

Spotlight on student artwork

By Cheryl Hoefler
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY – Students at Prairie City School showed off their multi-faceted artistic talents at the school's annual art show on May 7.

The school's old gym was transformed into a glittery, glitzy gallery of paintings, sketches, woodwork, sculptures and more – as well as live and interactive displays, created by students in all grades.

The array of art included Native American pinch pots, bird houses, poetry, Easter Island moais, and paintings and sketches on a variety of themes.

This year's show was organized by art teacher Raymond Field.



Full of sparkle and glitz, Marnie and Marlayna Woodbury enjoy a "live art" tea party during the Prairie City School art show.

Eagle photos/Cheryl Hoefler



From left, seventh-grader Mason Gerry, Jeremy Field and his son, sixth-grader Jojari Field, check out an interactive music display at the art show.



The 2015 Prairie City School art show featured works by students in all grades, including kindergarten and first graders who created Native American pinch pots. Right: Freshman Megan Camarena sits beneath sections of her artwork titled "Imperfect."



Step Forward gets grant to expand employment options

Blue Mountain Eagle

BAKER CITY – Step Forward Activities has received a \$62,500 state grant to expand its employment reach in Baker and Grant counties.

The nonprofit is one of 34 agencies that applied for a share of some \$750,000 aimed at bolstering work opportunities for people with disabilities. Of the dozen agencies that were picked, Step Forward is the only recipient in Eastern Oregon.

The grant funded hiring of an employment specialist, Pamela Roan, who will network with local businesses to explore employ-

ment opportunities and offer training and assistance for new employees.

The program is in keeping with a 2013 governor's order making "integrated employment the goal for all Oregonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities."

Gene Button, executive director of Step Forward, said he's confident the business people of the two counties will help meet the challenge and work with the agency to provide opportunities for the local disabled population.

For more information, contact Roan at 541-523-7475.

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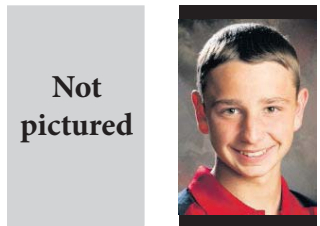
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STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Grant Union – March



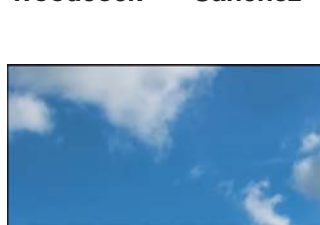
Tanner Elliott
Grade 8
Parents: Tom and Mary Elliott



Chelsea Kodesh
Grade 10
Parents: Anthony and Dawn Kodesh, and Kim Kodesh



Adilene Olivera-Sanchez
Grade 12
Parent: Hilda Sanchez



Mackenzie Woodcock
Grade 11
Parents: Jeremy and Shannon Adair, and Lance Woodcock



Tegan Wright
Grade 9
Parents: Trent and Jamie Wright

Insko picked to lead EOU

Blue Mountain Eagle

LA GRANDE – Tom Insko, a timber industry exec, has been named Eastern Oregon University's new president.

The EOU alumnus currently is area manager of Boise Cascade's Inland Region in La Grande.

He starts his new job July 1, the same day EOU's Board of Trustees assumes governance responsibility for the university.

Jay Kenton, current interim EOU president, is retiring in June.

"It's very exciting and hum-

bling to have this opportunity to come back to EOU in this capacity and be part of a great team and work together to create an even more fantastic future for this university," Insko said.

He said one of the first things he plans to do as president is listen.

"I plan on spending a lot of time finding out what faculty, staff and students consider our value proposition to be and understanding their hopes, dreams and vision for EOU, so that together, we can begin to develop a strategy for success for the university."

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