,000 in half the homes of present-day Hillsboro.

He grew up on the Aloha Dairy, which fed cattle, milked cows and ran a small fleet of delivery trucks from acreage across from what is now Aloha High School.

Scheller still owns a 100-acre farm west of Hillsboro that he bought from R. J. Reynolds Tobacco.

"But it's really too small to make a living on today," he says.

"I can really understand the pressures on small farmers just trying to survive," he says. "We are slowly losing our farming base. There's just so much pressure to convert our valuable farmland into houses and business parks. And once it's gone, it doesn't come back."

Scheller feels those same pressures pushing on the county fairgrounds.

Hillsboro has surrounded the once rural site. And land that was good for almost nothing is now prized for its economic potential.

But while the fairgrounds has gone up in value, interest in the fair has waned as business and technology overshadow county farm products.

The Washington County Fair Boosters hope to meet over the next few weeks with Don Hillman, Fair Complex manager, to get an early peek at plans to develop the site.

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The Fair Board is expected to see the full plans soon after that, and if it OKs them, the proposal will go to the Washington County Board of Commissioners for approval.

The boosters had hoped county leaders would retain all the land and build a multipurpose center on the fairgrounds. Instead, they are expected to sign a long-term lease with Opus Northwest to develop for business a portion of the site. The county will take the lease money and create a new smaller complex on the land that remains.

"I don't think we should give away one square foot of the fairgrounds," says Ed Kristovich, a fair supporter.

"I think the Fair Board is being polite in telling us what they are doing," Kristovich says. "But I don't think they really care what we think.

"The property is unique," he says. "I know the fair has fallen on hard times and is having a hard time staying in business, but selling the land is not the answer. They should be investing in what they have to make it profitable."

While all that sounds good, the last time Fair Board members asked for money to develop the site themselves -- \$40 million in 2002 -- voters overwhelmingly rejected the idea.

No one is even suggesting they try again.

Scheller and Kristovich know they are whispering in the wind. Even if their voices could be heard, no one is listening to them.

"I don't think there's much we can do to stop it," Scheller says. "We don't have very much political power.

"I know it's progress. But not all progress is good."

Jerry F. Boone's columns appear Mondays and Wednesdays. Contact him at 503-294-5960; jfboone@aol.com or jerryboone@news.oregonian.com. His columns can be found online at www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/jerry_boone/.

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**OregonLive.com**

Everything Oregon

Hillsboro Argus

Hillsboro's 4th of July implodes

Tuesday, March 29, 2005

By Ian Rollins
The Hillsboro Argus

The Argus

At this point, it looks like Hillsboro won't have a Fourth of July festival or a fireworks show this year.

Amusement Consulting Services, which produced the festival at the Washington County Fair Complex for 12 years, called it off last month. Company officials cited costs of having Hillsboro Police officers patrol it as the reason for pulling the plug.

The city has "mandated an amount of police that we can't afford," said Tracy Ayn, who coordinates the event for Amusement Consulting Services.

Lt. John Specht, who coordinates special event patrols for the Hillsboro Police Department, disputed that. "They complained we had too many officers, but we all agreed to a certain level of police presence," he said. "If something occurred, if we needed to get someone in there immediately, we couldn't get someone inside as quickly (from outside the fair complex)."

Specht said he met with Ayn and Ron Burback, the company's owner, in February to discuss patrols at this year's festival. He said the two sides came to an agreement about levels of police, private security and traffic detail, then Amusement Consulting Services announced the cancellation a few weeks later.

Total cost would have been around \$13,000, which would have left the company with no profit, Ayn said.

"There were so many years with no profit, then we finally started showing some profit," she said. "They say you need this many officers at overtime, and that's it. When you put the pencil to the paper, you just can't do it."

The \$13,000 would have covered up to six officers on July 4 and fewer officers at other times during the festival, which typically runs July 3-5. Specht said the officers are especially necessary on July 4, when officers are busy with "alcohol issues."

Ayn said there haven't been any significant problems at the festival. Specht said an officer was bitten in 2002 at the festival.

Hillsboro charged Amusement Consulting Services the same amount last year, then agreed to \$7,000 when the company said it wouldn't hold the fireworks show at the last minute.

"We told them the general fund would not support that this year," said City Manager Tim Erwert, who negotiated the lower rate last year.

Ayn said Monday that an anonymous person offered to donate the \$13,000. But Lisa DuPr, event manager at the fair complex, said Centro Cultural in Cornelius has rented the fair complex for a weekend fundraising

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event.

This ends (for now) a festival that began in the late 1800s. Known for decades as Happy Days, it was run by the now-defunct Jaycees organization until the early 1990s.

After the Jaycees folded, the Washington County Fair Board ran the festival for two years. The board was about to end it because of financial losses when Burback's company, which provides the carnival rides for fair complex events, took it over.

It took on more of a Hispanic flavor, with Mexican rodeos, soccer tournaments and street dances, with Burback's company at the helm. Ayn said the festival was drawing an average of 50,000 people each year.

"We hope somebody else picks it up, like we did when nobody would finance it," Ayn said.

Hillsboro's annual Fourth of July parade isn't affected by this. The parade -- which the Hillsboro Rotary Club sponsors -- will continue, said club president John Naughton.

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Star-Telegram.com

Posted on Sat, Mar. 26, 2005

Officials suspect petting zoos could be source of outbreak

By Donald G. McNeil Jr.
The New York Times

Fifteen people in Florida who visited agricultural fairs recently have developed a life-threatening kidney disease or are infected with bacteria that can cause it, Florida health officials said Friday.

Eleven of those affected are children, and petting zoos at the two fairs are suspected, but Florida's secretary of health said it was "too early to point to one single element, such as a petting zoo."

Epidemiologists are "trying to triangulate the 15 cases and see if they can be associated with a single point source," said Dr. John Agwunobi, the secretary.

Officials at various Florida hospitals told The Associated Press that they knew of nine children with hemolytic uremic syndrome who had visited petting zoos at the Central Florida Fair in Orlando or the Florida Strawberry Festival in Plant City.

One Florida television reporter described the death of a child who had visited a petting zoo, but it was unclear whether there was any connection.

The virulent bacteria strain, known as E. coli O157:H7, lives in the gut of cattle, sheep, goats and other ruminants, and can be picked up by petting or nuzzling them, or by simply touching one's shoes after walking through manure.

The bacteria can cause bloody diarrhea and, in a small number of cases, can lead to the syndrome in which the kidneys, overwhelmed by toxins, shut down.

In rare cases, it can require dialysis or a kidney transplant.

Three percent to 5 percent of cases are fatal.

There were about 73,000 infections nationally with the E. coli strain last year; of those, 61, or less than 0.1 percent, were fatal.

There have been outbreaks associated with petting zoos, notably one at the North Carolina State Fair last year, in which 180 people were reported sick and 15 developed hemolytic uremic syndrome. After an investigation, the North Carolina health department recommended that direct contact with animals be restricted, especially for young children.

Many petting zoos have hand-washing stations or staff members who squirt liquid sanitizer on visitors' hands. However, those measures were used in North Carolina, and some children became infected anyway, the state health department said.

Children who sat or fell on the ground were five times more likely to have been infected.

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Everything Oregon

The Oregonian

July 4 fireworks show possible in Hillsboro

Fireworks experts say they have enough time to plan a show, all that's needed is about \$30,000 to light fuse

Friday, March 25, 2005

MICHELLE MANDEL
The Oregonian

HILLSBORO -- The century-old Hillsboro Fourth of July Festival might have tanked, but that doesn't mean the city has to be without a fireworks show.

Norm Rose, sales manager with Western Display Fireworks in Canby, says his company can easily put together a show by July Fourth.

Jim Larson, longtime organizer of Vancouver's Fourth of July celebration, says it is possible to gather enough volunteers in time to stage such an effort.

And Don Hillman, executive director of the Washington County Fair Complex, says his facility is still available -- and for a reduced rate, considering a fireworks show lasts one day, not three, like the canceled festival.

A catch bigger than the time needed to schedule a show could be its price: as much as \$30,000. The cost covers the fireworks, facility rental, permits and police and fire protection.

The solution could be a nonprofit or other group stepping up to cover expenses.

"It's very doable," says Rose, whose company has long shot off Hillsboro's fireworks show.

"We need some lead time," he says. "It takes up to 30 days for the permit process. But we're very familiar with Hillsboro, and we could build them any size show they want."

Amusement Consulting Services canceled the Hillsboro Fourth of July Festival earlier this month, less than four months from when it was scheduled to put on one of Oregon's biggest fireworks displays. Ayn and Ron Burback, who owns Amusement Consulting, blame the city of Hillsboro for charging \$13,000 to have police work the three-day event at the Washington County Fair Complex.

Any revival would be good news for the fair complex, which Hillman says will lose \$12,000 in facility rental fees because of the cancellation. It's not devastating; the fair complex budget, he says, is built knowing that bookings could be canceled or added, depending on circumstances.

But Hillman, like much of Hillsboro, also knows the fireworks show has long been a community tradition.

