

Allison Blair chosen as ODF's John Day Unit forester

Blue Mountain Eagle

Allison Blair has been selected as the John Day Unit forester for Oregon Department of Forestry's Central Oregon District.

Blair has been serving as the interim unit forester since June of 2019 and will officially begin her new role starting May 1, according to an ODF press release.

The John Day Unit forester is responsible for managing fire protection on nearly 1.5 million acres of forest and rangeland, in addition to managing staff responsible for administering Oregon's Forest Practices Act and forestry technical assistance for landowners in Grant, Gilliam, Wheeler, Morrow and Harney counties.

In Blair's more than 20-year career with ODF, she has served as a seasonal firefighter, dispatcher, wild-



Contributed photo

Allison Blair is the John Day Unit forester for Oregon Department of Forestry's Central Oregon District.

land fire supervisor and most recently as the community wildfire forester for ODF's West Oregon District prior to her interim role as the John Day Unit forester. Her experiences on the fireline, managing fire crews and working with landowners and the public provide her a strong foundation as she fills this role permanently. Throughout her career, Blair has partic-

ipated in the statewide wildfire response effort and currently has qualifications as a strike team leader, task force leader and is a division supervisor trainee.

"I am honored to have been selected to continue as the John Day Unit forester and become a permanent part of ODF's Central Oregon District," said Blair, expressing her enthusiasm

for beginning this new role. "I have always respected the fire program in Eastern Oregon, so I was excited for the opportunity to temporarily fill the position last summer. I enjoyed the challenges and successes and building relationships with landowners and the community."

Previous John Day Unit Forester Ryan Miller is now Central Oregon District's federal forests restoration coordinator working with federal land managers to increase pace, scale and quality of restoration work on federal forest lands in central Oregon.

ODF's Central Oregon District continues to serve landowners and the public as an essential service for Oregonians. For additional information on ODF's Central Oregon District, including contact information and unit offices, visit odfcentraloregon.com.



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The Mt. Vernon Museum will host a grand opening June 6.

Museum to host grand opening June 6

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Mt. Vernon Museum will host a grand opening from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday June 6 in the old city hall building at 199 W. Main St., Mt. Vernon. The museum features school and town history.

OBITUARIES

Harley 'Jack' Askew

Harley "Jack" Askew, 60, of Mt. Vernon passed away on May 29 at his residence. Service details will be announced soon. Arrangements have been entrusted to Driskill Memorial Chapel. To leave an online condolence, visit driskillmemorial-chapel.com.

Lawrence 'Larry' Goings

March 30, 1964 — May 2, 2020

Lawrence "Larry" Goings, son of Shirley Hale (Walls) and Albert Goings, passed away unexpectedly in a car accident in John Day, Oregon, on May 2, 2020. A celebration of life will take place once the COVID-19 mandates are lifted.

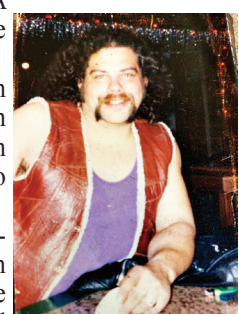
He was born on March 30, 1964, in McMinnville, Oregon. He grew up in McMinnville, where he met his high school sweetheart, Karen. They had two children, Cody and Amber.

Larry married his love, Mary Schrammen, on May 12, 1994. The two of them spent their years together exploring the northwest; living in Oregon, Idaho and Washington, but the valley was always their home. Through their journey together, he touched many lives and made lifelong friends. Larry was a mountain man through and through. He was passionate about hunting, fishing and his grandsons — he sure knew how to make them laugh. He was larger than life. Larry will be deeply missed by all who loved and cared for him.

Larry is survived by wife Mary Goings; daughter Amber Goings; son Cody Goings (Jenna); brother James Goings (Liz); sister Maryann Goings; grandsons Jayden, Ethan, Landon, Grayson and TJ.

He is preceded in death by his mother Shirley and father Albert.

Thank you to all who have offered kind words, love and support during such a difficult time. Online condolences can be shared at tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.



Grant Union Basketball head coach recovering after ATV accident

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union basketball coach RC Huerta was seriously injured in an ATV accident over the weekend and was airlifted to St. Alphonsus Hospital in Bend.



RC Huerta

Jesse Huerta, his wife, said he broke his collarbone, a couple of bones in his skull and ended up with blood clots that were surgically removed over the weekend.

Jesse said the doctor's planned to move RC out of the intensive care unit Tuesday and said that he could tentatively be released from the hospital on Wednesday.

She said his release is dependent on his progress and ability to carry out day-to-day activities.

Jesse said she has been "inundated" with calls and text messages of support and concern from several of coach Huerta's players and community members.

"It seems like the whole community of John Day is really concerned, and that's heartwarming," she said. "Every single person who RC knows loves him."

A donation fund has been setup online at <https://gf.me/u/x55cw8>.

OTEC announces board election results

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative held its first-ever virtual annual meeting on May 30 at OTEC's Baker City Headquarters. Board President Charlene Chase opened the meeting, then turned it over to OTEC's attorney Ron Williams, who announced the election results for three board of directors positions.

For Position 1, Union County, George Galloway received 2,388 votes, and Cory Miller received 1,956 votes.

For Position 2, Baker County, Aletha Bonebrake received 2,965 votes, and Tamyra Keller received 1,486 votes.

For Position 3, Harney County, Robert Cargill received 2,443 votes, and Laurie Draper received 2,048 votes.

OTEC would like to congratulate the board members who were elected and would also like to thank all the candidates for their hard work and interest in their communities and the cooperative. OTEC plans to hold its 2021 annual meeting in Baker City.

Free use firewood authorizations expire June 1

Blue Mountain Eagle

Starting June 1, all free use firewood authorizations will expire on the Malheur National Forest.

Visitors are able to purchase personal use firewood permits at each of the Malheur National Forest offices. Personal use firewood permits are intended to be used for the collection of firewood, not other forest products.

The price remains \$5 per cord, with a four-cord minimum purchase. The personal use firewood program allows for a maximum of 16 cords per household, per year. Post and pole permits are available for the harvesting of post and poles in forest designated locations. The minimum purchase price of a post and pole permit is \$20.

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Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	73/53
Wednesday	80/47
Thursday	89/50
Friday	90/56
Saturday	92/55
Sunday	70/51
Monday	73/49

24/7 FORECAST

AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY

162.500 MHz

WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 3 - 9

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Sunny	Sunny	Chance of thunderstorms	Showers likely	Showers likely	Chance of showers	Mostly cloudy
78	76	85	65	58	60	64
48	52	50	42	38	39	37