

School begins Aug. 28

Time to polish up those apples, school will begin Aug. 28 for both Heppner and Ione schools.

All-'80s class reunion planned in Heppner

It's the Heppner High School Class of '87's 30th anniversary, and the class is inviting all classes from the 1980s to join in a reunion. The celebration will happen at the Heppner Elks Lodge on Saturday, Aug. 19, at 5 p.m. The Elks will provide a taco bar for purchase, and family members are invited for the dinner. Those attending are asked to RSVP on the All-80s Class Reunion Facebook page or to Missy Cutsforth at 541-989-8104 to provide a head count for dinner.

A table will be available for people who would like to bring pictures to share.

Free haircuts for students next week

Local hair stylists are offering free haircuts for all students Aug. 24 from 3-8 p.m. at Heppner Elementary. For more information, contact Michelle McCurry, 541-256-0721.

Gordon takes over as Gazette-Times editor



Bobbi Gordon will be the news editor at the Heppner Gazette beginning in September, replacing outgoing editor Andrea Di Salvo. She is already in the office learning the ropes, and invites people to stop by and introduce themselves. -Photo by April Sykes

By Andrea Di Salvo

Bobbi Gordon of Lexington, most recently from Kellogg, ID, will be assuming the position of news editor at the Heppner Gazette-Times at the end of the month. She will be replacing Andrea Di Salvo, the editor for the past six years.

"Andrea knows the job inside and out and I hope I can do half the job she has done," said Gordon.

Gordon, 64, has lived in Oregon most of her life. She was born in Portland but moved to Redmond at the age of 10. She attended Redmond elementary schools and graduated from Redmond High

Fires on Heppner district contained



Aftermath of fire at Tupper Corral

PENDLETON, Ore. — Friday and Saturday night brought thunder/lightning storms to our region, which were accompanied by rain. Significant lightning activity occurred across the southern end of the forest, with multiple new incidents reported to the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center (BMIDC) and John Day Interagency Dispatch Center (JDIDC). The Heppner Ranger District

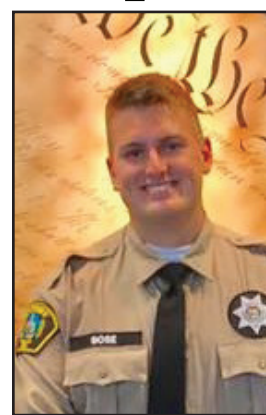
reported three new ignitions. The largest of these fires, the Corn Cob Creek Fire, is located near Wheeler Point and burning in grass and timber. The fire, reported on Aug. 11, was approximately four acres in size and is 100 percent contained.

Another fire on the Heppner district is Tupper Corral Fire, located one mile west of Tupper Guard Station and 20 miles southeast of Heppner.

Morrow County Sheriff's staff graduate from public safety academy

Two local Morrow County Sheriff's Office staff recently graduated from the Oregon Public Safety Academy.

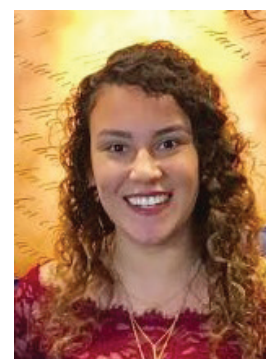
Deputy Lance Bose graduated Friday, Aug. 11 from the basic police class. Bose has been with MCSO since February of this year, and completed the training in order to become a patrol deputy with the MCSO. Dispatcher Andrea Acosta-Garcia graduated the same day, having completed training as a telecommunicator. She has been with the department since May.



Lance Bose

Members of the academy's 369th graduating class covered dozens of subjects, from survival skills to emer-

gency vehicle operations to ethics and drug recognition, according to a written statement from the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.



Andrea Acosta-Garcia

Council considers new Extension tax

Formation would reduce city's yearly income

By David Sykes

The Heppner City Council will decide next month whether to put its stamp of approval on a proposed new OSU Extension tax district covering Umatilla and Morrow Counties. To form the new district the Extension must first receive approval of voters, with plans to go for a vote in May of 2018.

Extension officials first need to receive approval from both Umatilla

Mary Corp

and Morrow county commissions, and they then try and get approval from all 17 city councils in the two counties. Monday was Heppner's turn to be asked.

Local farmer Clint Carlson, along with Mary Corp, Oregon State University Extension Regional Administrator asked the council to support the new tax district, saying it would add stability to the funding of an important service for farmers and the general public within Morrow County. "Everyone knows how important agriculture is to our economy," Corp said. She pointed out that agriculture provides \$1 billion or more in economic value annually to the two-county area, and provides many family and youth services and activities, as well as support for agriculture research centers in Pendleton and Hermiston.

The local Extension currently receives funding from the state to pay for employee salaries, and then relies on local money from Umatilla and Morrow Counties for programs and services. Morrow County currently gives \$177,000 per year, and Umatilla \$321,000. Corp said if the new district is formed county funding would go away, and Extension would then rely on its own tax base. However, city attorney Bill Kuhn said he would hope the county would

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Campfires and chainsaw use prohibited across Umatilla National Forest

PENDLETON and BAKER CITY, Ore. — Due to continued hot temperatures, lack of moisture and extreme fire danger, National Forest officials have announced that effective Aug. 11, the Umatilla National Forest will move to Phase C of public use restrictions (PURs).

With concern for public safety and the increased potential for human caused wildfires, officials remind forest visitors to use extreme caution when visiting the forest; under current conditions, even a spark can rapidly become a large wildfire.

the Umatilla National Forest's Public Use Restrictions, please contact any forest office, call our Forest Information hotline at 1-877-958-9663, or visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla/. The latest fire information will be posted on the Blue Mountains Fire Information Blog. If you are interested in receiving updates on fires in the Blue Mountains, follow our blog at <http://bluemountainfireinfo.blogspot.com/>.

Phase C PURs is the third level of restrictions and includes:

Campfires are prohibited on the Forest. Use liquid and bottle (propane) gas stoves only.

No internal combustion engine operation (including chainsaws), except for motorized vehicles.

Electrical generators operated under the following conditions are allowed: in the center of an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable

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