"The show's a mainstay, so we're saddened by the fact that it's been canceled," Hillman says.

"But it's one of the more expensive things, cost-wise, that goes on here," he says. "There are a lot of lease and fire marshal issues that complicate things."

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Lisa DuPre, fair complex facilities and marketing manager, could not quote a price for renting the fair complex for a fireworks show. She says it would be less than the \$12,000 Amusement Consulting Services would pay because the festival was three days, not one.

"It's a negotiation process," she says, "that takes into consideration a lot of factors, like parking receipts. But it would cost less."

So far the fair complex has not been contacted by groups interested in sponsoring the fireworks show.

Larson says his Vancouver show, now produced by the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust, costs more than \$100,000.

And any organized effort in Hillsboro would have to begin soon.

"I'm not going to say it's impossible," he says. "It depends on how complicated the event is, whether there are concession stands or anything else. The more going on, the more complicated it will be."

Hillsboro City Manager Tim Erwert says all of this chatter has merit, considering how community members came forward to save the Oregon International Airshow when Rose Festival organizers dropped support in 2002.

"The air show continued without pause," he says.

"If this is something that the community really wants," he says, "I would anticipate that some individuals or groups are going to step forward and make it happen."

Michelle Mandel: 503-294-5959; michellemandel@news.oregonian.com

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Everything Oregon

The Oregonian

Center grows to meet demand for meetings

The Kingstads built a space to host events that has blossomed into one of Beaverton's premier facilities

Thursday, March 24, 2005

RICHARD COLBY
The Oregonian

BEAVERTON -- With event bookings rising past 500 a year, Eric Kingstad says his business of providing meeting space is doing well. That's mainly thanks to a growing local economy and -- at least for the moment -- a shrinking number of competitors.

In what was once Nike's principal meeting center, the Kingstad Center for Meetings and Events plays host to businesses, local governments, the Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce, religious groups, weddings, bar mitzvahs and convention overflows from nearby hotels.

"Over the past couple of years," the 46-year-old Kingstad says, "we've taken on the role of community event center of Washington County."

When the nearby Greenwood Inn closed on Dec. 31, Kingstad estimates his building at 15450 S.W. Millikan Way increased its bookings "in the 30 to 35 percent range, looking at orders for the next year."

The Greenwood property's owner, Howard Dietrich, has not commented publicly about the inn's closure. He also has not applied to the city to redevelop the property, which includes a nearly empty two-story office building, on Southwest Allen Boulevard just east of Oregon 217.

Even though they competed for meetings, Kingstad says, he was sad to see the 217-room Greenwood go, partly because its drawing power helped his center via overflows and making more outsiders aware of Beaverton as a place to congregate.

"There are not a lot of facilities on this side of town," says Kingstad, a Wisconsin native who started his career in the Marriott Hotel chain's marketing department.

Deciding to stay in the area after a stint with Portland Marriott, Kingstad and his wife, Ellen, leased part of the Biggi Plaza off Southwest Cedar Hills Boulevard in 1993 to start the first Kingstad Meeting Center in 13,000 square feet.

"Business took off pretty quickly," he says. From 1995 to 2000, the couple opened four more centers between Portland and Bellevue, Wash.

Then the recession came. "The first thing that was cut back by a lot of corporations was meetings. We had to scramble," he says. Scrambling included closing two centers, in Portland and Seattle. The Bellevue one remains as a smaller place offering classroom space groups of as many as 75.

In 2002, the Kingstads' luck took an upward lurch. Nine years earlier, Nike had set up its off-campus conference center in the 54-acre Beaverton Creek Business Park on Millikan, just east of the Tualatin Hills Nature Park.

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Nike later expanded the space, installing built-in audio-visual equipment, to a total of 26,450 square feet. It can be divided into 14 enclosures, with capacities ranging from 20 to 300.

But when the shoe and apparel manufacturer built the Tiger Woods Conference Center in its headquarters complex, it gave up leasing the Millikan space from the business park owner, Specht Development.

Kingstad and Specht's principal, Greg Specht, had already met and become friends while watching their sons play on the same Little League baseball team, Specht recalls.

"We saw an opportunity," Kingstad says, "to tweak our business model."

Although photographs of Nike's most illustrious product-endorsers still hang on the Kingstad Center's walls, the Kingstads upgraded some technical features after leasing the center. They included a telephone alcove for patrons to make calls during intermissions; projection, lighting and sound equipment; high-speed Internet connections; and video-conferencing facilities.

Depending on the space and technical add-ons, the Kingstad Center's rooms run from \$200 to \$1,200 a day, with the space rental waived if food and beverage charges are high enough.

With the meeting-room occupancy steadily improving, Kingstad last year hired his brother, Bill, to help with sales and marketing.

Although the Greenwood is gone, hotel referrals still come, Eric Kingstad says, many from the Embassy Suites Hotel near Washington Square. The Kingstad Center is the hotel's first choice for arranging meeting space for guests when its own meeting rooms are filled, says Charles Holt, the Embassy Suites' sales and marketing director.

The Kingstad's technical features, says Lorraine Clarno, president of the Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce, give the center an advantage in attracting meetings, including the chamber's, over other spots. Eric Kingstad is a member of the chamber's board of directors.

The chamber alternates monthly membership luncheons between the Kingstad and the Stockpot restaurant at the RedTail Golf Center off Southwest Scholls Ferry Road in Beaverton.

Meanwhile, other competition is out there. The Kingstad Center, for example, can't compete with restaurants with large banquet rooms that sell lunches for \$8 or \$10 per person, Kingstad says, such as Saylor's Old Country Kitchen, where the Washington County Public Affairs Forum meets.

Kingstad's kitchen must charge \$15 per meal, he says, which keeps many service clubs away from his market. But the Public Affairs Forum is looking for a new meeting place because the Old Country Kitchen's owner, Gene Saylor, expects to sell it in June.

Bob Tenner, the forum's president, said he has been discussing renting space at the Kingstad Center starting in September, but no agreement has been reached.

And at least one place offers a technical gizmo Kingstad doesn't.

The Copper Monkey, a restaurant and meeting place that opened in November at Allen Boulevard and Southwest Fallbrook Place, near the old Greenwood site, offers laser tag.

Co-owners Paul Morris, Bill Buhler and John Gabel operated LaserPort at Southwest 110th Avenue and Canyon Road until an auto dealership construction forced them out. The new site, Gabel says, has four meeting rooms, including one for as many as 250 people.

Laser tag, in which teams or individuals aim beams of light at each other in darkened areas, is a great team-building sport and an ice-breaker that draws business, government and family groups, Gabel says.

The place has signed up a variety of businesses, governments and service clubs, he says, including at least three former Greenwood Inn users.

**OregonLive.com**

Everything Oregon

The Oregonian

Hillsboro's Happy Days comes to an unhappy end in dispute over police fee Happy Days: Mayor pledges July 4 parade still will go on Festival canceled over cost of police

The operator of Fourth of July Happy Days pulls the plug rather than pay \$13,000 in police costs

Thursday, March 24, 2005

HOLLY DANKS
The Oregonian

HILLSBORO -- A century-old Fourth of July festival has closed up tent, with organizers citing increased fees charged for police patrols.

Amusement Consulting Services canceled the Hillsboro Fourth of July festival earlier this month, less than four months from putting on what was billed for years as Oregon's biggest fireworks display.

In recent years, the festival had become one of Oregon's largest Latino gatherings:

"It's hard to give up something you have worked so long on, but the bottom line is we don't have the money to do it," said Tracy Ayn, who has produced the Hillsboro event for the past 10 years for her father's company.

Ayn and Ron Burback, who owns Amusement Consulting, blame the city of Hillsboro for charging \$13,000 to have police work the three-day event at the Washington County Fair Complex.

City and police officials counter that taxpayers should not have to subsidize a private, for-profit operation.

"It will leave a hole in our Fourth of July celebration if they are gone -- the fireworks probably more than anything else," Hillsboro Mayor Tom Hughes said Wednesday. "It was a business decision for them and a business decision for us."

Hughes said the Fourth of July parade will continue as planned.

The Fourth of July festival started in the 1870s and the Jaycees ran it for more than 40 years as Hillsboro Happy Days. It evolved from a parade to include carnival rides and concessions, a beer garden, chicken barbecue, stage entertainment, hot rod races and monster truck competition.

In recent years, Washington County's growing Latino population was drawn to the festival by the addition of a Mexican rodeo, mariachi bands and other Latino entertainment, as well as a soccer tournament. Organizers said last year's attendance was about 50,000 for the three-day weekend.

The Jaycees lost their lease with the Washington County Fair Board in 1991, after the grounds were not cleaned up, thousands of dollars in bills weren't paid and as many as 50 concessionaires pulled out.

The Fair Board ran Happy Days for two years before turning operations over to Amusement Consulting.

Burback said Wednesday that he wasn't in it for the money. "I like the people, the little families and people

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who come and enjoy themselves," he said.

