

# Monument SkillsUSA students plan park project

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Students in Monument High School's Career and Technical Student Organization, SkillsUSA, expressed an interest to their adviser Michele Engle in giving back to the community.

As a result, three students are spearheading a project to add wheelchair accessibility to the town's city park, which lies at the heart of Monument.

Senior Kyla Emerson, who is SkillsUSA president for Monument School, junior Aubrey Bowlus (vice president) and junior Miranda Cook completed a needs assessment of the J. Dempsey Boyer Park.

"The students decided it was clear that our park is not accessible to handicapped or disabled community members or travelers," Engle said, adding while there is



Contributed photo

**Monument School SkillsUSA members, left to right, Kyla Emerson, a senior, and juniors Aubrey Bowlus and Miranda Cook are working on plans to create an ADA accessible path and picnic area at the Monument city park.**

currently a gravel path, it is overgrown with weeds and grass.

"This park is used for all of our community events, school picnics, Fourth of July celebrations, funerals,

weddings, and daily play," she said.

Engle said city leaders have approved the park plans.

In their assessment, the three students found that a

wheelchair-accessible sidewalk and picnic area would help people of all abilities utilize the park.

"This sidewalk will enable them to reach the play area and basketball

court," Engle said.

She said a picnic table made to seat all sizes of wheelchairs is another part of the design.

On March 1, the students held a ham dinner fundraiser to help pay for the expenses for their SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference.

"There was such tremendous turnout that our students decided to give half of their profits to the park sidewalk project," Engle said. "The remaining \$3,200, the students hope to secure by May via more fundraisers or even a successful grant response."

She said Dan Emerson Contracting and Engle Contracting have offered their labor as in-kind work.

If they can secure funding, the group hopes to have the project done by late May.

Kyla Emerson said she's

looking forward to seeing the completion of the project.

"I'm excited to see the sidewalk go into the park and see how many individuals it helps," she said.

Monument SkillsUSA students will attend the program's March 14-16 State Leadership and Skills Conference in Clackamas. There are 15 students in the local program in grades 7-12, and seven plan to attend the conference.

Sophomore Samantha Adams will compete in pin design, which was created using Adobe and represents Oregon and many of its skilled trades; junior Drew Wilburn and senior Cade Milton will compete in welding, including mig, tig and shielded metal arc welding; and Emerson, Bowlus and Cook will give a presentation on their community service project.

# Juniper Arts Council distributes Cultural Trust grants

Quilters, Fiber Fest, museum, PTA and YAP receive funding

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Six nonprofit organizations that received Oregon Cultural Trust grant funding will bring a variety of artistic and cultural experiences to Grant County this year.

The list includes a quilt show, a fiber arts festival, a theatrical performance for elementary students and an event that will include educational activities for children at local museums. A professional classical pianist will also present an outdoor concert, and a Youth Arts Program will bring opportunities for students in all Grant County schools (and adults) to try various instruments.

The Juniper Arts Council board members previously reviewed grant applications for the OCT funding, and JAC president and secretary Kris Beal handed out grant checks on Feb. 28 at the Grant School District 3 meeting room in Canyon City, and a representative from each group described their plans.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

**The Juniper Arts Council distributed Cultural Trust grants on Feb. 28 at the Grant School District 3 office in Canyon City. Representatives of nonprofits receiving grants, left to right: Peggy Murphy, Patrick Gamman, Adele Cerny, Janine Goodwin, Alexandria Maurer, Ginger Shive, Cheri Bellmore, Karen Hinton and Joan Hopper.**

Recipients included Karen Hinton who accepted \$2,876 on behalf of the Piecemakers Quilting Guild; Ginger Shive, \$500, Prairie City Fiber Fest; Alexandria Maurer, \$400, Humboldt Elementary Parent Teachers Association; Peggy Murphy, \$1,150, Grant County Historical Museum; Adele Cerny and John Day Fossil Beds National Monument Superintendent Patrick Gamman, \$500, for an outdoor piano concert at Cant Ranch; and Janine Goodwin, \$1,577.76, Youth Arts Program.

The quilting guild will use their grant funds to buy PVC pipes to create a pole system for the displays at their annual quilt show, which will be held May 10-11 this year at the Grant County Fairgrounds Pavilion in John Day.

"One of the things we try to look at are groups that have a proven record, for example, the quilt guild because this is their 19th annual quilt show," Beal said.

Fiber Fest board members are a newer organization with some big plans.

