

## Spanish classes celebrates Dia de los Muertos at HHS



Students in Petra Payne's Spanish class at Heppner High School recently worked on projects in celebration of the Mexican holiday Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead).

## NOAA issues monthly climate summary for Heppner

According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Heppner averaged slightly colder than normal during the month of October.

The average temperature was 50.1 degrees which was 1.3 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged 61.6 degrees, which was 2.7 degrees below normal. The highest was 72 degrees on the October 23. Low temperatures averaged 38.6 degrees, which was 0.1 degrees above normal. The lowest was 25 degrees, on the October 26.

There were 4 days with the low temperature below 32 degrees.

Precipitation totaled 2.26 inches during October, which was 1.19 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation -at least .01 inch- was received on 13 days with the heaviest, 0.55 inches reported on the 19th.

The outlook for November from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner during November are 50.1 degrees and normal lows are 32.5 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 1.80 inches.

The National Weather Service is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department.

## Nativities display to be held in Boardman in December

North Morrow Community Foundation is sponsoring "No Room at the Inn," an art show of Nativities.

Community residents are invited to share their nativities for a free public viewing Saturday, December 8, and Sunday, December 9.

"No Room at the Inn" will take place December 7-9 at the Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman.

Those interested in sharing a nativity are asked to complete a registration form by November 29. Registered exhibitors will set up their own nativity display on Thursday, December 6. No exhibits will be accepted the day of the event.

Public viewing will be from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 8; and 1-3:30 p.m., Sunday, December 9. Admission is free, and a donation of a non-perishable food item for the Community Food Baskets would be appreciated.

## Losacco graduates from basic combat training

Army National Guard Pvt. Mindy A. Losacco has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and

Plan to share one or more of your family nativity scenes. "We hope to have nativities from many countries and cultures," said Mary Lou Daltoso, event chairperson.

There will also be a gala reception and preview of exhibits on Friday evening, December 7. Rebecca Jepsen, harpist will perform music of the season, and Sharon's Sweet Treats of Hermiston will cater the reception.

"Please include a visit to 'No Room at the Inn,' in your holiday activities. Your family will thank you," said a spokesperson. Take Interstate 84 to Boardman interchange #164, Main Street exit south to City Center Blvd, West on City Center to the Senior Center on Tatone Street.

For a registration form, or reception tickets, contact Mary Lou Daltoso, Boardman, 541-481-4761; or Rose Sebastian, Irrigon, 541-922-2344.

ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

She is the daughter of Dwayne Losacco of Pilot Rock, and niece of Larry Woodall of Boardman.

Losacco is a student at Pilot Rock High School.

## Heppner Scarecrow competition winners announced



Commercial: Murray Drugs



Residential: Willow Creek Assisted Living



School: Heppner Day Care



Honorable mention goes to Michael Reed Breidenbach (125 S. Chase St.)

## Hunters reminded to use ATVs responsibly

So far this hunting season, nine hunters have been cited for driving an ATV with a loaded weapon, a practice which besides being unlawful is extremely dangerous. Ten have been cited for driving ATVs in closed or prohibited roads. Another hunter was cited for driving an ATV in violation of posted restrictions meant to protect wildlife habitat.

A total of 44 hunters have been cited for unlawful ATV use this year. In 2006, Oregon State Police cited 125 people for ATV violations and warned over 1,500.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon State Police, and Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation are reminding hunters to use ATVs responsibly. The most common violations are those mentioned above: driving with a loaded weapon; driving on prohibited areas such as closed roads, public roads/highways or railroad tracks; and driving in violation of posted restrictions meant to protect wildlife habitat.

"ATVs can be a great tool in the outdoors, but it's important to use them in a way that doesn't harm fish and wildlife," says ODFW Hunter Education Coordinator Chris Willard. "Hunters also need to operate their ATVs in a way that is respectful of others' outdoor experience."

"The responsible use of ATVs by hunters and non-hunters alike is critical to keeping existing trails open for future recreation," noted Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Grants Division Manager Wayne

Rawlins. "Oregon State Police are concerned about unlawful ATV use and will cite individuals that violate the law," added OSP Lieutenant Dave Cleary. Penalties can vary from \$90 to \$1,250.

Here are some guidelines ATV users should follow:

-Stay on existing trails and roads. Don't go off trails to scout for or retrieve game, as doing so can harm wildlife habitat or create trails where they shouldn't be. Carry harvested game by hand to a road or trail and then use your ATV the rest of the way.

-Respect closed roads and trails. ATV operators are advised to obtain maps and check with land managers about road closures to get the most accurate information.

-Be mindful that operating an ATV in wet conditions can damage sensitive fish and wildlife habitat. Avoid operating an ATV in wetlands, streams, and shorelines.

-Limit ATV use in and around campgrounds. Be respectful of other campers' desire for quiet and minimal disruption.

-Make sure kids driving ATVs are being supervised by an adult and drive carefully, especially on uphill or uneven ground where many rollover accidents occur.

Hunters that use ATVs are reminded of new laws coming into effect Jan. 1, 2008. Anyone under the age of 16 operating an ATV will be required to be supervised by an adult over the age of 18. Also, anyone

under the age of 18 will need to wear a helmet and have the chin strap fastened.

Beginning in 2009, all youth under the age of 16 will also be required to have an operator's permit to use an ATV. The education for the operator's permit will be administered through the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation and is expected to be online beginning in 2009.

For more information on how to use ATVs responsibly, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/ATV/index.shtml> or <http://www.treadlightly.org/>

## ODFW's Access and Habitat Program awards Blue Mountains Elk Initiative \$100,000 grant for elk habitat projects

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Access and Habitat Program has awarded the Blue Mountains Elk Initiative a \$100,000 grant to fund projects that improve elk management on private lands in the Blue Mountains region of northeast Oregon.

The A&H grant funds are dedicated for projects on private lands because private lands make up about half of the area covered by BMEI and contain a substantial amount of elk habitat.

Continued next column

Typical elk habitat projects include grazing management programs, controlled burns, fencing projects, juniper management and invasive non-native plant control.

Created in 1990, the Blue Mountains Elk Initiative is a cooperative effort composed of federal, state, local, tribal and private agencies and organizations, including ODFW. BMEI addresses elk management issues in Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Baker, Grant, Morrow, Crook, Harney and Malheur counties.

The Blue Mountains' population of about 55,000 elk is among the largest populations of Rocky Mountain elk in the world.

Over the past 15 years, BMEI has coordinated more than 300 projects and invested over \$6 million to improve habitat on two million acres of land.

The A&H Program is funded by a \$2 surcharge on hunting licenses. Funds raised by the program are distributed through grants to individual and corporate landowners, conservation organizations and others for cooperative wildlife habitat improvement and hunter access projects throughout the state.

For additional information on ODFW's role in the Blue Mountains Elk Initiative contact Mark Henjum at 541-663-6768.

For information on the A&H Program call program coordinator Matt Keenan at 503-947-6087 or visit the Web site at [www.dfw.state.or.us/AH/](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/AH/).

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