

Morgan Orem, a senior at Ione Community School was one of ten of the recipients of \$1,000 scholarships awarded to high school seniors by the Oregon Wheat Foundation.

Morgan is the daughter of Eric and Brandi Orem of Heppner. After graduating, Orem plans to study animal science and agricultural business at Oregon State University. Her long term goal after earning her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine is to become a large animal veterinarian, hopefully opening her own clinic in her hometown of Ione. She competed in school sports including, volleyball, basketball and softball. As a senior, Orem served as



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student body president and Chapter FFA president. She was District FFA secretary in both her junior and senior years. She is active in the National Honor Society as president, active within her FFA chapter and has entered various projects and animals at county fairs. She also volunteers on several school and community projects.

Students were judged on their community involvement, academic achievement and an essay on a wheat industry topic.

Oregon Wheat Foundation scholarships are open to high school seniors whose parents are members of the Oregon Wheat Growers League or whose parents are employed by grower members of the organization. The scholarship is also open to students employed by grower members.

Scholarship information can be found in the Oregon Wheat Foundation section of the Oregon wheat website at www.owgl.org. Applications are accepted beginning in October.

HEPPNER

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Last year's operators back at OHV Park The Landing

Barb Harris and Jacob Richmond sign contract with county

By David Sykes

Last year's popular operators of The Landing Lodge restaurant at the OHV park are back and ready to begin serving customers during the upcoming recreational season, it was recently announced.

After a somewhat contentious parting of the ways last year, restaurant operators Barb Harris and her son Jacob Richmond came back, patched up their differences with Morrow County and are now back in business. "We are happy to announce that we have come to an agreement with Morrow County allowing us to once again operate their Landing Lodge kitchen," Harris posted on the Facebook page. The first day of operation is Thursday, May 10.

Harris and Richmond had some contractual disagreements with Morrow County, which is owner of The Landing that is located at the Off Highway Vehicle park located in the mountains south of Heppner. The county contracts with operators of the restaurant,

who pay the county a percentage of gross revenues as a franchise agreement. There are also other rules about how to operate the business.

Last year both parties were unable to reach a contract extension agreement enabling Harris and Richmond to keep operating the popular restaurant, so the county decided to put the operating agreement out for "proposals" from interested parties.

Harris and Richmond indicated interest in coming back as operators and submitted a proposal. After several "sit down" meetings with county staff and commissioner Don Russell, everyone came to an agreement and a new contract was okayed and signed by commissioners at last Wednesday's commission meeting. After the signing, the commissioners seemed glad to have the issue settled and an operator back in place. "Maybe we should have a commission meeting up there," Russell said. Commissioner Jim Doherty



John and Barb Harris will be back at The Landing this year. -Contributed photo.

agreed, however, saying he did think the process of putting out for proposals was a good idea, as it stimulated a conversation with the operators, got issues out on the table to talk about and also showed the public that the franchise awarding process was transparent and open to everyone.

Barb Harris was also

glad to be back on the job. "Myself and my son are working together as a unified unit to make the park a better place to be. We had a sit-down meeting and we are in agreement (with the county). We can put this OHV park on the map and make people happy while they are there," she told the Gazette-Times Tuesday.

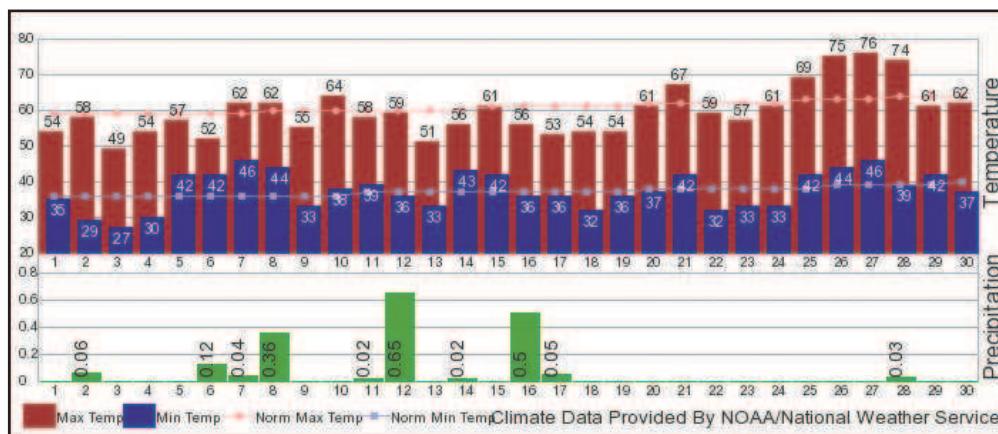
Heppner weather slightly colder than normal in April

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 April.

The average temperature was 48.6 degrees which was 0.4 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged 59.7 degrees, which was 1.2 degrees below normal. The highest was 76 degrees on the 27th. Low temperatures averaged 37.5 degrees, which was 0.3 degrees above normal. The lowest was 27 degrees on the 3rd.

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

Precipitation totaled 1.85 inches during April,



which was 0.34 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation of at least .01 inch, was received on 10 days with the heaviest, 0.65 inches reported on the 12th.

Precipitation this year has reached 5.43 inches, which is 0.19 inches below normal. Since October, the

water year precipitation at Heppner has been 9.19 inches, which is 0.49 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 40 mph which occurred on the 1st.

The outlook for May from NOAA's Climate Prediction center calls for

above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner rise from 64 degrees at the start of May to 73 degrees at the end of May. Normal lows rise from 40 degrees to 47 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 1.66 inches.

Heppner student qualifies for college rodeo finals in Wyoming

The Blue Mountain Community College men's and women's rodeo teams may have ended the season in third place in the Northwest Region standings of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, but five Timberwolf student-

athletes will head to Casper, WY in June for the College National Finals Rodeo.

Kolby Currin, a freshman from Heppner, leads the nation and the Northwest region standings in steer wrestling as he heads to CNFR. Other students

that qualified are Clay Hall, a freshman from Toowoomba, Australia, Preston Pederson, a sophomore from Hermiston, Cole White, a third-year student-athlete from Hermiston and Kaylee Aldrich, a sophomore from Terrebonne, OR.

The women's team ended the year ranked fourth in the national standings, while the men's team landed in 17th. CNFR takes place June 10-16 at the Casper Events Center in Casper, WY.

Area experiences power outage

Columbia Basin Electric Co-op reported that it experienced a system wide outage on the eastern half of the service territory last

night. According to Tommy Wolff, CBEC's power source from Bonneville Power Administration was

interrupted. CBEC employees conferred with BPA to determine the cause and power was restored in a little more than one hour.

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