

Grant Union's automotive shop comes to fruition

Growth provides more opportunities to learn and work on vehicles

By Rudy Diaz
Blue Mountain Eagle

Automotive students at Grant Union now have a shop where they can do more than ever before.

Grant Union teacher Jason Miller said the shop provides numerous benefits for students such as more space for more projects to pursue at the same time.

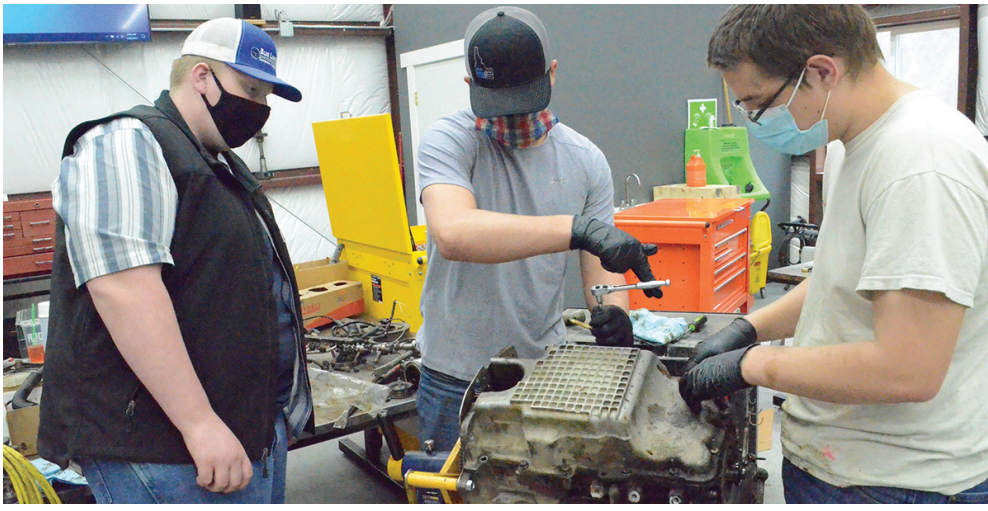
Prior to the new shop, the automotive class shared the indoor space with the metal shop class.

"This benefits us by being able to pull cars in and work on vehicles and projects at any time," Miller said. "When we shared a shop, we had to coordinate when I can have something in there with the metal shop teacher."

The extra space now allows the class to work on multiple cars at the same time or carry out longer projects that could take weeks to complete.

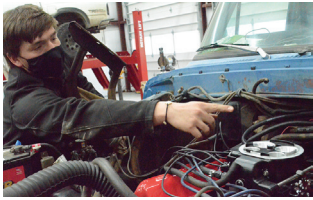
"I have space to work on small engines with the automotive one classes, the beginners, and still have automobiles in the shop to work on throughout the day," Miller said.

Senior Devon Stokes said he likes the move to the new building because it allows the automotive program to work on more projects and different



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz

From left, Grant Union sophomore Wyatt Nolan, senior Noah Blood and senior Michael Dillely work on an engine at the new automotive shop.



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz

Senior Devon Stokes points at the engine of the 1973 Ford F-250 he is working on and the fuel injection kit being installed.

vehicles at a quicker rate.

"Being able to learn from different things from different vehicles and how to take them apart have been a benefit," Stokes said. "This class has been important for me personally because I learned a lot about my vehicle and other people's vehicles so I can feel comfortable when somebody asks me for something simple that I can help out with."

Senior Logan McCluskey said this is his first year in the class, but it's nice to work on different vehicles and do more types of projects than when the program was in a shared space.

Stokes and McCluskey are helping refurbish a 1973 Ford F-250 owned by their friend Quinten Hallgarth.

"Quinten's deal is kind of a special deal," Miller said about the truck Stokes is working on. "It's something that he and I have been planning for a long time. It's a good opportunity for a lot of kids to see that come together and then for him to take a vehicle that's been in his family for years and refurbish it."

Miller said students can now set up appointments, so maintenance, such as changing oil or changing the transfer case, can be completed on their vehicles.

"It's good for kids to know about their own vehicles," Miller said. "I hope at some point in the near future we can start offering maintenance for teachers at first, and then once we get good at that, we can open it up for a car a day to get oil changed and give these kids experience with different vehicles."

Sophomore Wyatt Nolan said the shop has been nice for students so they could save money by fixing some of the vehicle problems while learning how to do it.

"Being able to fix our own vehicles and learning how to do it and having the tools available to us that we don't have at home have been some of the benefits," said Senior Noah Blood.

The funds for the new shop came from High School Success — funds from Measure 98.

GRANT UNION STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Seventh grade
Aaliyah Judd
Parents: Jesse and Marci Judd



Eighth grade
Cash Madden
Parents: Jesse and Michal Madden



Ninth grade
Lavina Kiser
Parents: Pat and Jeanna Kiser



10th grade
Andrew Hunt
Parents: Robert and Shana Hunt



11th grade
Cooper Peterson
Parents: Bob and Jennifer Peterson



12th grade
Abby Lusco
Parents: Andy and Angie Lusco

CORRECTION

The Eagle misidentified Blue Mountain Hospital District board secretary Linda Ladd as board member Dotty Parsons in a photo caption regarding the hospital district's move to part ways with Health TechS3 in the Feb. 10 edition.

