

WEATHER TODAY'S FORECAST
87° HIGH
62° LOW

Lifestyle B1
Beat bunch
Ensemble makes music at BBCC



Columbia Basin Herald LOCAL NEWS

Local life!

www.columbiabasinherald.com

Download the CBH local news app Monday, June 14, 2021 @the_CBH facebook.com/cbherald \$1

Ride of passage



Casey McCarthy/Columbia Basin Herald

2021 Moses Lake High School graduate Alexandria Bakker and her family take a momentary break from decorating their vehicle for a photo Friday afternoon at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

Warden principal tapped to lead new high school

By CHARLES H. FEATHERSTONE
Staff Writer

MOSES LAKE — A Warden educator has been named to lead the Moses Lake School District's as-yet unnamed new high school, referred to as the Real World Academy.

In a press release issued Friday, the MLSD announced Warden Elementary School Principal Kelly Cutter will be the planning principal for the new school, which is scheduled to open its doors in the fall of 2022.

Cutter, who has 22 years of experience as a teacher and administrator, is set to begin work at the new high school July 1.

"The focus of the Real World Academy high school is on highly personalized education that serves the needs of each student in a hands-on, project-based environment," Cutter said in the press release. "To say I'm excited to be part of this new and innovative, student-centered

See CUTTER, Page A3

Moses Lake High School sends off 2021 graduating class with parade ceremony

By CASEY MCCARTHY
Staff Writer

The Moses Lake High School class of 2021 made its way across town from Grant County Fairgrounds Friday afternoon to six locations to celebrate with a graduation parade for the second year in a row.

Students from the high school's 75th graduating class departed the fairgrounds around 4 p.m., accompanied by family and friends, with vehicles draped in signs, balloons and streamers.

Seniors shared photos and hugs with friends, doing their best to keep out of a spattering rain. A few graduates talked about wrapping up their final year at MLHS.

Madi Olson wasn't too far away from her former softball teammates in line as she waited for the parade to start. Olson said the ceremony was definitely different.

"Tomorrow I will make decisions on what I want to do. I'm ready for it, but I don't know if I'm ready to let go."

— Oscar Baeza,
2021 MLHS graduate

"I never expected to graduate like this, but it's a once-in-a-lifetime moment and no other class will experience a year like this," Olson said. "I kind of like being unique."

Laurissa Martinez will join Olson, her longtime teammate, in college next season. Martinez said it's the sporting events she'll miss most.

"Even just being in the tribe, if you're watching another game is some-

See PARADE, Page A3



Anna Olson brought some friends along for the 2021 graduation parade ceremony Friday.

Casey McCarthy/Columbia Basin Herald



Moses Lake High School graduate Harley Raymond and her parents make their way down Airway Drive Northeast after leaving Grant County Fairgrounds in the graduation parade ceremony on Friday.

Wildfires may loom ahead for Washington

By JOSEPH O'SULLIVAN
The Seattle Times/TNS

As he makes the rounds on his Okanogan County ranch, Joel Kretz watches for moisture with fire on his mind.

It's been a cold spring, said Kretz, who is also a GOP state representative, "and then every time it rained, we got a ton of wind afterward, dried it all up."

Every Washington wildfire season brings a reckoning with the tea leaves to get a lead on what the summer and fall might bring: snowpack levels, weather predictions, drought conditions.

Right now, a widespread drought is raising fears about the months ahead.

"I'm really nervous," Kretz

See WILDFIRES, Page A2

Wilson Creek seniors 'just kept swimming' through tough year

By CHARLES H. FEATHERSTONE
Staff Writer

WILSON CREEK — If there was a theme to Wilson Creek High School's 2021 graduation ceremony, it was persistence.

"We were not always the easiest class, or the best, but we're still here," said salutatorian Anissa Odorizzi during her short commencement address Saturday morning during the ceremony in Wilson Creek City Park.

In her commencement speech, valedictorian Grace Bise advised her fellow students to adapt, be persistent and not give up, closing with a short

Wilson Creek High School salutatorian Anissa Odorizzi speaks at the school's 2021 graduation ceremony on Saturday.



Charles H. Featherstone/Columbia Basin Herald

reminder on how to make it through tough times from the movie "Finding Dory."

"Just keep swimming," Bise said.

It was a sentiment Wilson Creek High School principal, and

school district superintendent, Laura Christian, echoed.

