

# Junk Barn Girls host 10th event, following last year's hiatus

## Organizers say they will come back for 2022

By ERICK PETERSON  
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — A two-day event showcasing the repurposing “junk” for a new life returned to Hermiston.

Junk Barn Girls was Friday and Saturday, Oct. 1 and 2, at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center in Hermiston. Katie Anderson and Angela Ditchen, members of the Junk Barn Girls, organized the event.

This year was special, Anderson said, because it marked the 10th year of the event. Last year should have been No. 10, but COVID-19 prompted the cancellation.

Junk Barn's comeback included 30 vendors. This is 10 fewer vendors from 2019, but the organizers still felt pretty good about the turnout. The pandemic is continuing, and many vendors are choosing to stay

home, Ditchen said. Ditchen, a Junk Barn Girls founder, started the organization with Shannon Snyder on Golden Valley Farms. Their event, which outgrew the farm and moved to EOTEC, and the Junk Barn grew until the pandemic, Ditchen said.

Anderson has been part of the event, at least helping out, from the beginning, Ditchen said.

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The event chooses a charity each year. This year, the charity was Campus Life, a cause Ditchen and Anderson said are close to their hearts. They are both mothers and appreciate charities that look out for children.

Inside Junk Barn, vendors seemed to be doing well. They kept busy most of the time with transactions, and they said they were enjoying



Walla Walla resident Neva Gould shows off her vintage tools Saturday, Oct. 2, 2021, at Junk Barn Girls at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, Hermiston. The event marked its 10th year.

themselves.

Kris Bennett, KRISant-themums owner and Hermiston Chamber of Commerce board chair, said she is a regular at Junk Barn.

“I’ve always enjoyed coming here,” she said.

She explained she likes supporting an event that supports the community. Many people are able to promote their business

through Junk Barn, she said. Also, several charities have benefited, and she likes that, too.

Neva Gould, of Light-hearted, said she does a few shows throughout the year. She sells vintage furniture, tools and hardware.

“This is a great show,” she said, adding the customers are her favorite part because everyone is pleasant.

Alexis McCarthy and Angela Pursel, owners of The Next Chapter Bookstore, took a break from their Hermiston store to sell books and puzzles at Junk Barn. This was a good event, McCarthy said, because she could sell more home decor books and cookbooks than she could normally sell at her store.

Also, McCarthy enjoyed being a seller at an event she had often attended as a buyer. “We love Junk Barn,” she said. “When we got the call, we jumped right on it.”

As her store is new, this event served as a good chance for publicity.

Erin Gunesch, Illie owner and Salem resident, said she was disappointed the event did not occur last year. She appeared at it in 2019, and she liked it.

“It’s good to be back,” she said. It gave her a place to market her home décor and clothing.

Travis and Laura Winters, Browne House Coffee Co. owners and Heppner residents, were at Junk Barn to

sell coffee and promote their business. They are fixing a Heppner building to house a café.

This was their first year with their own business at Junk Barn. Laura said she has been at the event in previous years but she was with another company then.

Donna Rogers, antique and craft seller, has been a vendor for eight years. A Hermiston resident, she goes to Portland for her inventory. She visits antique stores and estate sales to find treasures to bring back and sell at Junk Barn.

She said she loves the “thrill of the hunt,” an experience she shares with her friend, Rhonda Campbell, with whom she was selling items.

Campbell said she has a good time at Junk Barn. More than the fun of selling goods and the opportunity to make money, she likes spending time with her friend.

“This is a lot of fun,” she said, and Rogers agreed. They hope they can do it again next year.

# Graffiti vandals deface mural and fence

## Police have reported 71 incidents of graffiti this year in Pendleton

By BRYCE DOLE  
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Two recent incidents of vandalism along the Pendleton River Parkway have caught the eye of some local residents who say graffiti is becoming a bigger problem in the area.

In one location, the graffiti covers a mural behind Horizon Project Inc. on Southwest Court Avenue. The mural, made by Pendleton High School advanced art students in 1993, depicts a scene involving American Indians and white settlers in the 1800s.

“It’s upsetting, because it’s artwork,” said Deborah Dougherty, the nonprofit’s site manager, who said they had a maintenance request out to remove the graffiti.

The other graffiti, which is mostly indecipherable but appears to show expletives, covers a white fence behind a home along the walkway just west of the East Oregonian newsroom.

Pendleton Police Chief Chuck Byram said police have provided paperwork to the property owners for them to obtain supplies from Zimmerman True Value Hardware and remove the graffiti, per the city’s graffiti abatement program, a local law that gives property owners three days to remove or cover the graffiti from the time of a notice.

Mark Vichaf, a homeowner whose white fence was recently hit with graffiti, said his fence has been defaced several times recently. He said he recently purchased supplies to clean up the markings on his fence. But he doesn’t like having to use the supplies to clean up the fence because it leaves ugly marks that



Graffiti covers a mural Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021, along the Pendleton River Parkway behind the Horizon Project Inc. on Southwest Court Avenue, Pendleton.