The festival costs about \$174,000 to put on, Burback said, and Amusement Consulting lost money for the first five years. The fireworks show costs about \$16,000, and renting the site costs another \$16,000, Ayn said.

During the past five years, the company's profit has averaged about \$12,000 a year, Burback said.

"What happens when it rains? It rained three or four years ago and we netted \$84," Burback said. "You spend years trying to make up for that."

Last year, the city asked Burback to pay \$13,000 for police patrols, but the sides negotiated a fee of \$7,000 at the last minute when Amusement Consulting said it would have to cancel the fireworks.

At the same time, city officials told the company it would have to pay the full price for police overtime this year. The \$13,000 would have covered as many as six police officers from noon to midnight July 4 and fewer officers at other times during the event.

"They are people who are putting on a special event, a commercial amusement event, as opposed to people doing something to benefit the community," said Tim Erwert, Hillsboro city manager.

Ayn and Burback maintain that the Fourth of July celebration does benefit the community. They said the festival brings in thousands of people who spend money at concessions run by residents and at city restaurants and other businesses; it hires local residents and puts up out-of-town concessionaires at area motels; and it gives residents a chance to see free fireworks for miles around.

"How could it not be a local benefit?" Ayn asked. "I'm confused."

Erwert acknowledged that the festival "does bring a bunch of people out, many from within the community, and it does provide entertainment.

"We don't argue that they don't have some overall beneficial impact," he continued. "We just want them to pay their own costs."

Lt. John Specht, who oversees the festival patrols for the Hillsboro Police Department, said 90 percent of the people who attend are well-behaved. But police are needed, he said, because some patrons have gotten drunk and unruly.

Although there hasn't been any trouble in the past couple years, Lt. Chris Skinner said the event in the past has attracted rival gang members who have gotten into verbal altercations and made other festival-goers feel uncomfortable.

Erwert and Hughes denied that the city wants to shut down the celebration because it attracted a huge Latino crowd.

"Our record as a community and city is trying to encourage Latino participation," Hughes said. "The idea that we would somehow close down an activity because it is perceived as a Latino activity is a bogus claim."

Esmeralda Bermudez contributed to this report. Holly Danks: 503-221-4377; hollydanks@news.oregonian.com

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SanLuisObispo.com

Posted on Thu, Mar. 24, 2005

More cases of mysterious kidney ailment reported

BY ROBYN SHELTON AND CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
The Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla. - (KRT) - Doctors identified new victims of a potentially fatal kidney condition Thursday while health investigators focused on a strain of dangerous bacteria as the possible cause of their illnesses.

Two more people in Central Florida were diagnosed with the rare ailment called HUS, or hemolytic uremic syndrome, which attacks and shuts down the kidneys.

The Florida Department of Health also was investigating another case in Wisconsin involving a child who recently visited the Orlando area. The Wisconsin child brought the total number of confirmed illnesses to nine.

In addition, two Central Florida patients were hospitalized with suspected cases.

Eight of the nine confirmed cases are in children.

Health officials fanned out with a renewed sense of urgency, testing farm animals that might have spread the bacteria that often cause the kidney ailment. The animals were at two events from March 3-13: the Central Florida Fair in Orlando and the Florida Strawberry Festival in Plant City.

Investigators are most interested in the calves, goats and other animals that were used in petting zoos, where many of the children visited.

"We're focusing on where there was close contact with children and animals," said Thomas Holt, state veterinarian with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Six children remained very ill at hospitals in Orlando - five in critical condition and one listed as serious. Doctors said four of the children have deteriorated to the point of requiring dialysis to augment their failed kidneys.

One sick child at Florida Hospital Orlando was improving and may be well enough to go home soon.

In other developments Thursday:

_The outbreak had its first confirmed case of HUS in an adult, who was in serious condition. Health officials couldn't say if the person had been to one of the fairs.

_Test results for one of the ill children came back positive for *Escherichia coli* - labeled *E. coli* O157:H7. This bacteria has been linked to the HUS kidney ailment in previous outbreaks in other states.

_The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released guidelines advising states how to protect the public at petting zoos and other events where farm animals are exhibited. The recommendations are voluntary, and the CDC said the timing of the advisory had nothing to do with the spate of illnesses in Florida.

The guidelines have been in the works for several years, as health officials noticed an increasing number of disease-related outbreaks linked to farm animals at public events. The CDC counts about 25 such incidents stemming back to 1990 in states from Washington to Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

In Florida, health officials said they are looking at a number of possible causes, including sources beyond the animals.

For example, the state has begun interviewing food vendors from the two fairs to see if contaminated food or beverages might be involved, said Joann Schulte, a medical epidemiologist with the Florida Department of Health in Tallahassee.

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She said tests are ongoing to determine if other patients also have the dangerous strain of E. coli.

However, Schulte said, it is possible that other patients might test negative for E. coli even if they have been exposed to it. That is because the bacteria might have passed through their systems completely during the first few days of symptoms, which include severe diarrhea.

At the same time, the state also is testing the animals for this strain. Results are expected in two or three days.

As part of their rounds Thursday, state veterinarians visited Ag-Venture Farm Shows in Plant City, which had animals at both the Central Florida Fair and the Florida Strawberry Festival.

"We're cooperating in any way we can," said owner Tom Umiker, whose family has been running its farm-education program for about 10 years. They take cows, sheep and goats to the events.

He said Ag-Venture works about 15 fairs a year around the country, going as far as Detroit, New York and Maine, as well as the Florida State Fair last month in Tampa, he said.

News of the illnesses deeply troubled Umiker, who said he hasn't slept well in a couple of nights.

Umiker said the owners of animal exhibits rely on the fairgrounds to provide hand washing and sanitizing areas, though they also sell hand wipes. Umiker has noticed improvement in recent years in the number of signs urging safe practices and hand-washing stations available at fairs around the country.

"I think you're going to see more of that at public events," he said.

Ag-Venture is licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which requires record keeping and subjects the company to annual random inspections. Umiker said his animals have regular tests for tuberculosis and brucellosis, a bacterial infection that can be passed from cattle to people.

Umiker said he has asked veterinarians about regular testing for E. coli but has been told it would be impractical because the bacteria are common in animals. It doesn't make them sick and fluctuates continuously.

It may be in their systems one day, running its course as the animals shed the bacteria in their waste products, and be gone the next day.

Because the bacteria don't make the animals appear sick, it is not possible to weed out the carriers on any given day.

"We're dealing with something that can't be seen," he said.

Florida has no law regulating petting zoos.

Some states such as Pennsylvania passed laws after similar outbreaks, said Minnesota veterinarian Jeff Bender, who helped write the CDC guidelines that came out Thursday.

For example, Pennsylvania requires petting zoos and other animal exhibitions to provide hand-washing facilities. The law, passed in 2002, also requires them to inform the public about the types of diseases that animals can pass on to humans, according to the Humane Society of the United States.

Bender said the risks are reduced greatly by such common-sense practices as washing hands thoroughly and not eating food while in close contact with the animals.

"It's in the best interest of these petting zoos to minimize these events, and it's entirely possible with some basic measures and proper supervision," said Bender, a professor in veterinary public health at the University of Minnesota.

The CDC's recommendations include: Posting signs that warn visitors they are entering an animal area and advise them to wash their hands before leaving; having enough hand-washing stations available and making certain they are child-friendly in size and ease of operation; and managing the flow of people through the exhibits.

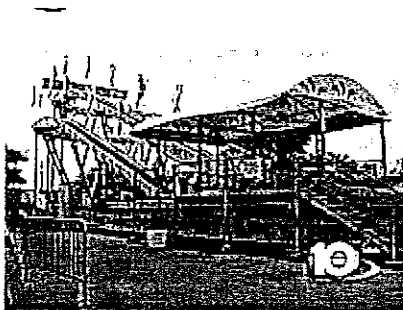
Local10.com

Sisters Hurt In Amusement Ride Accident At Fair

Woman Has Surgery To Repair Injuries

POSTED: 6:09 pm EST March 22, 2005
UPDATED: 6:19 pm EST March 22, 2005

MIAMI -- An amusement ride accident at the Miami-Dade County Fair over the weekend left two sisters injured, one badly enough to need surgery.



Stephanie Ruiz, 14, suffered only minor injuries on the Niagara Falls flume ride, but her 21-year-old sister, Nicole, had to be operated on to repair facial fractures. She was hurt when the ride suddenly dropped about 40 feet, slamming her face into the front of the boat.

The girls' parents saw the whole thing happen.

Their father, Victor Ruiz, said when he saw his daughter Nicole's eyes roll back in her head, he knew she was seriously injured. She was rushed to a hospital where she was treated for her injuries. The girls' mother said Nicole will be unable to open her mouth to eat for at least six weeks.

Safety has been a focus at the fair since three people were badly hurt on the Gravitron ride last year.

Initial investigation of the Niagara Falls incident by Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services indicates that the accident was caused by human error.

Jack Silar, of Southeast Amusements, the company that manages the ride, said, "The operator inadvertently dispatched the boat from the top of the ride when there was insufficient water to do so."

Silar says that they make every effort possible to prevent this type of incident.

