



HYPOTHESES IN ACTION



Grant Union student Marissa Smith, right, visits with Dr. Anthony Tovar during the Grant Union Science Fair in John Day. Tovar, a professor of physics at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, was one of three judges.

Discoveries shared at Grant Union Science Fair

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

At Thursday's Grant Union Science Fair, 13 students shared their discoveries with three judges at the school library.

Nine of the students were in Sonna Smith's chemistry class, and four were in Randy Hennen's upper-level science classes.

"I always appreciate the opportunity for them to participate in the scientific process," Hennen said. "Designing the project, collecting the data, analyzing and interpreting it — that process is the most important part of the whole science fair enterprise."

This year's winners were sophomores Marissa Smith and Madi McKrola, who tied for first place, and senior James Mabe who placed second.

The winners received gift cards for fuel and monetary prizes donated by Old West Federal Credit Union and an anonymous donor.

Smith waded in streams to answer the question, "How Does Fire in Stream Riparian Affect Fish Populations?"

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Science fair judge Neil Bauer visits with senior Courtney Allen about her project at the Grant Union library.



Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union junior Zack Deiter chats with Brent Smith who was visiting Thursday's science fair, and, in back, judge Amy Stiner, right, visits with senior James Mabe about his project.

“Designing the project, collecting the data, analyzing and interpreting it — that process is the most important part of the whole science fair enterprise.”

Randy Hennen, Science teacher



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

Canyon City Public Works Director Les Percy, Grant County Commissioner Jim Hamsher and county Emergency Management Coordinator Ted Williams keep an eye on high water levels at the Inland Bridge in Canyon City on Thursday morning.

Canyon Creek rises

Pre-evacuation flood notice issued for area between high school and Nugget Street Bridge

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Canyon Creek is close to escaping its banks.

A level-one pre-evacuation notice for Canyon Creek between Grant Union High School and the Nugget Street Bridge is still in effect, according to Emergency Management Coordinator Ted Williams.

The level-one notice ad-

vises residents in the area to be aware of the danger and monitor local media for information. Residents should take note and make preparations for relocating if needed. The National Weather Service is predicting a chance of showers for the rest of the week, but has not re-issued a flood watch.

The Inland and Nugget Street bridges are still closed, and local officials are keeping

an eye on high water levels in the area. Canyon Creek was running at roughly 750 cubic feet per second on Tuesday morning, Williams said. He predicts the creek could escape its banks at 850 to 900 cubic feet per second, though he admitted working with the new berms put in place around the creek is a learning experience.

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John Day looks at investing in Main Street

Businesses voice support

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

The city of John Day is looking into purchasing a two story, 11,294-square foot residential and business building on a 12,632-square foot lot.

The building, at 131 W. Main St., currently houses four business, Naturally Yours, Etc., Karen Barntish LTC and H & R Block, and six apartments upstairs, only one of which is occupied.

After being approached by and meeting with business owners, John Day City Man-



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

The city of John Day is looking into purchasing the building at 131 W. Main St., which currently houses four business, Naturally Yours, Etc., Karen Barntish LTC and H & R Block, and six apartments upstairs, only one of which is occupied.

ager Nick Green submitted an application for an Oregon Main Street Revitalization

Grant up to \$100,000. The grant is intended to “acquire, rehabilitate and

construct buildings on properties in designated downtown areas statewide and facilitate community revitalization that will lead to private investment, job creation or retention, establishing or expanding viable business or creating a stronger tax base,” according to Oregon Parks and Recreation.

The current owners of the building are asking \$299,000 for the property, which has been on the market for about 850 days. It has a current real market value of \$247,750 and a restored real market value of \$774,200. If the grant came through, the city would still need at least \$147,750 to purchase the property and an addition-

al \$2.08 million to restore the property, according to Green.

Naturally Yours employee Jamie Brown is in support of the investment and sees it as a step toward fighting population decline and making John Day more appealing.

“I don't think counting on tourist money is wise, but it certainly doesn't hurt to make the town more attractive,” Brown said. “I think even the local people will want to spend more time downtown if it's more attractive.”

The space Naturally Yours occupies has a variety of

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