Shive said she and three

others formed a board a year and a half ago to organize a Fiber Fest which will include nine fiber arts workshops on July 26-27 in Prairie City. Dozens of vendors, 25 so far, will also set up in the city on July 27-28 at the Prairie City Community Center, the Teen Center and the city park. The grant award will help pay for Wi-Fi in those areas. The group's website is prairiecityfiberfest.com.

Humboldt PTA's funding will pay for a visit from the theater group Hampstead Stage. Two actors will

play several parts in "Treasure Island" the morning of April 9 at the school in Canyon City. Prairie City and Dayville schools will also be invited to the performance.

Murphy said \$650 of the grant money will be used for Passport to Fun at the Canyon City museum as well as other museums in John Day and Prairie City. In its second year, the history event is for toddlers through 12-year-olds and held during spring break March 25-29. The remaining \$500 will pay for engraved informational signs for the muse-

um's exhibits.

Cerny has arranged for pianist Hunter Noack of the nonprofit "In a Landscape" to perform classical music "in the wild" on his 9-foot Steinway grand piano. Audience members wear wireless headsets during the experience. Concert dates for up to 200 audience members are scheduled for Friday, June 28, with a second concert Saturday, June 29, if there is enough of a response. Tickets will be available on April 15 through Noack's website inalandscape.org, and 100 free tickets will be offered to Grant County residents. Otherwise, tickets are \$25 each. Noack's website includes videos of past performances in outdoor settings.

YAP's funding will be used for "instrument tasting" allowing students in outlying schools to try various instruments. Goodwin hopes to visit every school in the county, and she said adults are also welcome. Funds will also be used for a stipend for the bell choir and orchestra directors. YAP's next concert, with performers from age 4-75, is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 10 at the United Methodist Church. The theme is "Music of the Western Hemisphere," featuring songs originating from Canada to Chile.

## TREAT YOUR FEET

**Our Services Include:**

- Skin Inspection
- Nail Trimming
- Callus and Corn Reduction
- Electric filling of thick, hard to cut nails
- Basic foot care provided by a trained CNA
- Advanced foot care provided by a Certified Foot Care Specialist
- Monument/outlying foot clinic every 8 weeks

**541-575-1648**  
Call for an Appointment  
**\$35 fee**

Services available at  
**Home Health Office,**  
422 W. Main, John Day.



**Blue Mountain Hospital FOOT CLINIC**  
bluemountainhospital.org

We provide Basic and Advanced foot care nursing based on current medical research and professional guidelines. Reduce your risk for foot infection and injury by scheduling with our professional staff today.

### THE JUNIPER ARTS COUNCIL IS SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE JOHN AND LINDA SHELK COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Juniper Arts Council is seeking grant applications from Grant County organizations for community projects that benefit Grant County communities. The JAC has \$3,000 to distribute from the Shelk Foundation for community projects. The maximum grant award is \$1,000. An example of a recent Shelk recipient: Blue Mountain Community College and Oregon State University received a grant to purchase welding safety gear sets to be used for welding classes held at Grant Union with college credit from BMCC.

Applications are available from Karin Barntish at 131 West Main Street in John Day. Further information is available from Kris Beal at 541-932-4892.

**Applications are due April 5, 2019 by 5 PM.**

108932

## ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Are you ready for the next step?  
Don't forget to apply for a  
Silvies Valley Ranch Education Scholarship.

Open to Grant & Harney County students.  
Postmark deadline is  
**April 1, 2019**  
Applications are available from your  
school's guidance counselor or online at  
[www.silvies.us](http://www.silvies.us)



EST. 1883  
**SILVIES VALLEY RANCH**

### THE SENECA PTA WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU!

Bank of Eastern Oregon	Timbers Bistro
Les Schwabs of Burns	Crown Cattle Co.
1st Choice Auto Body	John Day NAPA
Nydram's Ace Hardware	Blue Mtn. Chiropractic
GIBCO	Subway of John Day
Old West FCU	Pioneer Feed and Farm Supply
JW Pettyjohn Trucking	The Cut Above
John Day True Value	POINT Chiropractic-Jeremy and Meg Boethin
Chester's Thriftway	King Fresh Produce and Hazelnut
Polished Nails	Jack and Teresa Southworth
JD Rents & Power Equipment	Gardner's Enterprises
John Day Golf Club	OTEC
Les Schwab of John Day	Solutions CPA's
Mobile Glass	IZ Ranch
Gourmet & Gadgets	John Day Vet Center
Len's Drug	Gander Ranch
Outpost	KJDY
Laurie and Charlie Stinnett	Eileen Roberts

And everyone who showed up to play and support the Seneca School!