The operator of the ride has been reassigned to another position in which he does not have control over a ride.

A final report on the investigation is not expected for at least a few days.

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The Hillsboro ARGUS

Washington County's Leading Newspaper Since 1873

SPORTS

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FOCUS

A designing grandma claims she's never going to run out of ideas. Story on C1.

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Tuesday, March 15, 2005



JoAnn Boatwright/The Argus

Jamie Kay Andrews, Washington County Rodeo Queen, rides past the Cultural Arts Center during the parade.

Green — color of the day 43

Hillsboro's 2005
St. Pat's Day Parade





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The Oregonian

More than a bridesmaid A successful turnout fuels hopes of keeping dollars away from Portland

A successful turnout and a planned expo center fuel hopes of keeping dollars spent at major shows away from Portland

Thursday, March 17, 2005

MICHELLE MANDEL
The Oregonian

Washington County's first-ever bridal show unfolds this weekend with all the hopeful expectations of a debutante's coming-out ball.

Organizers of the vendor-packed Washington County Bridal Showcase and community leaders see the event at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Tigard as a possible barometer of big things to come. Portland has long overshadowed once-rural Washington County, drawing most conventions, concerts and events.

This show, coupled with a planned exhibition center at the Washington County Fair Complex, brings oomph to the idea that Beaverton, Tigard and Hillsboro have populations and buying power deserving of front-door service.

"I'd like to see more of our dollars not be exported to downtown Portland," says Penny Bakefelt, executive director of the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Washington County.

"Having our own events center makes it more convenient for us who live and work here."

Lora Heil-Frone wishes the exposition center, slated for completion in late 2006, were up and running. The Beaverton woman easily sold all 71 vendor spots in the bridal show and has 40 reservations for next year.

She guesses 3,000 people -- mostly brides, mothers and girlfriends -- will attend.

But Heil-Frone also knows Portland bridal shows at the Oregon Convention Center typically lure 8,000 to 10,000.

"If we have that many people, we're going to be in trouble," Heil-Frone, 39, says with a laugh. "We're going to be in both ballrooms at the Embassy Suites, but we'd be stuffed with that high a turnout."

Not so at the proposed exposition center, says Fair Complex Executive Director Don Hillman.

His prediction: Washington County will soon go head-to-head with Portland booking major shows.

"The bridal show's perfect for this type of venue," says Hillman, adding that a preliminary master plan of the exposition center, prepared by developer Opus Northwest, should be finished and ready for review in 30 to 45 days. The center's final size is yet to be seen, but earlier discussions put it at 136,000 square feet.

By comparison, the recently completed Clark County Exhibition Center in Ridgefield, Wash., is 112,000 square feet and holds 530 exhibitor booths.

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"A center like this is long overdue," Hillman says. "It's just a matter of getting it built."

In the meantime, Heil-Frone's all atwitter about the show she's orchestrated. She knows the numbers are on her side: Washington County's median income is \$52,122, the highest in Oregon, according to the 2000 Census.

Last year, the Washington County Recorder's office issued 2,857 marriage licenses.

"I just saw a need in this area," Heil-Frone says. "And once businesses heard about it, everything really got rolling. The excitement has been amazing."

"The show's been sold out for two months."

Heil-Frone got the idea two years ago after attending a Portland bridal show and seeing the number of Washington County vendors. At the time, she co-owned a Hillsboro day spa, and it riled her that the county was "lost to Portland" when it came to bridal shows.

Heil-Frone since has shut the spa and taken on events-planning full time.

What brides-to-be want, Heil-Frone says, are choices. That's why the show's awash with all things wedding, from bakeries to catering services to honeymoon destinations. Ninety percent of vendors have local ties.

A few national vendors flesh out the selection -- and prove the county has enough pull to net such attention.

"I think the woman who is putting on this show has hit a home run," says Gary Fowler, president of Celebrity China & Crystal of Kansas City, Kan. "I have a rep in that area who lobbied hard for this show, saying Washington County was a wonderful area and that the show would be a wonderful success."

"Not all bridal shows go well, especially the first year out," he says. "We're coming because we think it's going to go well, and hopefully build a bridal-base for us in coming shows."

Heil-Frone thinks so. Based on this year's response, she anticipates larger shows in coming years.

"I really look at this show as a pivotal event for the county," Heil-Frone says. "Washington County is ready for the large event. They've got the base to support the large events. You don't have to go to Portland anymore."

"You can find it here in your own back yard."

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Curtain's up at new expo hall

The \$18.5 million building at the Clark County Fairgrounds opens today and plays host to a collector car show Saturday

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

BILL STEWART

The Oregonian

RIDGEFIELD -- Clark County opens the doors to its new fairgrounds exposition hall today, just hours before its first customer arrives to hold a collector auto show and auction.

A dedication ceremony of the 112,000-square-foot Clark County Fairgrounds hall will be at 3 p.m., followed by a public open house until 7 p.m.

"We are starting off with a big test," said Tom Musser, director of the fairgrounds. "The open house will close, and then our crews have to rush in and prepare the building" for the inaugural weekend event.

The setup crew for the Petersen Auction Group Collector Car Auction arrives Thursday afternoon to prepare for Saturday's auction.

Doug Johnston, director of general services and buildings for Clark County, said scheduling of events for this year is going well, considering that building a clientele for such a venue can take time.

"People staging shows, seminars and special events work several years in advance, handling the lodging, advertising and details," he said. "And a lot of them want to see our building before making a major commitment."

Officials don't expect the \$18.5 million facility to become an instant money tree. But during its third year, the hall is expected to break into the black, financing a series of new buildings intended to put the 50-year-old fairgrounds to year-round use.

He said to break even that year, the new building must be leased for two-thirds of the weekend show dates year-round. Promoters also pay for setup and tear-down days before and after an event.

Johnston said a subsidy involving rent from the new music amphitheater at the fairgrounds will help the hall break even. It also will get money from a \$2 per room-night tax imposed in 2003 at the request of the Clark County Lodging Association, which wanted to support tourism facilities.

After the third year, profits will be banked until the county has enough money to build the other modernization projects at the fairgrounds, Johnston said.

The hall includes an office and concession space supporting the 97,000-square-foot exposition room. The large room can be divided into two or three smaller rooms, each with its own restrooms and concessions so three separate events can be under way at the same time.

Clark County's new building is smaller than exposition room at the Portland Expo Center, which has 330,000 square feet of space, or the Oregon Convention Center, which has 255,000 square feet of space.

Musser said he is trying to market to shows that need less room.

Architect Rob Barrentine, who has the fairgrounds master-plan contract, can recite the structural statistics -- the hall includes more than 1.5 million pounds of steel and iron, and 5,025 cubic yards of concrete.

But he said it needs a finishing touch.

He's dreaming of a series of 4-foot-square glazed ceramic tiles in the center of about 24 accent points high on the outside of the exposition hall. Each tile would be a farm scene or farm animals drawn by 4-H Club students.

"That will cost up to \$30,000, and I haven't started fund raising yet," he said. "I think the tiles would be fun and would represent the entire county."

Musser said use of the new hall "will start slow and build. We are pleased with the way this year is shaping up."

In addition to the auto show, the hall has booked or is negotiating with shows featuring boats, antiques, guns and knives, Christmas crafts, recreational vehicles, model trains, food and gifts, and fly fishing.

Musser hopes to hold regional high school sports tournaments as well as camps sponsored by high schools, coaches and sports equipment companies. Bookings are plugged into the hall's schedule as deals are completed.

The first show that will rent the entire hall plus overflow space will be the 14th annual Clark Public Utilities Home and Garden Ideas Show, April 22-24. In past years, the show was scattered through various fairgrounds buildings.

"We also have gotten several calls from people wanting to rent the hall for wedding receptions," Musser said. "They say they've heard we have a new hall available, but need room for 100. There's usually a little gasp when I explain the smallest room I have is for 3,000 persons."

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The News-Review *online*

Fair Board seeks solutions for budget shortfall of \$150,000

JOHN SOWELL, jsowell@newsreview.info

March 9, 2005

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Some fees at the Douglas County Fairgrounds may need to be raised or some services eliminated to balance the 2005-06 budget, fair officials said Tuesday.

In order to maintain services at the current level, the fairgrounds would need the subsidy provided by the county increased to \$252,000, up from the current \$100,000, Fairgrounds Manager Harold Phillips told members of the Fair Board during a four-hour workshop at Elmer's Restaurant.

Phillips and other fair officials said they didn't think that request would fly in light of requests from the Douglas County Budget Committee for county departments to hold the line on increases from the current year's budget.

With limited alternatives, they said raising fees and cutting services will have to be considered.

"We have \$150,000 staring us in the face. We can either cut personnel or we can look at rates," Phillips said.

The fairgrounds is operating on a \$1.8 million budget during the current fiscal year, which ends June 30. That is expected to rise to \$2.1 million next year, with about half of the increase anticipated to be covered by additional revenues.

More than a third of the \$150,000 increase in expenses is attributed to a rise in personnel costs. The department's contribution to employees' retirement accounts through the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System will go up by 5 percent next year.

