

# Burril wins Breaking Barriers Educator of Year

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant County Education Service District Special Ed Director/Specialist Wendy Burril was recently named the Breaking Barriers Educator of the Year.

Burril received the award, which recognizes people making a difference for people with disabilities in Oregon, at the Breaking Barriers Conference April 26 in Redmond.

Grant County ESD Superintendent Robert Waltenburg said, thanks to Burril, the ESD will also be hiring a half-time youth transition specialist.

"Wendy was instrumental in bringing this position to the four outlying districts," he said. "She has a heart for these students, and it really shows in all she does for them."

Burril was nominated for the award for helping a student in Long Creek build job skills in an area with limited opportunities to work at a restaurant.

Despite the 80-mile round-trip commute, Burril set the student up to travel to the John Day Senior Center with a job coach to volunteer for skill development.

Later, she approached a John Day restaurant and set up the opportunity for the student to work as a dishwasher four days per week.

When the restaurant advertised for a dishwasher position, they encouraged the student to apply for the job.

Burril continued seeking additional opportunities for the student to develop employment and communication skills.



Contributed photo

Grant County Education Service District Special Education Director/Specialist Wendy Burril, center, receives the Breaking Barriers Educator of the Year award at the Breaking Barriers Conference in Redmond April 26. At left is Donna Lowry, transition network/pre-ETS support specialist, and at right is Heather Lindsey, secondary transition liaison/office of student services.

# EOU graduates celebrate commencement June 15

Blue Mountain Eagle

Eastern Oregon University graduates will celebrate their achievements during two commencement ceremonies on Saturday, June 15, in La Grande.

Graduates from the College of Business, the College of Science, Technology, Mathematics and Health Sciences, those graduating with a Master of Business Administration and those from EOU's partner program with Oregon State University will walk across the stage starting at 10 a.m. on June 15.

Later that afternoon, at 2 p.m., the gym will fill with graduates from the College of Education, the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, those completing a nursing degree from Oregon Health and Science University and those receiving a Master of Science in Education or Master of Arts in Teaching.

Distinguished EOU alumnus and Oscar-nominated filmmaker Skye Fitzgerald will deliver the keynote speech at both ceremonies, addressing about 200 graduates at each. After graduating with a degree in theater and a minor in creative writing in 1993, Fitzgerald earned an MFA and started Spin Film in Portland.

Additional student achievements will be highlighted at several special events leading



Contributed photo/Eastern Oregon University Eastern Oregon University 2018 graduates celebrate their commencement. The 2019 commencement takes place during two ceremonies June 15 in La Grande.

up to commencement. Online and onsite students who've completed their degrees at one of EOU's 11 regional centers or online will celebrate their achievements from 5-7 p.m. June 14 on the third floor of Hoke Union Building in room 339.

All 438 commencement participants will convene June 15 for their respective ceremonies in Quinn Coliseum. Tickets are required for the main seating area in the gym, but overflow areas do not require tickets. Free parking is available all day in campus lots, excluding reserved spaces.

Additional ceremony information is available at eou.edu/commencement or by contacting the Registrar's Office at commencement@eou.edu or 541-962-3607.

# Andrea Comer receives art scholarship

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union High School senior Andrea Comer was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Grant County Art Association.

The association offers the scholarship to a student who plans to pursue art or an art-related course.

Association Secretary Eloise Boren said Comer submitted three original pieces that showed artistic ability and creativity. Comer is enrolled to attend Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton and plans to pursue a degree in art or graphic design.

"We're so proud to give this scholarship to a student who shows so much artistic promise," said association President Mary Snyder.

The Grant County Art Association, a nonprofit organization, was formed in 1969 and encourages art



Contributed photo

Grant Union senior Andrea Comer was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Grant County Art Association.

in the community by offering workshops, awards at the Grant County Fair and scholarships. Association members meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to paint and support artist endeavors.

For more information, contact Boren at 541-987-2138 or email her at eloise@erprintingandgraphics.com.

# Grant County Futures Scholarship recipients announced

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant County Futures Scholarship has named two winners.

Erin Cantrell and Teri Hamilton have been selected as the recipients of the 2019-2020 Grant County Futures Scholarship, which is awarded by the local Grant County College Advisory Board from an endowment of the EOU Foundation.

The scholarships will be used for tuition and books for classes taken through Eastern Oregon University or Blue Mountain Community College's online programs through the Grant County Center.

Cantrell is a Blue Mountain Community College student working on prerequisites for acceptance into the BMCC nursing program in Pendleton. Hamilton is also attending BMCC, working on her Associate of Applied Science in early childhood education.

The Grant County College Advisory Board awards the Futures Scholarship each year, and it is available for local students seeking degrees through the Grant County Center, located in the Grant County ESD, 835 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day.

For more information about the scholarship, and EOU and BMCC programs, contact Ashley Armichard at 541 575-1550.

# Pfefferkorn receives BEO scholarship

Blue Mountain Eagle

Haley Pfefferkorn of Prairie City has been awarded a \$500 scholarship from Bank of Eastern Oregon. The bank awards this annual scholarship to high school seniors from Eastern Oregon who plan to enroll in agriculture or business while in college.

While attending Prairie City High School, Pfefferkorn participated in FFA, volleyball, basketball, track and student government and won numerous athletic awards.

Pfefferkorn will attend Montana State University to study agricultural education. Bank of Eastern Oregon awarded scholarships to 14 Eastern Oregon high school graduates this year, for a total of \$7,000.

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FRI - THURS (4:00) 7:00 9:35

**THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2 (PG)**

Continuing the story of Max and his pet friends, following their secret lives after their secret leave them for work or school each day.

FRI - THURS (4:20) 7:20 9:45

**DARK PHOENIX (PG-13)**

Jean Grey begins to develop incredible powers that corrupt and turn her into a Dark Phoenix.

FRI - THURS (4:10) 7:10 9:40

**\$9 Adult, \$7 Senior (60+), Youth**