

Grant Union art student receives recognition

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union Junior-Senior High School sophomore Anastasiya Hozhenko received honorable mention for her colored pencil drawing "The Glass Red Pepper" at a regional high school art competition.

Her art, along with work from six of her schoolmates and students from 14 other schools, including Prairie City, Union, La Grande and North Powder, is on display at the annual Eastern Oregon Regional High School Art Exhibition.

Over 300 entries are on display through March 21 at the Nightingale Gallery at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

Hozhenko, a foreign exchange student from Ukraine, enjoys drawing with colored pencils and said this was her first juried art show.

"I enjoy art, but have never competed," she said. "I was surprised, because I didn't think I was going to win. It was



Anastasiya Hozhenko

my first big picture."

Grant Union art teacher JJ Collier said seven of her students entered eight art pieces.

Among the entries were an etched mirror, a collage, a tile and mirror mosaic and a black and white drawing.

Hoshenko's drawing was done during a class still life project that included glass fruits, a bottle and deer antlers.

Collier said all the entries from her class were high quality.

"It's always fun when you get an award winner," she said.



Contributed photo

Grant Union sophomore Anastasiya Hozhenko won honorable mention for her drawing titled "The Glass Red Pepper" at the Eastern Oregon Regional High School Art Exhibition. Artwork by students from several high schools is being featured through March 21 at the Nightingale Gallery at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

"You never know."

The Nightingale Gallery, located in Loso Hall on the EOU campus, is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.



The Eagle/Ryan Boggs

Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton and County Judge Scott Myers confer after a county court meeting on Wednesday, March 8.

Community garden proposed in Canyon City

County court will meet every other week

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

A resident is proposing a community garden in Canyon City.

Stephen Cross approached the Grant County Court March 8 to inquire about turning a lot owned by the county into a garden to benefit the community. The lot, on Adams Street, is used for parking and sand-bag storage.

Cross said he wants to create an aesthetically pleasing garden to produce food for the community that residents will take pride in.

"If it looks nice, people will take ownership of it and it will be an asset to the community," Cross said.

He wants to create a facility to help those less fortunate and make the community more self-sustaining.

Grant County Judge Scott Myers suggested meeting with representatives from Canyon City to review zoning regulations for the lot. He suggested the garden may also find a home on a lot near the Inland Street Bridge, which the county is looking at purchasing as part of flood mitigation efforts. The 3.2-acre lot is near the river, which would make irrigation more feasible, according to County Commissioner Jim Hamsher.

Several members of the community voiced support for the garden. Dave Traylor likened it to the liberty gardens used to help sustain communities in wartime.

"A tastefully designed liberty garden would be so cool," resident Judy Kerr said.

Cross said he hoped to have a garden in place by June for the growing season.

The court was also presented with a refinished

plaque in honor of General Ulysses Grant, for whom the county was named. The plaque had been given to the county in 2014 but had faded and was retouched by Dave Traylor, Linnea Coleman and Ron Ballard.

During the meeting, it was announced there will be no court on March 15. The court will now meet every second and fourth Wednesday to allow the judge and commissioners to travel more freely throughout the state.

The court also:

- reviewed and signed a data license agreement with the department of revenue to provide them with information on tax lots.

- reviewed manufactured home ownership document system building codes.

- reviewed and signed an agreement with Oster Professional Group for auditor services.

- reviewed and approved a liquor license application for Silvie Valley Ranch.

Former John Day resident pens books about St. Patrick

Blue Mountain Eagle

Former John Day resident C.L. "Carrie" Neely has authored two recently released books about the life of St. Patrick, "The Making of a Saint" and "The Mission of a Saint."

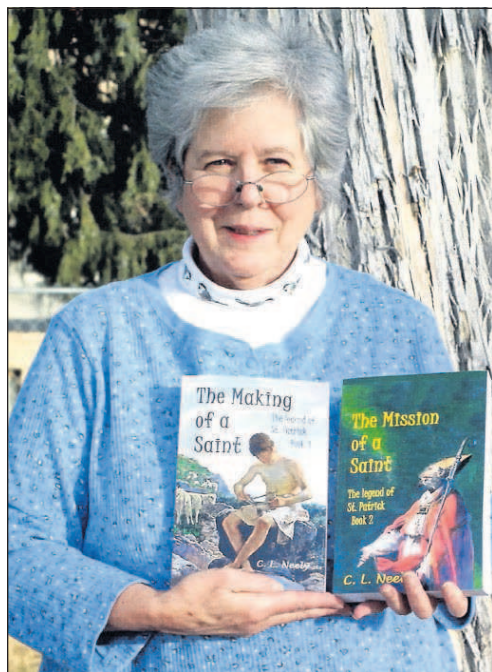
Neely, who now lives in Utah, said she was astonished as she separated fact from fiction in her studies of St. Patrick, who lived over 1500 years ago.

"Before researching his life, I always thought he was just another Catholic Saint with the myth of ridding Ireland of snakes," she said.

Her first book begins the moment Patrick was kidnapped by Irish raiders and sold as a slave, and her second book covers the battles Patrick fought and surprising friendships he made.

"God used Patrick to take a land, wrestling with superstition and evil, and transform it into one of unity, as he gained a foothold against the evils of the druids," Neely said.

Both books can be found in paperback and Kindle editions and are available online at Amazon. For more information, email Neely at Carrien2u@yahoo.com.



Contributed photo

Former John Day resident Carrie Neely has written two books about St. Patrick, which are available online at Amazon.

Kam Wah Chung open spring break

Museum open late March, early April

Blue Mountain Eagle

Kam Wah Chung will be open during special hours for spring break this year. The interpretive cen-

ter will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with museum tours offered at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. March 27-31 and April 3-7.

"It is also a great time for parents to bring their kids while school is out," said Friends of Kam Wah Chung member Kyle Cline. "This

is an excellent opportunity to meet our new museum curator, Don Merritt, and welcome him to our community."

More information, including photos, videos, documents and background history can be found at FriendsOfKamWahChung.com.

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CHAMBER CHATTER
Whether you want to believe it or not, the upcoming solar eclipse, which will take place on Aug. 21, 2017, will be here before we know it. It is taking on a life of its own. If you have any doubts about the number of visitors coming, all you need to do is attend and listen to the feedback at the next eclipse meeting at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the Canyon City Community Hall. The Chamber of Commerce has taken on the responsibility of organizing the event. Our goal is to make this a very successful, safe and memorable experience for all. Under the capable hands of project organizer Tammy Bremner, officials and volunteers from each community are involved plus about every local, county, state and federal agency that will be needed to address any problems that may arise. A few tips that might help you prior to and during the event are to expect a large crowd, slower traffic and delayed emergency services. You should fuel your vehicles beforehand and keep them locked. Stock up on groceries and necessities ahead of time. Keep your property lit, leash your pets and be aware of stranger danger. Above all, be friendly, helpful and extend a Grant County welcome. What a great opportunity to showcase our county. Who knows, a visitor may decide to move their family and a job-based company to our area which could help our local economy and schools. Don't miss out on our next chamber meeting Thursday, March 16. The business meeting begins at 11 a.m. at the Chamber, then adjourns to the Outpost at noon for our luncheon meeting. Our guest speakers will be Tygh Campbell and Colby Marshall from the Silvie Valley Ranch who will be sharing plans and job opportunities for their July 2017 opening of the new Western Frontier Experience. See you at our meeting. Spring is around the corner!

Jerry Franklin
President

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