Lavender fest top fundraiser for local nonprofits

The Purple Ridge Lavender Festival has officially become the top fundraiser for Agape House and Martha's House, bringing in about \$6,000 this past weekend for the Hermiston nonprofit organizations.

director Dave Executive Hughes said the event stepped into the top slot after the last A Very Poplar Run was held this past fall. Featured in "Runner's

World" in December 2012, the popular event came to an end after the sale of the tree farm at GreenWood Resources.

Buzzing with activity, in addition to the multitudes of bees that were busy in the lavender fields, an estimated 800 adults and 600 kids attended the Saturday event. Held at Purple Ridge Lavender in Hermiston, Jim and Sheri Konningrud have hosted the fundraiser for seven years. All vendor fees and gate receipts were donated

to Agape House and Martha's House.

In addition to enjoying the lavender fields, festival-goers were treated to live music, art displays, vendor booths, a quilt display, food, a visit by Penelope Pendragon and her Whimsical WiSH Wagon, and an opportunity to shop at the farm boutique.

Agape House and Martha's House serves those in need in the community. For more information, call 541-567-8774.



Ali Hanson takes a photo of her daughter, Maggie, 5, among various types of lavender Saturday at the Purple Ridge Lavender Festival in Hermiston. Staff photo by Tammy Malgesin



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