

CBEC accepts nominations

Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative has announced that nominations are open for three director's positions, including three-year terms for zones 3 and 4 and a one-year term for Zone 1.

Zone 1 is the territory served by the cooperative lying west of the Morrow-Gilliam County line and north of the township line dividing Townships 4 South and 5 South, excluding the area within the incorporated city limits of Condon, OR.

Zone 3 is the territory served lying east of range line between Range 24 East and Range 25 East, and north of the township line between Township 2 South and Township 3 South, excluding the area within the incorporated city limits of Heppner.

Zone 4 is the territory served lying west of the

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Say hello to the Morrow County Fair



Young farm hand Keller Sweeney waves to the crowd as he sits with mother Stefanie Sweeney in a Case IH Quadtrac during the 2016 fair and rodeo parade. The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo roll into town again next week, with exhibits opening to the public Aug. 16. See more details on special events and attractions in this week's special fair insert in the G-T. -File photo

aid from Heppner Rural Fire. Many local farmers and ranchers also responded to assist.

"The quick response and actions of those responding to the fast-moving grass fire kept the fire damage to approximately three miles, from mp 20-23," said Melissa Ross, MCSO Administrative Lieutenant, in a statement.

Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police and Oregon Department of Transportation also responded for traffic control. Highway 74 was

closed to all but emergency traffic for a time due to low visibility caused by the smoke. A power pole caught fire, and a resident near mp 22 advised his power was out. Columbia Basin Electric responded with a crew to the scene to restore power.

Volunteers connected with Lone Fire provided 40 meals and water to the crews. At 8:57 p.m. the fire was determined to be extinguished.

"Thanks to the expertise and hard work of our local and neighboring fire fighters, farmers and ranchers there was no loss of life, homes or structures, due to this wildland grass fire," said Ross.

Eclipse viewing at Willow Creek Dam

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is partnering with the City of Heppner to open the Willow Creek Dam to the public on Aug. 21 from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for a total solar eclipse viewing event.

Visitors are welcome to bring a chair and sit within designated areas on the dam to enjoy this rare solar eclipse at 99 percent totality. Solar eclipse viewing glasses will be available at no charge for the first 250 visitors.

Parking will be available in the ball field parking lot; a shuttle will take visitors from the parking lot to the dam beginning at

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Boardman man jailed on sex abuse charges

Aug. 4, Boardman PD arrested Boardman man Kenneth James Sicard, 57, on several sex-related charges. According to the East Oregonian, the three juvenile female victims were between 8 and 12 years old. Most of the incidents were alleged to have occurred in April of this year.

Sicard is currently being held at Umatilla County Jail on charges of encouraging child sex abuse II, possession of materials depicting sexually explicit conduct of a child I, rape I, rape II, sodomy I, sodomy II, unlawful sexual penetration I, unlawful sexual penetration II and six counts of sexual abuse I.

Total bail is set at \$345,000.

Sicard has been the subject of 11 previous state criminal prosecutions in

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Kenneth James Sicard

2017 Chronicles dedicated to the Carlsons



Louis and Betty Carlson

The 2017 issue of The Morrow County Chronicles is dedicated to Louis and Betty Carlson, two individuals who have devoted

uncountable hours to the publication that strives to preserve the history of our county. Though already busy with family, business,

and community obligations, the Carlsons have found time to suggest topics, research topics, write articles, enlist other writers, promote the sales of the Chronicles and organize volunteers for the kick-off-sales week at the county fair.

Louis is the youngest son of Leonard and Julia Carlson, second-generation Century-Farm owners near Ione. Betty is the middle of three children of local ranchers John and Dorris Graves. Since she attended school in Heppner and he attended in Ione, they did not know much of each

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County to seek interim administrator

By David Sykes

The Morrow County Commissioners have decided to hire an interim administrator during the search for a replacement for current administrator Jerry Sorte, who has resigned. The commission had considered forgoing an interim and have one of the commissioners take on the

job until it was filled, but decided against that option at its Aug. 28 meeting.

At an early July 28 special meeting commissioner Don Russell had said he may be inclined to take on the job if it were for only three or four months. Russell said last week, however, that his schedule was too full and he did not see how

any of the commissioners would be able to fill in and do an adequate job.

"I don't see how a county commissioner doing the job could be here for 40

New farm store offers grass-fed meat



Jake and Lara Neiffer, with their sons, Josh and Luke, stand ready to welcome visitors to their new farm store outside of Lexington. The store opened last week and offers a variety of frozen USDA/ODA inspected pork, beef and chicken from the Neiffer ranch, which the couple works with parents Duane and Linda Neiffer. The store at 64466 Clarks Canyon Rd. is a little off the beaten path, but Lara Neiffer says it was a logical outreach for the family. "We've done farmer's markets and buying clubs for the last few years," she said. "This is our permanent farmer's market." Visitors can stop by Mondays and Thursday 1-7 p.m. or contact 541-371-7264 or grassfedfamily@gmail.com for more information. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

hours a week and supervise things," he said. "I am in favor of an interim."

The other commissioners agreed and instructed human resource director

Karen Wolff to begin the job search.

To aid in the search a recruitment committee was

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Health advisory issued for Willow Creek Reservoir

High blue-green algae and toxins found in Morrow County lake

The Oregon Health Authority issued a health advisory Monday for Willow Creek Reservoir.

Water monitoring has confirmed the presence of blue-green algae and the

toxins they produce in the reservoir. These toxin concentrations can be harmful to humans and animals.

People should always avoid areas with visible scum that looks foamy,

slimy, thick like paint, pea-green, blue green or brownish red. Swimming and high-speed water activities such as water skiing

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