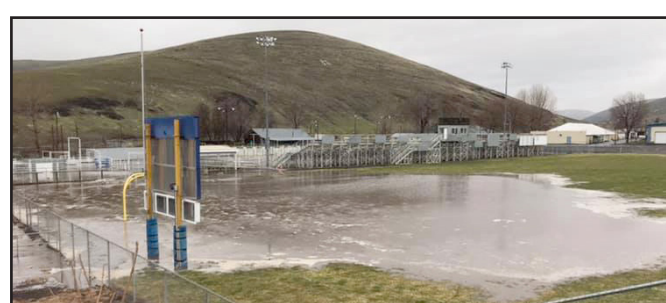
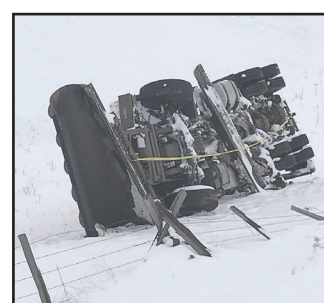




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2019 - A Year in Review

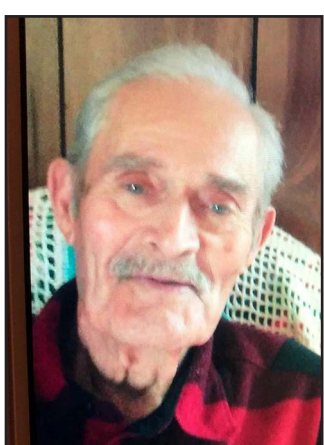


2019 was filled with multiple events and many changes. Tim the bread man hung up his hat and Drew the bread man took over. There was an abundance of snow in the spring causing flooding. Fires caused some serious losses for area residents. See pages five and six for a pictorial view of the year.

Missing Irrigon man found

Jose Fernandez, 86, of Irrigon was located the morning of December 19 after being reported missing between 4 and 5 p.m. the previous day. Fernandez, an adult with advanced dementia, was reported missing from the 300 block of SW Nevada in Irrigon. Fernandez was found by Undersheriff John Bowles and Lieutenant Terry Harper of the Morrow County Sheriff's Office in a field near W. Nevada. Bowles reported that Mr. Fernandez was conscious, communicating and seemed to be in good condition

when he was found. He was transported to a local hospital where he is expected to make a full recovery. Multiple family members, local citizens, Irrigon Fire Department and Ambulance, US Fish and Wildlife, Oregon State Police and Morrow County Sheriff's Office personnel searched from approximately 5:30 p.m. until midnight before they were released. Family and community members as well as several MCSO personnel continued the search until morning, with no new leads or sightings. The next morning more



Jose Fernandez
than 55 people arrived to assist in the search, which resulted in Fernandez being located at 11:41 a.m.



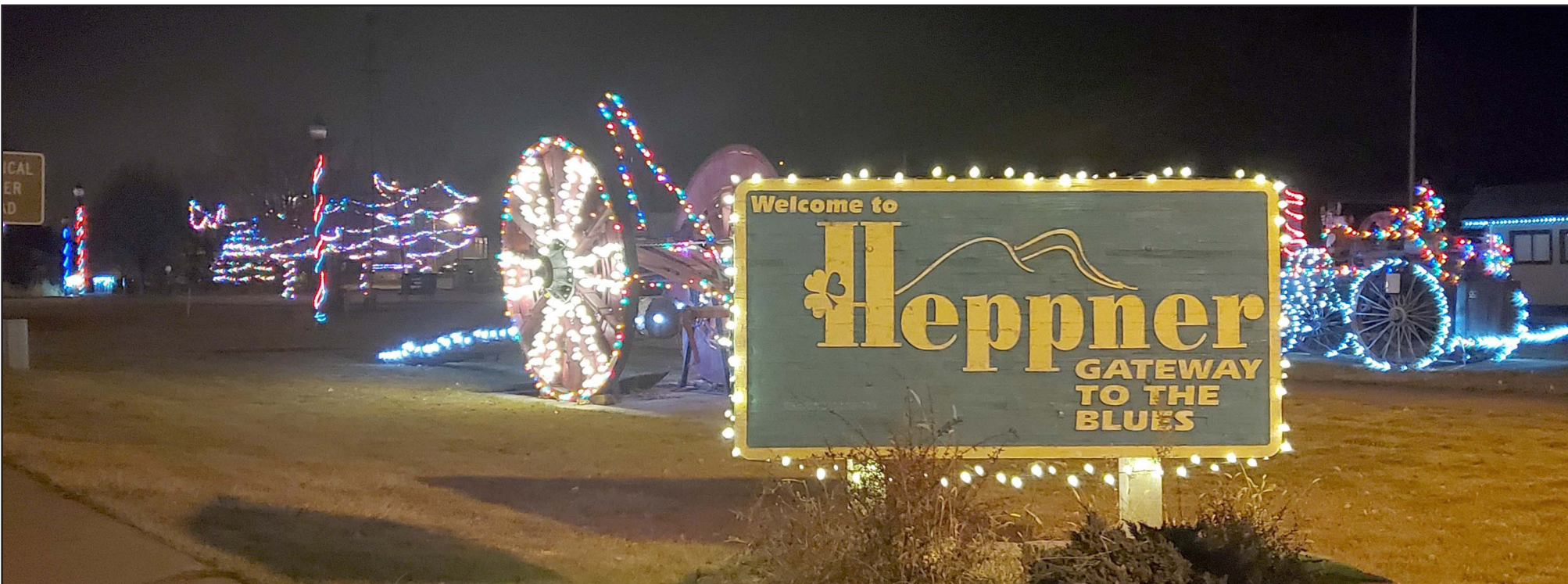
Tim Adams (left) sold his bread delivery business to Drew Brannon (right) in 2019.



Area residents celebrate the season with lighted displays



Photos by Bobbi Gordon and Giselle Moses.



County partners with youth help program

'Keep kids out of our system,' says Juvenile Director

By David Sykes
Morrow County will soon be partnering with a Umatilla County organization whose goal is to help "at risk" kids stay out of the criminal justice system. The county commission at its Dec. 18 meeting voted unanimously to work with a Hermiston based non-profit volunteer organization called Made to Thrive in expanded services into Morrow County. The organization helps students participate in extracurricular activities such as sports, music, dance and art, including them in a positive atmosphere which will hopefully keep them out of trouble.



Christy Kenny, Director, MC Juvenile Dept.
"This program helps kids not in our system before they are in our system," Morrow County Juvenile Director Christy Kenny told the county commissioners in urging them to approve



Tim Handforth, Made to Thrive Board Pres.
the partnership. Currently the organization, which is made up of 45 volunteers and one paid director, works with 300 low income

-See COUNTY YOUTH/ PAGE TWO

G-T closed New Year's Day

The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed January 1 for the New Year's holiday. The paper will be delivered Tuesday, December 31 instead of Wednesday, January 1. The deadline for all news and advertising for the December 31 issue will be Friday, December 27, at 5 p.m. The G-T wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

Advertisement for Polaris vehicles featuring a 'Proud to Ride!' slogan, 'Thank You' message, and financing offers like 'Rebates up to \$1,500' and 'Financing as low as 3.99% APR for 36 months'.