The Eagle regrets the error.

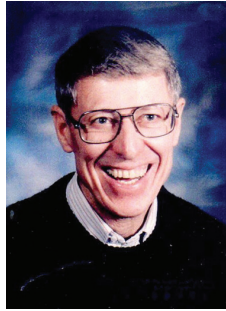
OBITUARIES

Allan R. Olson

Sept. 7, 1935 – Feb. 3, 2021

Allan Robert Olson, age 85, passed away Feb. 3, 2021, at his residence in John Day, Oregon. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 1 p.m. at the Grant County Regional Airport.

Allan was born Sept. 7, 1935, in Twin Falls, Idaho, to Sidney and Beulah (Bee-son) Olson. He attended Boise High School and Northwest Nazarene College and graduated with a master's degree from the University of Idaho. He served



Thomas James Bronson Sr.

July 20, 1936 – Feb. 1, 2021

Thomas James Bronson Sr. was born on July 20, 1936, in Ontario, Oregon, to Otto and Loise (Dombly) Bronson. He passed away in Boise, Idaho, due to heart complications on Feb. 1, 2021.

Tom grew up on the family ranch, northeast of Ironside, Oregon. He and his little sister, Lavelle, attended grade school in Malheur City and Grouse Creek. He graduated high school in Ontario, Oregon, in 1955.

In 1958, he joined the Air National Guard, as a fuel supply specialist. He was honorably discharged in 1964.

Tom met the love of his life, Lois Affeld, in Ironside at a neighbor's ranch where she was babysitting, when he went to gather up some stray cows. The two were wed on May 20, 1959, in John Day, Oregon.

Tom and Lois spent the rest of their lives on the Ironside family ranch raising their four children, along with hay and cows.

Tom was a hard worker who loved to ranch. He was an excellent equipment operator and a hay truck driver. He was very generous in helping others and loved to play practical jokes on friends and family. He enjoyed hunting elk and fishing, if you could get him off the ranch.

He was a member of the Burnt River School Board and a member of the Ironside Road District for many years.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, sister and wife.

Tom is survived by his children, TJ (Joann) Bronson of Ontario, Oregon, Eric (Rhonda) Bronson of Huntington, Oregon, Peter (Terri) Bronson of Prineville, Oregon, and April Bronson of Burns, Oregon; grandchildren, James Bronson, Kyle Bronson, Robert Bronson, Wade Bronson, Aaron Langley, Audreyonna Langley, Adrian Langley, Kathrine (Lee) Butler, Jesse (Wendy) Bronson and Danielle Bronson; and great-grandchildren, Tanner Harp, Stark Langley and Beorn Butler.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.



Umatilla National Forest selects new deputy forest supervisor

EO Media Group

The Umatilla National Forest will soon have a new deputy forest supervisor.

Heidi McRoberts will step into the new role, according to a press release, effective March 14. McRoberts currently serves as a fish biologist on the Nez-Perce Clearwater National Forest.

"The Umatilla is fortunate to have such a highly qualified individual who is so familiar with our communities and landscape join the Forest in this leadership role," said Umatilla National Forest Supervisor Eric Watrud. "Her skills and background are an outstanding complement to the priority work the Forest has underway and the interests of the communities and partners that we serve."

McRoberts brings a variety of experience to the Umatilla National Forest, including a strong natural resources background and experience working with a variety of Tribal governments, County Commissioners, partners, public stakeholders and several National Forests.

Since 2019, McRoberts has worked as a fish biologist on the Forest Plan Revision team for the Nez-Perce Clearwater National Forest, helping to develop and write the plan. This position also requires her to coordinate with other federal agencies and a variety of external stakeholders to understand differing interests



Heidi McRoberts

and develop the plan components to meet multiple use needs.

Prior to this position, McRoberts spent 22 years working for the Nez Perce Tribe, including 10 years as deputy director for the Department of Fisheries Resource Management/Watershed Division. During her time with the Nez Perce Tribe, McRoberts was responsible for leading a large and geographically dispersed department, managing a complex budget and working with a variety of federal agencies, tribes, state and local government and private interest groups. She said the position provided extensive experience in collaboration and partnership development, and a thorough understanding of forest management.

McRoberts has a master's degree in fisheries resources from the University of Idaho and is currently working toward a doctorate in natural resources and society from the University of Idaho.

"I look forward to serving as the Umatilla National Forest's deputy forest supervisor," McRoberts said. "I am eager to meet the forest staff and build relationships with the communities and our partners throughout the area in this new role."

Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	41/22
Wednesday	45/20
Thursday.....	37/20
Friday	22/16
Saturday	26/15
Sunday.....	34/20
Monday.....	45/33

24/7 FORECAST

AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY

162.500 MHZ

WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 17-23

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Chance of snow	Snow	Chance of rain/snow	Slight chance of snow	Chance of rain/snow	Partly sunny	Mostly cloudy
36	41	45	42	46	50	52
15	32	28	29	36	27	26