

# ATV highway access route proposed for Prairie City

Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY — The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is taking public comment on a proposal to allow all-terrain vehicles to use a half-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 26 in Prairie City.

The proposed ATV highway access route designation would permit ATVs on the highway from approximately Dixie Creek to Northeast Buchanan Street. If designated, the segment would provide ATV access to local businesses as well as Malheur National Forest lands to the north and south.

The department's All-Terrain Vehicle Highway Access Routes Advisory Committee is soliciting public comments about the proposed access route. Comments may be submitted through Nov. 10 via email to [ATV.highway@oregon.gov](mailto:ATV.highway@oregon.gov).

A public conference call/webinar is scheduled for 6 to 7 p.m. Nov. 8 and will feature an overview of the proposed access route and more information about the ATV highway access routes program.

The public is invited to listen to the call at 253-215-8782 or view the presentation on Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83897308456?pwd=NF-NlcVhLc1ZwWmtvT2ZQbzN-6QWISZz09>.

The Zoom webinar ID is 838 9730 8456, and the passcode is 395989.

Individuals who need special accommodations should contact Ian Caldwell, OPRD grants and community programs representative, at 541-410-5512 or [ian.caldwell@oregon.gov](mailto:ian.caldwell@oregon.gov).

# Grant School District superintendent announces his retirement plans

By STEVEN MITCHELL  
Blue Mountain Eagle

CANYON CITY — Grant School District No. 3 will be getting a new superintendent next year.

On Wednesday, Oct. 20, Grant School Superintendent Bret Uptmor told the Eagle he would retire at the end of the 2021-22 school year.

Uptmor said he was considering working through next year but said he felt that he was leaving the district in a good place for the next superintendent to come in.

Pointing to a seismic



**Bret Uptmor**

grant that the district will implement this year and the strategic plan that will take effect the following year, Uptmor said his successor will have an excellent opportunity to move forward fast without any interruptions.

Uptmor said he and the Grant School Board switched to a one-year contract last year and that he is not leaving the district on bad terms.

"They're not getting rid of me," Uptmor said. "At some point, you always have to find another superintendent, and this happens to be one of those times that the Grant School District will be doing that."

Uptmor said the board has brought in a search consultant to help find his replacement.

## GRANT UNION STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



**12th grade**  
**Isaiah Hagopian**  
Grandmother: Starr Hagopian



**11th grade**  
**Jasmine Bryers**  
Parent: Lisa Hunter-Kennedy



**10th grade**  
**Wyatt Suchorski**  
Parents: Wayne and Jessica Suchorski



**Ninth grade**  
**Cashton Wheeler**  
Parents: Nickie and Vance Poe



**Eighth grade**  
**Emmalyn Northway**  
Parents: Chris and Shanna Northway



**Seventh grade**  
**Allyson Moore**  
Parents: Lucas and Elisa Moore

## REMEMBERING JOHN HARPER



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle

An American flag hangs from a Grant County vehicle at the Grant County Fairgrounds on Thursday, Oct. 21, to remember county road worker John Harper, who died earlier this month.



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## Scholarship offered for agriculture students

Blue Mountain Eagle

SENECA — Applications are being accepted for the Dennis Reynolds Memorial Scholarship.

Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded annually to students who were raised in Grant County and are pursuing a degree or a trade related to agriculture at a university, college, junior college or trade school.

Candidates must have been active members of 4-H or FFA for at least four years in Grant County and must submit a letter of recommendation

from a 4-H leader or FFA teacher.

Applicants must submit a 300-word essay describing their aspirations for an agricultural career, what led them to select this field and how they will give back to 4-H, FFA or their community in the future.

Applications are due by Dec. 1. Send three copies to Dennis Reynolds Memorial Scholarship c/o Grant County Family Heritage Foundation, Box 6, Seneca, OR 97873.

For additional information, call Julie Reynolds at 541-450-2096.

## OBITUARIES

### Gary Pryce

April 13, 1935 — Oct. 8, 2021

Gary Pryce, age 86, of Prairie City passed away Oct. 8, 2021, in Boise, Idaho. A memorial service will be planned for a date in June of 2022. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit [www.driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://www.driskillmemorialchapel.com).