"It's been a long year and half, and these kids have risen," Christian said after a long, deep

See WCHS, Page A3



Charles H. Featherstone/Columbia Basin Herald

The members of the Wilson Creek High School graduating class of 2021 — all 12 of them — at the school's commencement exercise in Wilson Creek City Park on Saturday.

LOCAL

Annual bash

'A Day at the Races' theme of annual Senior Picnic. **A2**

BUSINESS

Rail expansion

Grant money will help Port of Warden. **A4**

SPORTS

Wrestling

Warden hosts mixed dual. **A7**

Classifieds ... **B6**

Comics **B3**

Crossword ... **B2**

Horoscope ... **B2**

Obituaries ... **B2**

Records **A2**

Weather **A2**

We have a lot to talk about ...
SUBSCRIBE TODAY. CALL 509-765-8882



Cowboys and broncs

Basin family supplies the horses that make the rodeo buck



Columbia Basin Herald LOCAL NEWS

Local life!

www.columbiabasinherald.com

Download the CBH local news app

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

@the_CBH

facebook.com/cbherald

\$1

'Working for the people': Colleagues remember Joyce Mulliken

By CHARLES H. FEATHERSTONE
 Staff Writer

FLORENCE, Ariz. — Former colleagues remembered longtime 13th Legislative District's Joyce Mulliken as a hard working legislator who knew how to negotiate and cared a great deal about the people she was elected to serve. Mulliken died on June 26 in Arizona of cancer.

She was 75. "She was a great person and we had a good life together," said Mulliken's husband Mike. "Her main focus in life was helping others. She loved to help people, and that is one of the main reasons she got into the legislature." Mulliken was first elected to the Washington State House of Representatives in 1994 and served four

terms before winning a seat in the state Senate, where she served for three years before being appointed to the Growth Management Hearings Board in 2006. Mike said Joyce loved life, loved people and was a devout Roman Catholic who kept in contact with the congregation at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Ephrata despite retiring to Arizona in 2012.

"She was never sick until this happened, until last year," Mike said. "She just lived life to the fullest." Sen. Phil Fortunato, R-Auburn, described Mulliken as a mentor and one of the few Republican legislators who knew how to negotiate effectively with legislative Democrats — and had walked out in the past to get what she felt was best for her constituents.

"In 2017, the GOP had the majority in the Senate, and we did the budget. It was a good budget, it funded everything and it didn't raise taxes," Fortunato said, adding the proposed Democrat budget contained \$8 billion in new taxes. "She told me, 'You've started where you want to finish. What do you have to give up?'"

"Her main focus in life was helping others. She loved to help people."

— Mike Mulliken

See MULLIKEN, Page A2

Semper fix-it



Marine Corps mechanics work on the engine of an MV-22 Osprey transport aircraft Monday at the Grant County International Airport. According to GCIA Director Rich Mueller, the aircraft — which was in Moses Lake as part of the Marines' Summer Fury 21 exercise last week — broke down during the exercise, and is expected to be repaired soon. "They have a lot of moving parts," Mueller said.

Charles H. Featherstone/Columbia Basin Herald

Wallace, Gwinn named Grant County District Court judges

By CHERYL SCHWEIZER
 Staff Writer

EPHRATA — Ephrata attorneys Brian Gwinn and Nick Wallace were selected Monday by Grant County Commissioners as the two new Grant County District Court judges to fill two open positions.

Gwinn replaces Tyson Hill, who was named to an open position on the Grant County Superior Court. Gwinn will start as soon as possible.

Wallace will replace Janis Whitener-Moberg, who announced in May she would retire effective Aug. 31. Wallace will start Sept. 1.

Since district court judgeships are elected offices, both positions will be on the ballot in November 2022.

"This (becoming a judge) has been a goal of mine," Gwinn said.

He also said he believes it's an ultimate goal for any attorney to be a judge.

"I'm excited for this new legal experience," he said.

Gwinn has worked as an attorney for 21 years. He started in private practice in Spokane, he said, before he came



Gwinn



Wallace

See JUDGES, Page A3

Two wildfires scorch Dodson Road area

By SAM FLETCHER
 Staff Writer

Four fire departments, the Grant County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Land Management responded to two fires happening simultaneously just miles apart near Dodson Road Northwest on Sunday.

While one of the fires approached nearby homes, no buildings were damaged and there were no injuries, said Grant County Fire District 5 Battalion Chief Jack Zeilenga. As of Monday,

they were unaware of the causes.