That, along with a 1 percent salary increase, a rise in health insurance costs and a boost to the minimum wage paid to seasonal workers will push up personnel costs by \$55,439, said Marsha Price, fairgrounds business manager.

The Fair Board approved raising the rental rates for fair buildings to keep up with inflation. The daily rates charged for rentals will increase from \$720 to \$740 at Douglas Hall, \$805 to \$825 at the Exhibit Building and from \$260 to \$270 at the Floral Building.

Even with the increases, rental prices are low when compared to similar facilities in other Oregon counties. Lane County, for example, charges between 12 cents and 21 cents per square foot for usage of its fairgrounds buildings. The new rates at the Douglas County Fairgrounds work out to between 3 cents and 7.5 cents per square foot.

"We're not anywhere near 12 cents for our buildings, but we don't want to overprice it," Price said.

The increased building rental fees will bring in only a few extra thousand dollars, officials said. The fairgrounds will need to look at other fees to make up the budget shortfall.

Fair Board members said Tuesday they wanted more time to think about what to charge for rent at the new

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Community Building, which is scheduled to be finished before this summer's fair in August.

Phillips had recommended establishing the rate there at \$675 for the 13,475-square-foot conference hall or \$300 each if broken down into three smaller halls. He suggested a rate of \$35 per hour, with a four-hour minimum, for each of two meeting rooms.

The suggested rates range between 5 cents and 7 cents per square foot, which board member Jeff Mornarich said may be too low considering the building is new and will be nicer -- with air conditioning, the ability to break space down into smaller rooms, superior acoustics and a state-of-the-art kitchen -- than any building at the fairgrounds. Other board members agreed.

"I don't think it's fair to compare the new hall with Douglas Hall. You can't do things in Douglas Hall that we're going to be asked to do in the new conference hall," board member David Briggs said.

The board may have to consider whether to eliminate certain free services, officials said.

The Douglas County Fairgrounds is one of the few fairgrounds in Oregon that doesn't charge 4-H groups to use the facility. At other fairgrounds, groups that rent the facilities must provide their own forklift if needed and to collect and dispose of garbage, operations manager Dan Hulst said. The personnel to perform those tasks are provided without charge at the Douglas County Fairgrounds.

The board will discuss the budget further at a regular board meeting set for 7 a.m. Tuesday at the fairgrounds offices.

* You can reach reporter John Sowell at 957-4209 or by e-mail at jsowell@newsreview.info.

BACK ←



Look at that: New exhibition center taking shape

EIJIRO KAWADA; The News Tribune

Last updated: March 3rd, 2005 07:43 AM (PST)

All of a sudden, everything else on the Puyallup Fairgrounds looks smaller.

The Extreme Scream thrill ride doesn't seem quite so tall anymore. The Dairy Barn complex seems like it's shrunk a little.

Even the grandstand loses its prominence right next to the 123,000-square-foot Exhibition and Conference Center now under construction.

The new building also casts a long shadow compared to other event centers in the region. When the \$14 million project is completed this summer, it will have twice the space of the exhibition hall at the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center, which opened in November.

"We don't have anything other than the (Tacoma) Dome in that size category," said Ruthie Reinert, executive director of the Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitor Bureau.

Puyallup's new exhibition center marks another step in the evolution of the Western Washington Fair Association, which runs the Puyallup Fair. The nonprofit private corporation has steadily grown its business renting space for events during the 11-plus months each year when the fair isn't running.

It hosted 127 nonfair events last year – more than double what it had two decades ago.

Fair Manager Kent Hojem said fair officials looked beyond the fall and spring fairs in planning the exhibition center.

"It's probably one of the first times that we really thought about the year-round operations," he said.

But while the fairgrounds continues to invest in its future, its Puyallup neighbors have lost something – the offseason.

On the lawn of Cleata Stanley's house on Fourth Street Southwest are tire tracks, a sign of how busy things have gotten. She says her husband has to park on the lawn because, starting almost every Thursday, their street fills with cars belonging to people headed to the fairgrounds.

"It's every weekend – every weekend," Stanley said.

The fair has been buying properties on her block just north of the fairgrounds. Stanley, who has lived there since 1998, said some neighbors have sold out, and she probably will, too, with the right offer.

"I think a lot of people are tired of it," she said.

'A different clientele'

Earlier this month, construction workers used cranes to carefully lower 11 80,000-pound trusses onto the new exhibition building.

When completed, the ceiling will provide 35 feet in height at center, tall enough for heavy-trade shows, yacht displays and others. The strength of the ceiling structure will allow sound systems or other heavy equipment – up to 7,000 pounds per point – to be hung overhead.



The building could seat 3,700 people for a concert or similar event.

"It's going to draw a different clientele" than what other venues in Pierce County have attracted in the past, said Reinert, whose job is to promote event and convention venues in the county.

Last month, Puget Sound Business Journal ranked the Puyallup Fairgrounds as the third-largest conference venue in Washington – behind Qwest Field and the Washington State Convention & Trade Center in Seattle.

When the exhibition center is finished, the fairgrounds will have a total meeting space of more than 310,000 square feet.

That'll take it to second on the list, behind only Qwest Field.

David Bobo, manager of the Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center, said he welcomes the additional exhibition space in Puyallup.

"We don't really see it as a competition," he said. "There's plenty of business out there."

During the fair, the building will host mostly commercial exhibits, such as those previously displayed in the Modern Living building. Many of the noncommercial exhibits, such as grange and 4H displays, are expected to move to the Pavilion.

Growing impact

The fall fair is still the big breadwinner for the Puyallup Fairgrounds complex, and it always will be. About 1.2 million people come to town over the 17-day run of the fair, and the fairgrounds brings in more than 90 percent of its revenues then.

But offseason events are having a growing impact on the bottom line. Last year, they generated more than 7 percent of total revenues. The fair estimates at least 500,000 people came during the 222 event days when the fall and spring fairs weren't running.

With 170 acres and parking space for 7,500 cars at its disposal, the Puyallup Fair is a strong venue for all kinds of gatherings and shows.

It also has a tremendous effect on businesses in downtown Puyallup, said Judy Heier, who has run an antique store on South Meridian Street – the city's main drag – for 20 years.

"It really is a boon to downtown," Heier said. "They have a variety of shows and bring in people from all over every weekend."

Community events

Just like in Puyallup, fairs around the country have been developing offseason activities for years, said Jim Tucker, president of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions.

"In smaller communities, it has been going on for a long time because they are the center of the community, providing places for local graduations and car shows," he said. "In larger communities, it has also been going on for a long time because the fairs want to generate funds to build more and grow larger."

The Puyallup Fair is both a community gathering place and an expanding regional complex.

On the one hand, it still hosts hometown celebrations such as high school graduations and a community dog festival. This year, fair leaders are opening the gates for a new annual community event: Oktoberfest from Oct. 6 to 9.

On the other hand, the facility continues to boost its Northwest profile by building up and out. The fair and the city are splitting the cost of a \$6 million road project, which will close part of Fifth Street Southwest and allow the fair to push its boundaries west.

The planned 17-acre expansion is another example of the fair association investing in what it does best – hosting the fair itself, Hojem said. He took over this year after longtime fair manager Bob Carlson retired.

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Kiddyland is expected to grow into part of the expanded area. The plan for the rest of the space hasn't been drafted yet, although a part of it will be used for barns for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police parade team during the run of this year's fair Sept. 9-25.

"We always have to remember that the fall fair is the most important thing that we do," Hojem said.

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The Monitor

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Print

Families cleared in livestock doping

February 25, 2005

Brittney Booth & Victoria Hirschberg
The Monitor

EDINBURG — A surprise witness who testified he saw a man drugging animals in last year's Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show helped settle a legal dispute Thursday between the show and the families who owned the alleged animals.



Mary Ann Garcia, above, makes badges for stock show supporters.

The parents of four children — Fabian Cardoza, 14, of Donna; Alyssa Flores, 15, of Rio Hondo; Cassandra Perez, 18; and Bobby Joe Perez, 14, of Roma — had sued the show after the four were disqualified from last year's show and banned from participating again after their animals tested positive for dexamethasone, an anti-inflammatory drug illegal in livestock shows. Cardoza and Flores had entered steers, while the Perez children entered lambs.

The Cardoza, Flores and Perez families agreed to drop their lawsuit against the show after organizers acknowledged they had no evidence that the participants administered drugs to their animals.

The disqualified participants are still banned from the show for the next two years.

Hidalgo County Court-at-law No. 1 Judge Rudy Gonzalez was to rule today whether the banned participants could participate in this year's competition. Instead, the livestock show's attorney, Robert Galligan, called a Weslaco man named Samuel Perez to testify. Samuel Perez said he saw brothers Milton and Robert Perez bring the winning steers into the heifer barn around 12:30 a.m. the night before the steers were to be judged. Samuel Perez's daughters raised heifers, which are stored in a different barn than steers.

Milton and Robert Perez are not related to Samuel Perez or to the Perez family involved in the lawsuit against the livestock show.