### Michael D. Powell

Michael D. Powell, age 82, of John Day passed away on Oct. 20, 2021, at Luna Hospice and Assisted Living in Nampa, Idaho. A memorial service will be planned and announced sometime in the spring of 2022. To light a candle in Mike's memory or to offer online condolences to his family, please visit [www.driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://www.driskillmemorialchapel.com).

### Robert G. Coombs

Dec. 11, 1945 — Oct. 13, 2021

Woke up in glory. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit [www.driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://www.driskillmemorialchapel.com).

### Paul William Hudson

July 8, 1946 — Oct. 6, 2021

Paul was born on July 8, 1946, to Bill and Cleo Guyll Hudson of John Day. He grew up and attended school in John Day. After graduating from high school, Paul joined the United States Air Force. He served for four years and was a crew chief for F-4 fighter jets during the Vietnam War. He worked for Ray Schoppert Logging for several years and went to work as a machinist for Boeing in 1988 until he retired in 2004.

Paul passed away from complications of diabetes, surrounded by family.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Pat (Kozera); brother Doug (Judy) of John Day; sons Travis Willhite, Tyler Hudson of Idaho, and Tracy Hudson of Estacada; and daughters Stephanie (Richard) Burress and Alyssa (Dustin) Carter.

At his request, there will be no service.



### Jeanne Margaret Duncan Secord

June 20, 1926 — October 18, 2021

Funeral services for Jeanne Margaret Duncan Secord were held Saturday, Oct. 23, at Mission Christian Fellowship, 525 N.W. Warrenton Drive, Warrenton. Viewing was held from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., following the service. She will be laid to rest beside her husband, Rev. Darwin Secord (1921-2010), this week in the Byron, Michigan, community cemetery.

Jeanne and Darwin pastored the Grant County, Oregon, Methodist parish from 1967 to 1973, and several of her children are graduates of Grant Union High School. After serving several other parishes, she and Darwin retired to Prairie City beginning in 1983, and Jeanne then spent nearly 25 years contributing her many talents and skills to the community and Grant County. As a passionate genealogist, she authored nine books, among them "Pioneer Cemeteries of Grant County, Oregon," which documents all known pioneer cemeteries in the county. Besides being an active partner in her husband's ministries for 65 years, she raised eight children, was a self-taught organist/pianist, a skilled crafter of quilting, sewing, crocheting and knitting. She was an avid rockhound, a singer in many choral groups, and a master gardener of necessity to feed her family. As a young adult she worked in a Detroit wartime factory making airplane valve parts, attended five colleges, and was a member of the Delta Delta Delta fraternity. She and Darwin Secord were married on Aug. 31, 1945, began their married life with a honeymoon on a Harley with a sidecar, and then shared 65 years together. Besides her eight children, she had 16 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren. May she now rest in eternal peace.



#### About Obituaries

News obituaries of 300 words or less are a free service of the Blue Mountain Eagle. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Obituaries submitted to the Eagle with incorrect information may be corrected and republished as paid memorials. Obituaries longer than 300 words may be published as paid memorials. Send obituaries by email, [office@bmeagle.com](mailto:office@bmeagle.com); fax, 541-575-1244; or mail, 195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. For more information, or to inquire about a paid memorial, call 541-575-0710.

**"Christmas Ceramics" Paint Party**  
Thursday, November 04,  
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**"Hanging with the Gnomies" Paint Party**  
Friday, November 12, 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**Ceramic Truck with Tree**  
Saturday, November 13,  
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Email us: [paintedskycenter@gmail.com](mailto:paintedskycenter@gmail.com)  
Call us: 541-575-1335. Follow us on Facebook  
Visit us: [www.paintedskycenter.com](http://www.paintedskycenter.com)  
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### Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Wednesday .....	61/45
Thursday .....	70/52
Friday .....	56/41
Saturday .....	48/42
Sunday .....	53/40
Monday .....	50/38
Tuesday .....	49/40

#### 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 OCT. 27-NOV. 2

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy	Partly cloudy
<b>56</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>48</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>