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Harrison set to retire from BEO

By Autumn Morgan

Sharon Harrison has been in the banking business for many years, but on Friday, May 30, she will retire from her position as bank manager and assistant vice president of the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner.

In 1964 Harrison began her banking career with First National Bank in Heppner. She worked there until 1969. In 1969 she decided to stay at home and raise a family and work on the ranch. She raised three boys and one girl and also drove a wheat truck.

In 1986 Harrison decided she wanted to get back into the banking business. She went back to work at First National Bank and stepped right back into her old job. Just six months after her return, the bank changed hands and became First Interstate Bank. The bank later became Wells Fargo, then Klamath First Bank, and finally the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Sharon Harrison

Harrison is looking forward to her retirement. She wants to be able to spend more time with family and friends. She is also looking forward to spending more time on her hobbies, quilting and painting. She also would like to do some traveling, depending on the price of gasoline.

"I will miss my co-workers," said Harrison. "The people you work with become your family. I will also miss the customers that come in." Harrison said that she will probably be doing some volunteer work around the community.

A retirement reception for Sharon Harrison will be held in the lobby of the Heppner branch of the Bank of Eastern Oregon on Friday, May 30, from 1-3 p.m. The community is welcome to attend.

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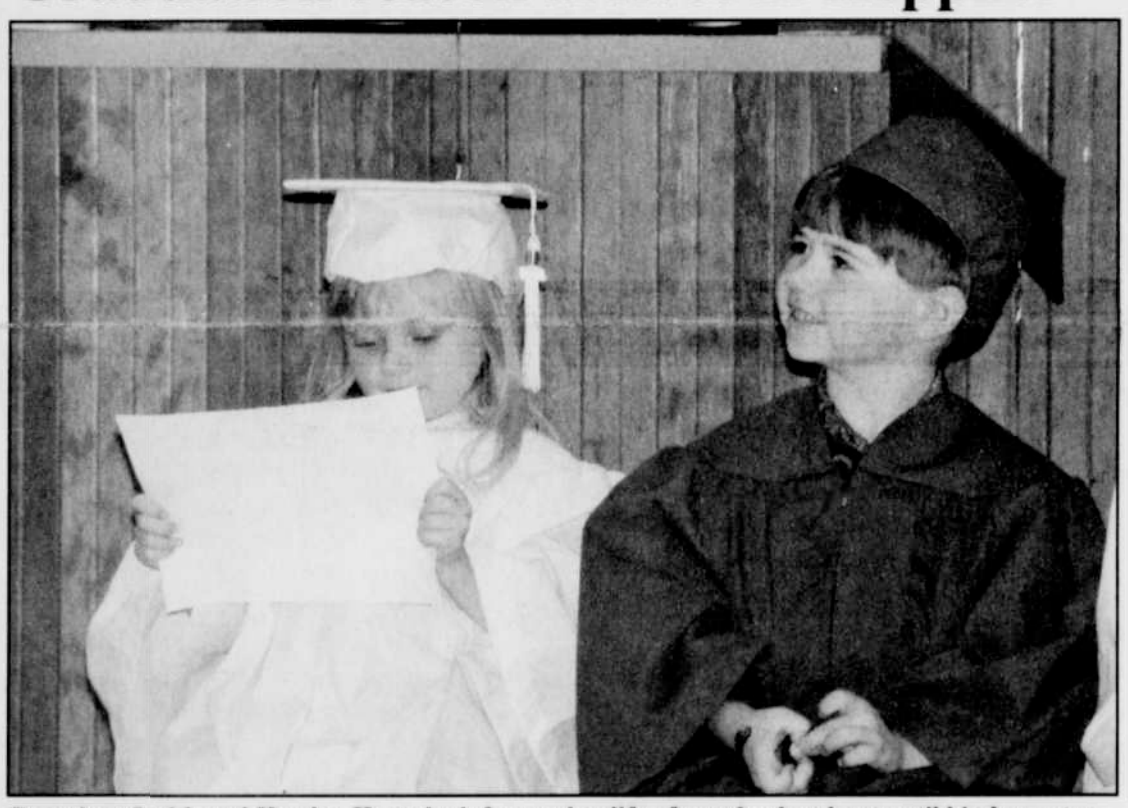
Graduation season arrives in Heppner



Genevieve Smith and Hayden Hyatt look forward to life after school, at least until kindergarten begins. Heppner Preschool held their four year old graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 22.

Pictured left to right are teacher Linsey Mitchell, Mikel Jaca, Kenneth Troxell, Sydney Wilson, Hunter Greenup, Genevieve Smith, Jackson Lehman, Hayden Hyatt and teacher Merry Brannon. –*Photos by April Sykes*

Weed Advisory/Morrow SWCD Board meeting to be held

A Morrow SWCD board and quarterly Weed Advisory board meeting will be held Tuesday, Jun 3, at 12:30 p.m. at the Ag Service building in Heppner.

Agenda items include, minutes of the April/May meetings, treasurer's report, written staff report, 08-09 annual work plan, access and habitat update, weed supervisor report, and partner agency reports.

Meetings of the Morrow SWCD are open to the public. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Janet Greenup, 541-676-5452 ext.109.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

Ione senior class dedicates memorial garden

Top Photo: Garden Dedication chairman, Abby Arnspiger, opens the ceremony as the senior class dedicates its class project to the school and community. Bottom Photo: Members of the senior class listen to remembrances by Memorial Garden honorees. *–Contributed Photos*

The senior class completed their senior project with a ribbon cutting ceremony for their Memorial Garden. The Memorial Garden was a group project that began this past fall in hopes of contributing to our school and community in a way that would be meaningful. Stormy Kendrick was the inspiration for this venture. Each rose is being dedicated to an individual who has passed away while teaching or attending Ione schools.

In the course of planning and creating the memorial garden, the 2008 senior class of Ione High School spent many hours developing the requirements of inductees into the garden, fund raising for bronze plaques and cooperating with the school board and education foundation in the preparation stages. The class began with a plan, wrote a grant and approached the education foundation for additional funds, hosted a carwash to earn more funds, coordinated the delivery of red rock and roses and ordered the bronze markers.

"It was a tremendous effort by my class," said senior Abby Arnspiger, chairman of the garden project. "We really felt like we contributed to our school and our community."

The garden dedication ceremony was attended my 90 people with the farthest traveling from Salt Lake City, UT to attend the service.

The following individuals were inducted as honorees; Mancell Townsend (1945-1963), Beth Slottee (1973-1996), Stormy Kendrick (1991-2007), Jason Halvorsen (1977-1994), Diana Kincaid (1936-2001), and Amber Lynch (1982-1999).

The following individuals provided assistance and donations: Extrom Nursery, Westwinds Nursery, Ryan Rudolf, Erin Heideman, Donna Rietmann, Joe Vandever, Ione Education Foundation, Ione School Board and Ione School District.

Four new members appointed to Morrow County Planning Commission

The Morrow County planning commission found four people to replace those members who recently resigned rather than comply with the recently enacted ethics law from the state of Oregon.

The Morrow County Court appointed Tucker Rice of Ione, Kellye Finch of Boardman, Justin Nelson of Lexington and Mifflin "Miff" Devin of Ione to fill the vacated positions. The members attended their first meeting May 20. There is still one more position to be filled.

The new ethics law requires volunteers to fill out quarterly forms revealing the names of spouses and relatives, people owed money and other information. Failure to complete and file the form subjects the volunteer to a fine up to $5,000. Many county planning commission and city council members in Morrow County and throughout the small communities of Oregon resigned rather than comply with what they said was an unduly intrusive law.

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