Samuel Perez testified he saw Milton Perez open a package, mix the substance with water, then administer it to the steers. Samuel Perez then picked up a package that fell out of Milton Perez's pocket. He saved the package and turned it over as evidence to the livestock show.

The package's label read Azium Powder, dexamethasone.

Samuel Perez testified he told the livestock show about the packages after some of the animals testified positive for the substance.

"I've been against using drugs in animals in livestock shows. It's been happening too long," he said. "It's not fair to my kids or other kids that are out there."

Galligan then called Milton Perez — who was not in the courtroom during Samuel Perez's testimony — to the stand. Milton Perez said he sold the families their animals but denied administering dexamethasone to the livestock. He did say he was in the heifer barn that night helping take care of his niece's animals, but did not remember seeing Samuel Perez.

"Those (packages) did not fall out of my pocket," he said. "Those are not my packages."

Milton Perez, a former high school agriculture teacher, said the only time he had ever used the anti-inflammatory drug was under a veterinarian's prescription.

The families' attorney, William Peisen, then announced that the two sides had reached a settlement. Peisen said after the hearing that Samuel Perez's testimony was a complete surprise.

Galligan told the court that the banned exhibitors could participate in 2007.

"The decision was based on the fact that animals' urine tested positive, not on evidence that the children or their parents had any knowledge that the animal was administered dexamethasone," he said.

RGV Livestock Show Manager Jim Beale said the show would appropriately punish the person responsible for administering the animals the drug, if the show was able to prove who did it. The show will examine evidence incriminating anyone who violates the show's rules, he said.

"The rules of all livestock shows are not there to try to disqualify anybody or hurt anybody. The rules are there to protect the exhibitors and to put everybody on an equal playing field," he said.

Nancy Cardoza and Liz Flores, mothers of two of the disqualified participants, said they were pleased to be able to compete again, but still felt they were being punished for something they did not do. They also said they do not believe Milton Perez had anything to do with their animal's testing positive for the drug.

"The best thing is our kids have been cleared, we have been cleared and hopefully the public will see the public statement from the stock show," Liz Flores said. "The second best thing is the life ban turned into a two-year suspension. That's still an injustice, the only reason we had to take it that way was the animals were registered under these children."

Flores said she felt that the livestock show focused interest more on the money the show bring in than the children participating.

The suit against the area's largest and most prestigious livestock show upset many of the show's participants from local 4-H and FFA clubs. Cowboy hats, belt buckles and boots amassed outside the courtroom.

Many wore nametags that said, "RGV livestock show supporter." They also carried bumper stickers reading, "Support your livestock shows. Help Stop foreign substance abuse in show animals"

A group of concerned parents organized to come to the hearing and paid for the production of the bumper stickers, said Art Garcia, who works with the Mission 4-H club.

Garcia said the group was pleased with the outcome of the suit because it upheld the integrity of the show.

"The bottom line, anything that is not prescribed by a veterinarian or administered by the vet, it is an illegal substance. Bar none, period. It's not going to be tolerated. What happened today was good," he said.

Brittney Booth covers courts and general assignments for The Monitor. You can reach her at (956) 683-4437.



OregonLive.com

Everything Oregon

Bridgeport Village's obstacle course tests drivers

Tualatin tells shoppers and commuters that traffic will improve; meanwhile, frustration abounds

Thursday, February 24, 2005

DANA TIMS

Within a span of 100 yards in parking lots near Bridgeport Village, three signs, posted by three different companies and agencies, warn motorists that their vehicles will be towed if they park but don't shop at those stores.

The parking lots are peppered with large orange barrels, placed strategically to keep cars from entering this driveway or exiting that one. Trouble is, no one seems to know who actually owns, controls or even places the barrels.

Those who work nearby say that on any given day, employees from different stores go into the parking lots and rearrange the barrels to suit their needs.

"No one's in charge," said Connie Watt, whose newly built Village Inn Pancake House sits smack in the middle of road and intersection construction now well into its 10th month. "There's got to be things they can do to make it easier for all of those who live and work around here."

Public officials responsible for coordinating the "off-site" work surrounding the 28-acre Bridgeport Village said they're working hard to ensure that traffic flows as smoothly as possible. But spillover parking that's occurred since the November opening of Crate & Barrel, along with heavy commuting traffic moving through the constricted construction zone, hasn't made things easy for drivers, officials said.

"There's a lot going on there," said Doug Rux, Tualatin's community development director. "But we see all the pieces of the puzzle coming together. What's happening is pretty much the way we envisioned it."

Rux and others remain confident they'll be able to keep their predevelopment promise that area roads, even with the extra traffic generated by Bridgeport Village, will flow better after the mall's grand opening May 19 than it did before the work started.

"In fact, it will be significantly improved," said Bob Schmidt, the state Transportation Department's assistant project manager. "But people need to be patient. All this won't become apparent until after we get the final configuration into place."

The scope of the off-site work is expansive. Roadway, shoulder and sidewalk work extends from the eastern entrance of the Safeway store on the Lake Oswego side of Intersection 5 west to Southwest Upper Boones Ferry Road abutting Durham.

The north-south boundaries of the work range nearly from Southwest Durham Road off Southwest 72nd Avenue on the north to Southwest Lower Boones Ferry's link with Southwest Upper Boones Ferry to the south.

Meanwhile, the array of traffic cones, temporary lane meanders and on-street parking by



Bridgeport Village's construction crews creates rough going for motorists and businesses.

"Since even before Christmas, all of this has definitely affected our business," said Hope Miller, a supervisor at Borders Books Music & Cafe, directly across Southwest 72nd from Bridgeport Village. "Our customers have been great about it, but they tell us it's pretty difficult for them sometimes to figure out where to go."

Borders is one of the businesses that posted signs warning nonshoppers that they'll be towed if they park in the lot. Next door, TriMet officials have done the same thing in attempts to keep the Tualatin park-and-ride lot clear for bus riders.

At the Village Inn, owner Watt was forced to call tow trucks once -- the day Crate & Barrel opened. Shoppers, finding that parking around the upscale home furnisher was full, spilled onto adjacent streets, other parking lots and anywhere else they could pull over.

With a Wild Oats natural foods store set to open in the complex next month, Watt is concerned that the 75 parking spaces reserved for Wild Oats customers will prove inadequate.

Rux, the Tualatin city official, said overflow shouldn't be a problem, because Bridgeport Village's four-deck parking garage also is expected to open by mid-March.

From the other side of the freeway, Lake Oswego Mayor Judie Hammerstad has been watching the project. She remains skeptical about claims that traffic will flow better through the area once Bridgeport Village is completed but said she's willing to wait and see.

Lake Oswego has put the \$300,000 it received from the complex's developers in a separate account until the project is completed. The money came in a settlement after the city threatened a land-use action against Washington County, which owns the property, because of the effect of traffic.

"It's not enough money to do all of the traffic mitigation that needs to be done," Hammerstad said. "But it will at least let us study the continuing impacts and let us know what else we may have to address."

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MARKIN
CONSULTING

ALL'S FAIR

Fairs and Expositions
Industry Newsletter

February 2005

Common Traits of Successful Fairs and Fairgrounds

By Rod Markin, President

During a recent interview for a national magazine, I was asked to describe what makes a fair and fairground operation successful. I was startled by my inability to articulate a succinct sound bite that would not only answer the question but provide some insight into the state of the industry. It forced me to research recent events affecting the industry.

On the Down Side

Over the past year, numerous fairs and fairgrounds operations have faced financial and operational crises, ranging from significant attendance drops to cuts in funding to deficit spending to threat of closure to take over by governmental agencies:

- The Nebraska State Fair has experienced dramatic and significant drops in attendance over the past few years, prompting serious consideration of moving or greatly limiting the operations of the fair.
- The New Mexico State Fair and the Colorado State Fair have been running deep deficits in their operations, requiring taxpayer bailouts.

- The year-round management of the LaPorte County Fairgrounds (MI) was taken over by the county, leaving the LaPorte County Fair Association with only the staging of the annual fair.
- The Okeechobee County Agri-Center (FL), a new fairground facility, has been under-performing since it was built a few years ago, with still no fair charter yet in place.

- In California, there has been talk of selling state owned fairgrounds to raise money to help bailout the state's financial situation.

And there have been many more examples of fair and fairground operations struggling to make it.

On the Up Side

In contrast to my previous examples, and even in spite of them, the industry has many more successes to tout.

- Nebraska voters approved a constitutional amendment in November for the State Fair to receive an estimated \$2 million in state lottery proceeds each year to go toward facility enhancements and improvements.

- The Clark County Fairgrounds (Vancouver, WA) is completing the addition of a 100,000 square foot exhibition building – funded by a unique public facility district.
- State lawmakers in Oregon funded the construction of a \$10 million arena facility at the Oregon State Fair and Exposition Center.

