

GONE FISHIN'

The Eagle/Rylan Boggs
Rosalinda Gonzalez casts into
Magone Lake Monday, May 29.

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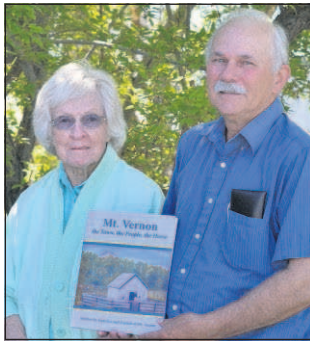
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Mt. Vernon: 'Filling in the blanks' of history

Friends compile history of Grant County town

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Mt. Vernon residents Mary Ellen Brooks, left, and Lyle Williams spearheaded a book project, writing and compiling "Mt. Vernon: the Town, the People, the Horse."

of Mt. Vernon history have been published here and there.

"We thought we would just fill in the blanks," he said.

Brooks said she and Williams reached out to descendants of area homesteaders and found information for the book through the library and internet, digging up stories and photographs.

A committee of several longtime Mt. Vernon residents started meeting two years ago to start the process.

Brooks and Williams had help from Dale Morris, Millie Belshaw, Wilma Bauer, Darlene Muzzy and others, and research was also conducted at the Grant County Courthouse and Grant County Historical Museum in Canyon City.

"I like history," Brooks said. "When my generation is gone, the history dies because young people don't know, until you write it. My inspiration behind writing the book was to get the history out and to make money for the Mt. Vernon Alumni Scholarship Committee."

The scholarship, administered through Grant School

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Children take turns petting search and rescue dog Gabby. The long-haired German shepherd is owned by Cindy Lemcke, right.

Lost and found

Search and rescue volunteers share tips with Humbolt, Seneca students

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

"Why don't you want to be lost?" Search and rescue volunteer Dan Vandehey posed that question to a large gathering of kindergarten through sixth-grade students at an assembly May 31 at Humbolt Elementary School.

The gym was abuzz with answers from the students from Humbolt and Seneca, expressing plenty of reasons why they didn't

want to become lost.

The Grant County Search and Rescue team told them there were also plenty of things they could do to prevent becoming lost and to make it easier to find them if they did.

"Always tell a person where you're going and what you're doing, and always tell an adult," Vandehey said.

Search and rescue volunteer Kim Kell emphasized the "buddy system," going with a friend rather than alone.

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Medical marijuana dispensary opens in John Day

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant County's first medical marijuana dispensary opened its doors last week.

Rocky Mtn. Dispensary began selling a variety of medical marijuana products Thursday, June 1.

The business, at 27877 Apple Road in John Day, hopes to help patients conveniently access their medicine while keeping money in the county.

"People were really tired of going out of town and going to Bend to get their medical cannabis," owner Cindy Kidd said.

Kidd's family started the business to fill a need felt by their family and the community.

"Different illnesses in our family have inspired us to get this thing going," Kidd said.

While medical marijuana is available in other counties, it's difficult for some patients, such as those with cancer, to make the nearly three hour drive to Bend, owner Haley Olson said.

Many patients are on fixed incomes and traveling adds an additional expense, she said. There are 108 medical cardholders in the county, according to the Oregon Health Authority.

The Grant County Court voted Sept. 28, 2016, to pass an ordinance allowing registered medical marijuana patients to purchase marijuana at dispensaries in Grant County. The amended ordinance only allows medical marijuana, not recreational, dispensaries.

One person applying for a medical card to utilize the dispensary is Kelly Olson. Kelly

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'62 Days celebration highlights 'Miner's Eclipse'

Sharon Livingston named grand marshal

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

Sharon Livingston is the grand marshal for this year's '62 Days celebration in Canyon City.

Livingston, of Long Creek, grew up in the area and regularly takes part in the festival and rides in the parade. She said her grandmother was named queen of the '62 Days celebration 48 years ago.

"I'm very appreciative," she said. "It's nice to be recognized."

She said one of her favorite aspects about the festival is its ability to bring people from the area together.

"It's part of our history. It's part of us," Livingston said. "People get together, they



Sharon Livingston

visit, they talk over old times, have some entertainment and get to town."

While the celebration brings people together with music, food and a parade, it also observes the history of the area.

"This is just something to recognize gold being discovered here in 1862," Livingston said.

This year's theme is "Miner's Eclipse" in recognition of both the upcoming eclipse and the area's deep mining history.

The festival is a staple in the community, and Livingston hopes it remains that way.

"I like to have young people involved because those are the people that carry on our traditions," she said.

The '62 Days celebration takes place

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Eagle file photo

The Whiskey Gulch Gang, which organizes the activities for '62 Days, rides in last year's parade.