Graffiti covers a fence Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021, along the Pendleton River Parkway near Southeast Second Street in Pendleton.

attracts people because of its scenery. “I don’t want it looking like the levy with the large grey spots,” he said.

Having recently moved back to town from Portland, Vichaf said, “It’s shocking how non-evolved this town is.”

Pendleton police have reported 71

incidents of graffiti this year, according to police Lt. Tony Nelson.

“It shouldn’t be there,” said Rick Rohde, who frequents the parkway and commonly notices graffiti. “It scares you. The longer it sits there, the more it gets.”

Byram said police do not have video showing any possible vandals and therefore they have no suspects for the latest incidents. Byram encouraged anybody with knowledge of the incident to “say something if they see something.”

Byram said the graffiti typically depicts gang symbols but are most often painted by people who are not associated with gangs but like to believe they are.

Dougherty said the mural behind Horizon has been defaced twice in her eight years at the nonprofit. But news articles show at least one other time the

# ODFW OKs killing two wolves in Umatilla County

East Oregonian

UKIAH — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on Friday, Oct. 1, approved the killing of up to two wolves for repeated depredations in the Ukiah Valley area Umatilla County.

ODFW announced it authorized lethal action and will provide a kill permit to a livestock producer who requested the option after confirming two depredations in a three-day period in the Ukiah Valley area. The depredations were confirmed on private land pastures on Sept. 25 and Sept. 28, resulting in the death or injury of eight calves.

Fish and Wildlife can authorize the killing of wolves in chronic depredation situations when there is significant risk to livestock present in the area.

The permit allows the producer or their agents to kill up to two wolves on a portion of the private land they own in the Ukiah and Heppner units, according to ODFW. The permit expires Oct. 31, when the two wolves are killed or when the producer’s livestock are removed from the area, whichever comes first. The permit also restricts the method of removal to shooting the wolves from the ground.

Under the Wolf Plan rules, livestock producers must be using and document non-lethal methods appropriate to the situation before lethal control can be considered. Also, there can be no identified circumstances on the property (such as bone piles or carcasses) that could be attracting wolves.

ODFW reported it found no “attractants.” During each livestock investigation

as well as during each trip to the investigation sites, the department searched the immediate area for any bone piles, carcasses or other attractants and found none.

Prior to the first depredation, the producer removed dead animal carcasses from the landscape, and continually monitored the health of the cow herd and removed animals that were sick and in risk of attracting predators. Since the first confirmed depredation, the producer has additionally had employees stay with the cattle each night and use hazing tools to deter wolves from the area.

At the time of the depredations, there was no area of known wolf activity, or AKWA, designated in the area the depredations occurred. The location of these events is less than 2 miles from the estimated boundary of the Fivemile Pack. There is limited location data for the Fivemile Pack, according to ODFW, and it is possible these wolves are now using areas east of the current AKWA boundary. Recent public reports also have indicated multiple wolves within 10 miles southeast of the depredations.

ODFW reported it has identified an initial area around the presence of the depredating wolves in the Ukiah Valley area to address associated risk to livestock, and staff are monitoring the region to confirm resident activity by new wolves as well as confirm the current movements of the Fivemile Pack.

The goal of lethal action is to end chronic depredation, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, but livestock producers also will continue to use nonlethal measures.

# Pendleton records near normal temps in August

## Average recorded temperature during the month was 63.7 degrees

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Pendleton area experienced near normal temperatures during the month of September, according to preliminary data received by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Weather Service Office in Pendleton.

The average temperature during the month was 63.7 degrees, 0.2 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 78.5 degrees, 1.1 degrees above normal, according to the monthly climate summary.

The highest temperature was 90 degrees recorded Sept. 5.

Low temperatures averaged 48.8 degrees, 0.6 degrees below normal. The lowest temperature for the month was 38 degrees, recorded Sept. 16.

Precipitation for the month totaled 0.63 inches, which was 0.06 inches above normal, the report said. Measurable precipitation — at least 0.01 inch —

was received on four days during the month, according to the monthly climate summary, with the heaviest, 0.32 inches, recorded Sept. 27.

Precipitation for the year is 4.99 inches, which is 3.67 inches below normal. Since October 2020, the water year precipitation at the Pendleton airport has been

9.44 inches, 3.22 inches below normal, according to the monthly climate summary.

The highest wind gust was 52 mph on Sept. 18, the report said.

The outlook for October from NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center calls for near normal temperatures and above normal precip-

itation. Normal highs for the Pendleton airport fall from 71 degrees at the start of October to 57 degrees at the end of the month. Normal lows fall from 44 degrees to 37 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 1.01 inches.

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