On the Right Side

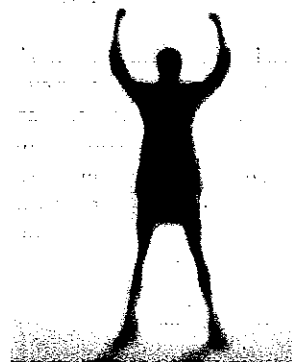
All of this reflection caused me to take a closer look to see if there are any common characteristics of successful fairs and fairgrounds. Is it the marketplace? Competitive factors? New facilities? Here is what I found.

Successful fairs and fairground operations, big or small, have become successful by doing three things:

1. *Repositioning the role of the fairgrounds in the community.*
2. *Reflecting the community in the annual fair.*
3. *Realigning operations to run like a business.*

Welcome to this issue of ALL'S FAIR, a newsletter to the Fairs and Expositions industries. This and future newsletters will highlight key issues and trends affecting the operation, management, marketing and development of fairground, equine and exhibition facilities in North America.

We appreciate and welcome any comments or suggestions you may have concerning the content, format and delivery of this newsletter.



Common Traits of Successful Fairs and Fairgrounds

Successful fairgrounds have **repositioned** the role of the fairgrounds in the community from an ag/livestock facility to a vital, balanced community gathering place for activities and events. To put it simply – these fairgrounds have become relevant to the residents and businesses in their community.

It's where things happen, where memories are made, where fun is found – not just horse and livestock shows or 4-H meetings, but wedding receptions, banquets, consumer and trade shows, RV rallies, spectator events, corporate picnics, meetings and seminars, pre-schools and many others.

To do this requires attention to the needs of the entire community, a broader market focus for interim activities, and strong ties with civic organizations, business leaders, major employers, schools, economic development groups and tourism organizations.

The Pavilion at the Oregon State Fair and Exposition Center



Successful fairs **reflect** the community in the annual fair. No longer geared to just competitive exhibits, management of these fairs know and reflect the popular culture of their community – becoming a magnet for everyone.

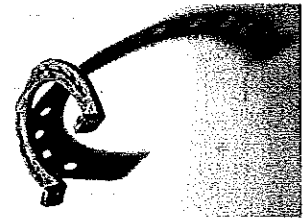
Beyond the livestock exhibits, carnival and 4-H activities, successful fairs have events and activities that appeal to and attract the greater community. Participatory activities and events, technology exhibits, school integration, and unique and professionally operated food concessions are all reflected in these successful fairs.

Successful fairs and fairgrounds have **realigned** their organization and operation to be more like a business. To be truly community focused and business oriented, their boards represent the broader interests of the community, not just agriculture.

These fairgrounds are also actively marketed. This is the single most neglected aspect of fairground operations. Marketing (or the lack of) separates successful operations from those that struggle to make ends meet. Do not be fooled – there is no lasting truth to the “Build it and they will come” Hollywood-induced mantra.

Another business trait that is vital is the production of current and useable financial reports and records. Management cannot make good decisions in a vacuum – and all too often that is what management of a struggling fairground does. Lastly, these fairgrounds have implemented “market value” rental rates and institute policies of annual rate increases to insure costs are covered.

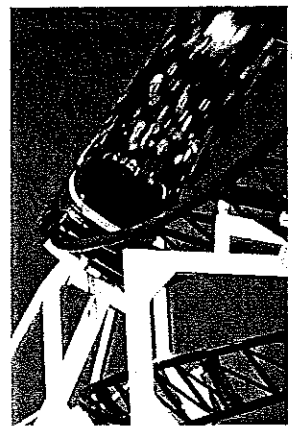
Success comes in varying degrees, but success is success. Reposition your fairgrounds, reflect the community in your fair, realign your operations as a business, and success will be yours.



Success doesn't come from dumb luck, but from reflection, repositioning and realignment.

“Great minds have purposes, others have wishes.”

Washington Irving



Fun, fun, fun - being relevant in your community is one key to success.

Stay Fast, Stay Nimble, Stay Alive

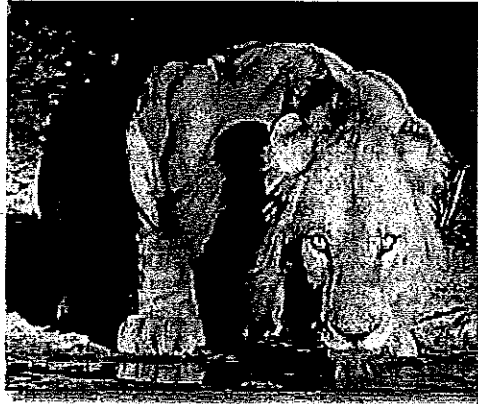
By Harvey MacKay

The following is a reprint of Harvey MacKay's syndicated article—Outswimming the Sharks, distributed by United Feature Syndicate.

In a "Dilbert" cartoon, the boss tells two of his managers: "I've got some good news and some bad news. The bad news is that huge corporations like us can't compete against small, nimble companies. The good news is that at this rate, we'll soon be the smallest company around."

This is going to be a very competitive year for businesses, large and small. Of the 500 companies on the Standard & Poor's index in 1957, only 74 were still on the list in 1998. Fast-forward to 2020, and more than 325 of the S&P 500 companies probably will be firms we don't know about or that might not exist today.

And many of the firms on the list today will have fallen by the wayside. As will many of their employees.



Competition is healthy. It keeps you sharp. It makes you better. It improves quality. Love your opponent—the only one who makes you as good as you can be.

Former Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey was a famous college and basketball star. When he was at Princeton, Bradley's father used to tell him, "Son, when you're not out practicing, someone else is. And when you meet that person, he's going to beat you."

In Minnesota, we're in the heart of winter right now, and you won't find as many dead squirrels on the roadside as you do in

summer. Why? In summer, nuts are plentiful, and it's easy for even the slowest squirrel to survive.

With easy living the squirrels get fat and lazy and cars pick them off. In winter, nuts are few and the squirrels must hustle to survive. The fat and lazy squirrels have gone to their maker. The survivors are sleek, fast and smart. No cars catch them unaware.

One could say the same thing about businesses that lose their fire in the belly. This leaves them wide open to business predators that soon put an end to their well being.

Steve Jobs, the genius who co-founded Apple Computer, is a charismatic leader of technical people. When his group was designing Apple's new Macintosh, Jobs flew a pirate flag over his building. Its purpose? To signify his team's determination to blow the competition out of the water.

You can't be complacent or arrogant. Herb Kelleher, head of Southwest Airlines, preaches that arrogance is the greatest danger to a successful company. He says, "A company is never more vulnerable to complacency than when it's at the height of its success."

Playing the game designed by the leader in an industry is certain death. The leader understands the rules better. The leader made them up. But by changing the rules, you neutralize the leaders.

There is a saying in Africa: Every morning, a gazelle gets up and knows that it must outrun the fastest lion or it will get eaten. And every morning, a lion gets up and knows that it must outrun the fastest gazelle or it will starve. So, whether you are a gazelle or a lion, every morning when you get up, you'd better start running.



PHOTO BY CRAIG R. SHOLEY



Markin Consulting

Real Answers...Real Results

Serving the amusement, recreation and tourism industries since 1990. Providing event facility managers with real answers to strategic, operational, market, financial, funding and organizational issues.

For more information please contact Rod Markin, President, at 763-493-3568 or visit us on the web at www.markinconsulting.com.

Affiliated Associations:



Markin Consulting Services:

Long-Range Planning

Markin Consulting assists fairground operations develop and implement long range plans. This assistance includes recommending mission/purpose statements, identifying short and long range goals objectives, evaluating and recommending strategies to achieve the goals and objectives, and assessing the financial and operational impacts of the strategies.

Market Demand Studies

Markin Consulting assesses existing and projected market demand and community support for proposed projects and expansion plans. Market demand studies include an assessment of market size, user needs, and competitive facilities. We identify and recommend target markets, potential events and activities, probable attendance, and supportable pricing. These studies include detailed assessments of historical, current and potential events and activities.

Master Planning

Following the assessment of market support and community needs, Markin Consulting evaluates and recommends the optimal physical plant program for the project. We recommend size of the facilities, suitable location, amenities, services, and support facilities. These recommendations can entail renovations to existing buildings and infrastructures as well as the construction of new buildings and structures.

Financial Feasibility Studies

Markin Consulting assesses the potential financial performance of the proposed or existing facility by analyzing operating revenues and expenses, the type and number of projected events and price sensitivity. We recommend changes to management policies, organizational structures, and operating policies that improve or enhance the facility's financial performance. Projections of revenues and expenses and economic performance, in aggregate and by profit/cost center, are prepared.

Funding Plans

Markin Consulting evaluates and recommends alternative financing methods, often combining various funding mechanisms that increase the likelihood of the project being successfully completed. Funding mechanisms can include bond financing, tax abatements, lodging taxes, user taxes, special district taxes, public/private ventures, and other solutions. Fund raising opportunities are evaluated, including establishing a foundation, developing community/business partnerships, and other means.

Economic Impact Analysis

The economic and fiscal impacts associated with building and operating fairground and exposition facilities can be the driving force behind the successful completion of the project. Markin Consulting identifies the economic benefits and costs associated with constructing and operating the project, in terms of jobs created, tax revenues generated, and incremental purchases of goods and services.

