



Contributed photo

Harrison Ranch's garden area is packed with rows of lush, green produce.

FOOD

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The produce is not "organic," Jeannette said, but growing as naturally as possible.

Scott takes canning orders, and offers a variety of gift basket options, too.

Got eggs on the shopping list or need a holiday turkey? The Harrisons also raise chickens and turkeys. On the latter, Scott advises people to call well in advance – early springtime – to get their request in before he places the order.

The Harrisons have been mainstays at the Farmers Market since its start six years ago, and Scott sold produce privately for a few years prior to that.

But the family has been tilling and growing on their ranch for over 35 years.

Homer and Jeannette put down roots here when they moved with their sons from Columbia County in 1979.

In 1996, after their sons had grown up and moved away, they downsized and sold part of the ranch. Scott, who was active in 4-H while younger, returned in 2009 to help with chores and manage



The Eagle/Cheryl Hoefler

The spacious high tunnel offers shelter and an extended season for some crops like tomatoes, bell peppers and eggplant.

the ranch.

Their older son is a long-haul trucker, who helps out at the ranch, too, whenever he returns home.

Scott's favorite aspect of the Farmers Markets is the opportunity to get fresh produce to the public at a reasonable price. He also enjoys comments from people, many who come from outside the area.

One of the most frequent positive responses from shoppers is about being able to get food that "you can actually taste."

Contact Harrison Ranch by mail at P.O. Box 551, Mt. Vernon, OR 97865, or by phone, 541-932-4718, for Homer and Jeannette, or 541-733-8778, for Scott.

MV seeks volunteers

Blue Mountain Eagle

MT. VERNON – The City of Mt. Vernon is seeking town residents to help with a door-to-door survey.

The volunteers need to be

available all day Friday, Oct. 23, for training and surveying, and possibly some evenings and weekends.

Those interested should call City Hall at 541-932-4688.

Proposals sought for forest projects

By Blue Mountain Eagle

The Malheur, Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests are seeking project proposals to be funded under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

The act was reauthorized for two more years by Congress.

The federal legislation encourages individuals, nonprofit organizations, local governments, and others to propose projects that restore watersheds, decommission or maintain roads, control noxious weeds, or otherwise improve the condition of the forest.

Proposed projects do not need to be implemented on Forest Service lands, but must show a benefit to national forest resources.

Project proposals for fiscal year 2016 funding are due electronically by November 16. Application forms, instructions, and submission guidelines can be found online at www.fs.usda.gov/main/wallowa-whitman/working-together/advisorycommittees.

Another round of applications for project proposals will be reviewed in 2017.

Eligible project proposals submitted to the Malheur, Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests will be reviewed by the Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee.

The committee will provide forest supervisors with a list of projects recommended for funding.

Burglar placed on home arrest for medical reasons

By Kyle Spurr
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant County Sheriff's Office has decided to place inmate Thomas E. Pfeifer on house arrest due to medical reasons, rather than have him serve his 60-day jail sentence.

Pfeifer, 46, of John Day, was arrested in July for first-degree burglary and first-degree criminal trespass for breaking into a home near Canyon Creek. He pleaded guilty to the charges last week and was sentenced to 60 days in jail, followed by three years of supervised probation.

Due to his ongoing medical needs, Sheriff Glenn Palmer and Jail Manager



Thomas E. Pfeifer

Sgt. Josh Wolf implemented the alternative incarceration plan. Pfeifer underwent surgery for colon cancer in early April, and has since undergone several surgeries because of complications from the cancer. He has undergone treatment at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland.

"It's a very rare event that I let anyone out of jail," Palmer said. "This is one of those rare opportunities. We can try this for a while, and if this does not work he is going back to jail."

Pfeifer has complied with

a previous release agreement while awaiting sentencing. He was placed on a conditional third-party release, released from custody and given a court appearance Aug. 5. He made that court appearance and his release continued.

"Pfeifer was not a problem during the time he was released in August to the time of sentencing, which was roughly two months," Wolf said.

While on house arrest, Pfeifer is not to be out in the community unless he seeks prior approval from the Sheriff's Office and confirms medical appointments with jail staff.

He is required to make daily phone calls to the jail. Staff will also make periodic phone

calls and unannounced home visits to ensure compliance. Any unanswered phone calls or home visits and the release will be revoked.

"There comes a time when we need to show a little compassion and take into consideration that the staff and resources of the facility cannot meet the need of the inmate, who requires ongoing serious medical treatment," Palmer said.

Local law enforcement have been alerted to the alternative plan. If Pfeifer is found out of compliance, he would face an additional charge of third-degree escape.

If community members see a violation of the agreement, they are asked to contact the jail at 541-575-1134.

FS plans fall prescribed burns

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Malheur National Forest is preparing for fall prescribed burns over the next few months, as weather allows.

Designated areas planned for treatment are:

Blue Mountain Ranger District

- Crawford Unit, Crawford Creek area near the east end of State Route 7.
- 18 Road Corridor.
- Balance Unit, near Balance Lake along the Middle Fork of the John Day River.

Prairie City Ranger District

- Knox Unit, southeast portion of the PCRD.
- 16 Road Corridor.

Emigrant Creek Ranger District

- George Unit, west of the 45 road, Twin Springs Reservoir and Gravelly Flat areas.
- Whistle Unit by Delintment Lake.

Maps of the burn units and updates are available at Malheur National Forest offices.

For more information on prescribed burning, call 541-575-3000. To report a wildlife, call the John Day Interagency Dispatch Center at 541-575-1321.

A HUNTER'S SLEEPING TIP



The Eagle/Cheryl Hoefler

Mountain View Mini Mart in Prairie City shares advice on getting to sleep during hunting season.



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Meet our latest commitment to your health.

Heather Hansen, MD
St. Charles Rheumatology

St. Charles Medical Group is pleased to welcome Heather Hansen, MD, to our team of providers.

Board certified in both rheumatology and internal medicine, Dr. Hansen attended medical school at Wake Forest University and the University of New Mexico. She completed her residency at the University of New Mexico and her rheumatology fellowship at the University of Arizona. In addition to general rheumatology, Dr Hansen's interests include rheumatoid arthritis, Sjögren's syndrome and lupus. Dr. Hansen and her active family love to ski, cycle, play soccer and paddle board with their dog, Summit. She is also fluent in Spanish.

The St. Charles Rheumatology clinic offers comprehensive services for patients with a variety of rheumatology-related diagnoses. To schedule an appointment, call **541-706-7735**.

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