

FARM FIELD FIRE



EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer

A firefighter sprays flames in a hay field on Monmouth Avenue and Hoffman Road on Saturday. Polk County Fire District No. 1 firefighters worked to get the blaze under control quickly.

Blaze burns 2-3 acres in farm field near Hoffman Road

Itemizer-Observer staff report

MONMOUTH — A fire burned 2 to 3 acres in a cut grass field in Monmouth on Saturday.

Polk County Fire District No. 1 Deputy Chief Neal Olson said the cause of the fire is undetermined.

The blaze moved to the south and into the trees north of the middle fork of Ash Creek and Burlwood Avenue, but no evacuations were issued.

Seven apparatus responded with 19 fire personnel, Olson said. They were on scene for about 90 minutes.

No estimate was available for the crop value. No equipment was damaged.

The fire caused a lot of smoke to drift onto the campus of Western Oregon University.



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Polk County Fire District No. 1 firefighters worked to keep a field fire from spreading on Saturday. The newly harvested field contained bales of straw.

SCHOOL NOTES

Central science teacher honored

INDEPENDENCE — Greg Craven, Central High science teacher, was awarded the Friend of the Planet for 2015 by the National Center of Science Education.

Craven was selected because of his educational videos, which have more than 7 million hits on YouTube. The National Center of Science Education called his work a "touchstone for the climate education movement."

CHS changes registration process

INDEPENDENCE — Registering for high school should be much easier this year, said Central Principal Greg Mitchell.

"We have changed to a mail-in or drop-in process that will span the entire month of August," he said. "We are mailing our registration packets out today (July 30) with all the instructions and required paperwork."

This is a change from previous years when the school hosted one day of registration for each grade level. Mitchell said the old way of registering resulted in parents having to take a day off of work and long lines.

"It wasn't as efficient as it could have been," Mitchell said.

Registration forms may be mailed to the school or dropped off during business hours, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, now through Aug. 28. The school is at 1530 Monmouth St., Independence.

Perrydale to hold registration

PERRYDALE — Registration for Perrydale students will be Tuesday and Wednesday (Aug. 12).

Tuesday's hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday hours will be noon to 7 p.m.

Necessary registration forms, including student medical information, after school program agreement, field trip permission form and others can be found on the school district's website, www.perrydale.k12.or.us/home.

For more information: 503-623-2040.

BUSINESS NOTES

Dutch Bros. hosts contest for kids

DALLAS/MONMOUTH — A coloring contest will determine the look of the new Dutch Bros. Coffee kids' cup.

The company has activity books available at its Monmouth and Dallas locations. Children aged 12 and younger may participate in the cup design challenge. The contest ends on Aug. 15. Entries must be turned in to a barista at Dutch Bros. in Monmouth or Dallas.

For more information: www.dutchbros.com.

Email, media marketing class set

INDEPENDENCE — A free class on the power of email marketing and social media will be at the Independence Public Library from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday.

The class is filled with real-life examples of campaigns that work. Participants will learn the difference between email and email marketing, see a newsletter announcement being created live, how to post news on a social media channel and boost the number of people who see the message. Bring dinner.

The library is at 175 Monmouth St., Independence.

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