Fair Planning

Markin Consulting assists fair management in evaluating and improving the annual fair. This evaluation includes pricing and admission policies, entertainment programming, cash management systems, space rentals and concessionaire pricing, hours of operations, marketing, appearance and cleanliness of grounds, traffic circulation, and other important aspects of the annual fair.

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Du Quoin Evening Call

Upstate Republican Lawmaker Wants Everyone to Pay at the Illinois and Du Quoin State Fairs

By John H. Croessman, Managing Editor

A Pontiac, IL. state senator says the state fairs at Springfield and Du Quoin allow too many free admissions and he wants the practice to stop. Springfield has an admission price. Du Quoin has only a parking charge.

"I don't care if it's admissions or cars. I don't care if its 25 cents for children or 50 cents for senior citizens; everybody needs to pay or everybody needs to get in free," according to State Senator Dan Rutherford (R-Pontiac)

"And, you don't let every Democrat or every Republican walk in free on the political days," he said.

"Here's the point, in some years 80 percent of the people get in free at the Illinois State Fair. In other years it's two-thirds. The state fair has been losing money and the premiums have gone down. I find it inappropriate that only 20 percent of the people are paying at the gate. A standard policy needs to be place. "Are we a free event or are we an admission event?" he said.

Rutherford says that according to the Auditor General of Illinois, in 2003, of the estimated 725,000 people who attended the Springfield State Fair, only 252,201, or 34%, of those individuals paid for their tickets. Similarly, in 2002, only 20.4% of attendees paid, and in 2001, only 22.8% of people who entered the State Fair paid Gate Admission.

In an effort to curtail the number of free State Fair passes that are distributed, Senator Rutherford has introduced legislation which would require all people attending the Illinois State Fair to pay an admission fee, with limited exemptions.

Similar legislation was enacted in Minnesota nearly 70 years ago, which has proven to be extremely successful. Senator Rutherford commented that an "everybody pays" policy will reinforce the message that all fair visitors are equal.

Du Quoin State Fair manager John Rednour, Jr. said Wednesday he wants a clarification from Rutherford on exactly what he is seeking. Du Quoin charges by the car and does not charge an admission.

"The Fair is a valuable showcase for Illinois and needs to be viable. Public officials, community leaders and other VIPs receive a significant number of free passes. It's unfair for some people to pay, while others are able to enjoy the State Fair for free," said Rutherford. "Senate Bill 1807 would eliminate this practice and require all members of

the public to pay if they want to attend the Illinois State Fair."

Rutherford's legislation stipulates that no party will be exempt from paying admission to either the Illinois State Fair or the DuQuoin State Fair, excluding an employee of the Department of Agriculture, the Illinois State Fair, or the DuQuoin State Fair; police and emergency services personnel; exhibitors, concessionaires, and entertainers; and members of organizations individually volunteering services directly to the Department of Agriculture, the Illinois State Fair, or the DuQuoin State Fair.

Additionally, Senate Bill 1807 requires the Department of Agriculture to annually report the number of paid admissions that entered the state fair on a daily basis, as well as the number of exceptions to paid admissions that were granted on a daily basis. Rutherford concluded, "Aside from a very few defined exceptions, either everyone pays or no one pays to enter the Illinois State Fair. The amount is left to the Fair management, but public policy will be clear."

13/127 Expansion Now 'High Priority' That Needs Special Funding

Passage of the federal transportation bill is creeping forward in Washington, and with it, the possibility of funds for much-needed highway projects in Southern Illinois. The \$284 billion piece of legislation cleared the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and is expected to be considered by the full House some time next week.

Marriage Made in Aisle 1

When you go to Wal-Mart, you usually think of picking up some paper towels or a few groceries. You don't usually think you'll leave the store with a proposal for marriage. But that's exactly what happened to Amy Bridges of Du Quoin the Saturday before Valentine's Day.

Rednour In Washington to Meet with Obama

Mayor John Rednour flew into Washington D.C. late Wednesday to try to get the economy of Southern Illinois--particularly Perry County--moving again.

Upstate Republican Lawmaker Wants Everyone to Pay at the Illinois and Du Quoin State Fairs

A Pontiac, IL. state senator says the state fairs at Springfield and Du Quoin allow too many free admissions and he wants the practice to stop. Springfield has an admission price. Du Quoin has only a parking charge.

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Perspective - Addressing misconceptions about agriculture, farming

Thursday, February 24, 2005

By Betty Wolanyk

Are brown eggs more nutritious than white eggs? Does chocolate milk come from brown cows? These may seem like ridiculous questions, but they are the result of many misconceptions some people have about agriculture.

These examples may seem insignificant, but some misconceptions could have serious consequences for U.S. agriculture.

Those working in agriculture have known for a long time that the non-agricultural public doesn't always understand the food and fiber system. New education research shows that if misconceptions aren't discovered and addressed, teachers and students add new information to their current misconceptions, further twisting their understanding.

Ag literacy efforts have, in the past, focused simply on presenting information. It's time to ensure that our educational materials also target and correct misinformation about agriculture.

Making that process engaging for students is the challenge. The Educating about Agriculture program of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is developing a curriculum project with just such a goal in mind.

Some of the misconceptions and questions are simple, for example, the brown eggs question or, do organic growers use pesticides?

Others are more complex such as these examples: Can the world support more vegetarians than meat eaters? Does it take 16 pounds of grain to produce one pound of beef? Does hunger exist because there is a shortage of food?

Some questions or beliefs, such as the chocolate milk question, would make most farmers scratch their heads. Surprisingly, those trained and working in agriculture may also have misconceptions. Did DDT cause raptor eggshells to thin? Is the world's population spiraling upward out of control?

At two recent conferences for environmental educators, the AFB Foundation decided to kick off the conference not with a lecture, but with a fun activity to reveal the educators' misconceptions.

More than a few eyebrows were raised and feathers ruffled when we challenged negative information that the educators had been teaching about agriculture. Many of them challenged our information.

We gave them sources to research our information for themselves and make up their own minds. While we may not have convinced everyone, we certainly gave them food for thought.

The AFB Foundation curriculum project is creating categories of misconceptions for educators to use. We have convinced Project Food Land & People to use the misconceptions theme for its annual symposium to be held in conjunction with the Ag in the Classroom national conference in Indianapolis this June. Speakers will address misconceptions on an array of agricultural and environmental topics. We will introduce our completed curriculum at that event.

What can every agriculturist do to correct misconceptions? Each misconception must be considered a target for a teachable moment. At the county fair, instead of laughing when someone asks if the horned cow is a bull, explain the difference.

(63)

Don't expect everyone to understand agriculture, and approach the matter with a "there are no stupid questions" attitude so people don't feel bad for trying to learn. Let's consider addressing misconceptions a great new tool in our toolbox.

Betty Wolanyk is director of agricultural education for the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

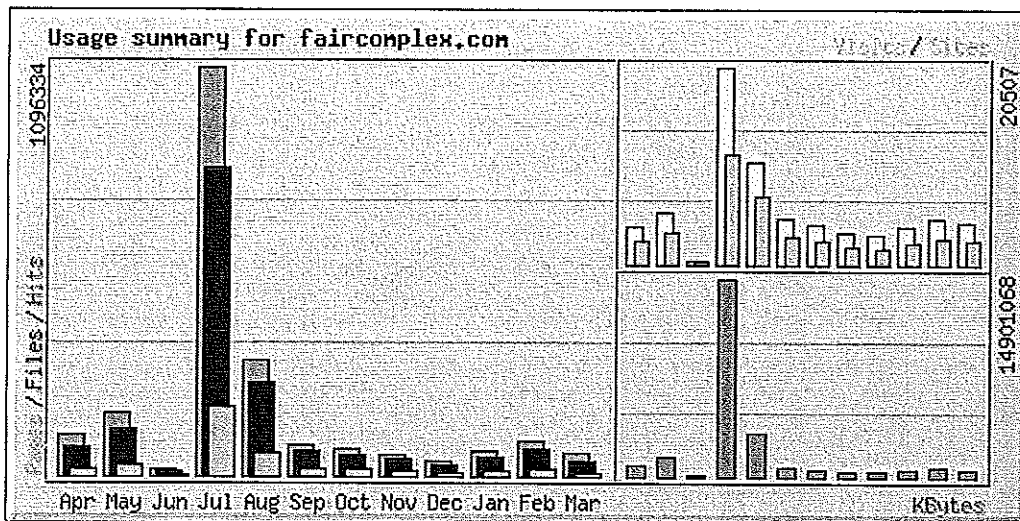
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Jul 2004	35365	26595	6063	661	11390	14901068	20507	187975	824452	1096334
Jun 2004	16496	11980	2824	366	413	144839	366	2824	11980	16496
May 2004	5553	4076	1026	174	3171	1501314	5419	31819	126360	172151
Apr 2004	3702	2651	711	131	2360	893504	3936	21344	79548	111072
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