Near the Ephrata Water Reclamation Facility, south of Ephrata, in the 13000 block of Dodson Road Northwest, Ephrata firefighters were responding to a 10-acre wildfire around 11:40 a.m. when they saw a second fire farther south toward Neva Lake Road Northwest and asked Grant County Fire District 13 to respond.

The second fire was burning 15 acres of Bureau of Reclamation's

rocky terrain. As the fire approached homes in the area, Grant County Fire districts 3 and 5 responded as well.

The Grant County Sheriff's Office closed Dodson Road around noon due to smoke over the roadway.

By 12:30 p.m., both fires were contained and the roads opened 15 minutes later, though the crew was still on site "mopping up."

The Bureau of Land Management, Oregon/

See FIRES, Page A3



This fire, near Neva Lake Road Northwest off Dodson Road Northwest, burned about 27 acres Sunday.

Grant County Fire District 13/courtesy photo

LOCAL

Extra patrols
 State troopers watching Moses Lake, Othello. **A2**

STATE

Vaccine lottery
 Million-dollar winner to be selected this week. **A3**

SPORTS

Babe Ruth
 Riverdogs host regional tournament. **A4**

Basin Briefs...**A2**
 Classifieds ...**B4**
 Comics.....**A4**

Crossword ...**B2**
 Horoscope...**B2**
 Records**A2**

Weather.....**A2**

We have a lot to talk about ...
 SUBSCRIBE TODAY. CALL 509-765-8882



721 Rockport St

GREAT ONE OWNER HOME!

3 beds, 2.5 baths, 1,504 Sq. Ft. | \$299,900

One owner! Built in 2005. A well cared for 3 bed 2.5 bath 2 story home with a tile entryway, laminate flooring in living room, kitchen & bathrooms. Main floor has living room, kitchen, 1/2 bath, laundry room & garage access. Master bedroom with walk-in closet, ceiling fan & private bathroom, 2 more bedrooms with another full bath all on the upstairs of the home. Exterior vents have been screened to avoid bird nests. Furnace serviced regularly by Hochstatter Elec. Make this YOUR home! **MLS: 1799987**

Moses Lake
 Realty Group

537 W Broadway, Moses Lake
 MosesLakeRealtyGroup.com
 (509) 764-0222

"Building Lasting Relationships with Integrity."



Casey McCarthy/Columbia Basin Herald

Kylie Gray-Eilers holds up a bucket of freshly-picked flowers in her rows of dahlias growing in Royal City.

Hello, dahlia!

Make the most of these beautiful blossoms

By CASEY MCCARTHY
Staff Writer

ROYAL CITY — Gardeners and plant lovers with dahlias in their yard or garden are inevitably enjoying the views of beautiful blooms this time of season.

Kylie Gray-Eilers of Royal City specializes in growing dahlia tubers, selling the starts and cut flowers to people as they're ready throughout the growing season. Gray-Eilers said dahlias are a mid-summer to early fall flower and are in their prime time for producing flowers.

"At this point, probably about 85% of the tubers are all blooming flowers," Gray-Eilers said.

She said this is the time of year when all the work throughout the summer pays



Casey McCarthy/Columbia Basin Herald

Dahlias can help bring in plenty of pollinators to the garden, much like this bee enjoying the fruits of Kylie Gray-Eilers' labor this summer.

"Cut the stem very deep near the base of the plant; it will encourage more flowers to come and those flowers will have longer stems"

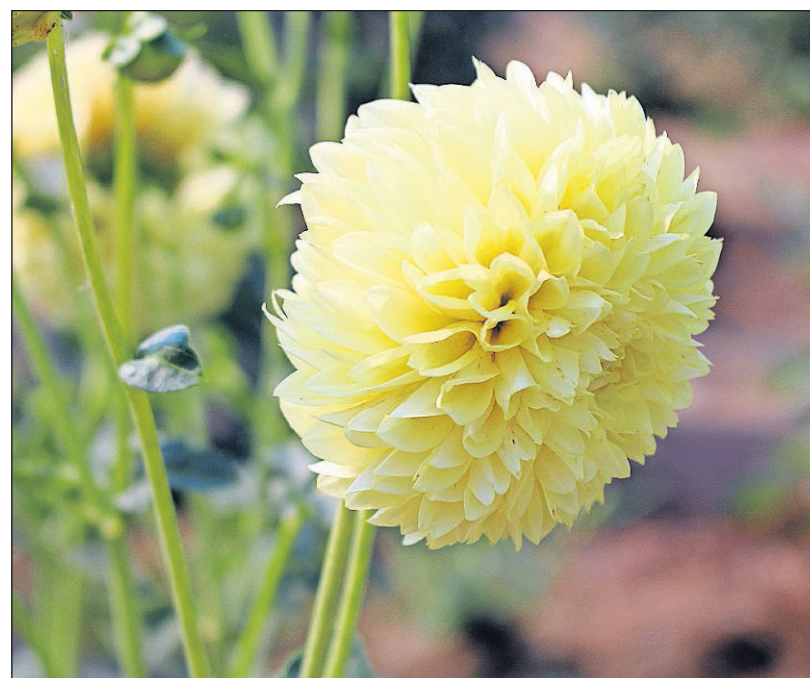
— Kylie Gray-Eilers,
dahlia specialist

off, with flowers produced every day. Gray-Eilers said dahlias are "cut and come again" flowers that will essentially produce more, the more they're harvested. Dahlias, she said, are great attractors for pollinators, too, with bees' constantly circling around her flowers.

She said she recommends cutting the stem of the flowers when harvesting blooms to help encourage the plant to send off longer shoots the next time.

"Go ahead and cut the stem very deep near the base of the plant; it will encourage more flowers to come and those flowers will have longer stems, which is ideal for cutting flowers for bouquets," Gray-Eilers said.

Gray-Eilers said she planted her tubers around the beginning of May and started cutting blooms around the end of July. She said something she recommends is "pinching" the plants about six weeks after planting, trimming around the middle of the plant to help encourage stems that come



Casey McCarthy/Columbia Basin Herald

Boom Boom dahlias are just one of about 48 varieties Kylie Gray-Eilers had in her garden in Royal City this summer.



Casey McCarthy/Columbia Basin Herald

Larger, more extravagant dahlia blooms, like the one pictured, can be beautiful, but often have a shorter vase life than some of the ball-type varieties of dahlias.

See DAHLIAS, Page B2

Building permits

City of Moses Lake Aug. 1-20, 2021

Larry Wheat, 800 block of South Blessing Street, fence, no valuation given.

Aho Construction, 4700 block of West Merlin Street, new residence, \$331,140.35.

Aho Construction, 4700 block of West Merlin Street, new residence, \$190,038.77.

Aho Construction, 4700 block of West Merlin Street, new residence, \$194,189.50.

Aho Construction, 4700 block of West Merlin Street, new residence, \$223,712.02.

Aho Construction, 4700 block of West Merlin Street,

new residence, \$245,438.24.

Aho Construction, 4700 block of West Hawk Street, new residence, \$256,149.44.

Moses Lake Meadows Apartments, 1500 block of South Monroe Street, change out HVAC, no valuation given.

Hayden Homes LLC, 700 block of North Doumit Drive, new residence, \$215,402.26.

Sally Lopez, 1300 block of South Lakeway Drive, replace HVAC, no valuation given.

Sally Lopez, 1300 block of South Dilley Avenue, replace HVAC, no valuation given.

Josue Cisneros, 1000 block

of West Central Drive, fence, no valuation given.

Cenex Inc., 1700 block of West Broadway Avenue, replace signs, no valuation given.

Cenex Inc., 1000 block of West Broadway Avenue, replace signs, no valuation given.

Paul Kingemann, 900 block of South Laguna Drive, change out HVAC, no valuation given.

Angel Ledesma, 3900 block of West Lakeshore Drive, rebuild garage, \$32,750.

Moses Lake Industries, 8200 block of Randolph Road

Northeast, new signs, no valuation given.

Michael Saldana, 3100 block of Road H Northeast, HVAC, no valuation given.

Wil Hunt LLC, 3200 block of Bell Road Northeast, HVAC, no valuation given.

Chad Hall, 500 block of South Interlake Road, replace fence, no valuation given.

Hayden Homes LLC, 1300 block of West Javelin Street, new residence, \$196,166.25.

Hayden Homes LLC, 1300 block of West Javelin Street, new residence, \$176,889.59.

Wilber Brotherton, 2100 block of West Willow Street,

HVAC, no valuation given.

Terry and Susan Pyle, 1800 block of South Monroe Street, HVAC, no valuation given.

Carl Johnson, 700 block of West Loop Drive, replace fence, no valuation given.

William Marshall, 100 block of West Third Avenue, new sign, no valuation given.

Fabian Ramirez, 700 block of South Hawthorne Drive, install underground sprinklers, no valuation given.

William Anderson, 900 block of South Camas Place, enclose deck to create sun-

See PERMITS, Page B2