

Lusco, Manitsas earn Elks scholarships

Two Grant Union graduates earned \$3,000 in scholarships from John Day Elks Lodge 1824.

The \$2,000 first-place prize was awarded to Abigail "Abby" Lusco. Lusco plans to start her higher education at Eastern Oregon University pursuing a degree in nursing. Her ultimate goal is to become an adult/gerontological nurse practitioner.

The second-place scholarship of \$1,000 was awarded to Parker Manitsas. Manitsas plans to attend Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona, to achieve a degree in elementary education and special education.

Both of these students excelled academically, were active in extracurricular activities in and out of school and held several leadership roles throughout their high school careers, according to the Elks Lodge, which has been awarding \$3,000 in scholarships to Grant County graduating seniors for over 60 years.

Weaver, Carter earn degrees from OSU

More than 7,000 students representing all 36 of Oregon's counties, all 50 states and 73 countries have earned degrees as part of Oregon State University's class of 2021 — including two students from Grant County.

The graduates were celebrated with an in-person, informal procession of graduates through the Corvallis campus to Reser Stadium followed by brief remarks from OSU leaders on June 11. Oregon State University President Emeritus Edward J. Ray gave the commencement address during a virtual ceremony June 12.

Wyatt T. Weaver of John Day earned a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering.

Jessica L. Carter of Seneca earned a Bachelor of Science, summa cum laude, in animal sciences.

Lusco wins Mt. Vernon High School Memorial Scholarship

The Mt. Vernon High School Memorial Scholarship Fund recently awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Mt. Vernon resident Abby Lusco, a 2021 graduate of Grant Union High School.

Lusco will continue her education to become a registered nurse at Eastern Oregon University. She is the daughter of Andy and Angie Lusco.

This endowed scholarship, funded by donations, was established in 2003 by the Mt. Vernon High School classes of 1955-1959. Their objective acknowledges the nurturing they received from their community during their formative years by paying forward to help present Mt. Vernon area youth further their education.

Since its inception, 17 scholarships have been awarded.

To donate or for more information, contact Rick Hehn, 7827 Mountain Aire Loop SE, Olympia, WA 98503.

Prairie City Fiber Fest has biggest year yet

Event features 30 vendors, fills 10 workshops

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

After overcoming pandemic restrictions last year, the Prairie City Fiber Fest had its biggest year yet.

"It's just growing and growing and growing," organizer Ginger Shive told the Eagle.

The event featured woolen wares and demonstrations on cleaning wool, spinning and creating valuable and beautiful items.

In its third year, Shive said the festival's goal is to infuse new money into the community.

She said people in Grant County are very opposed to people intruding on the community, and she said she is as well. This, she said, is why the organizers target people who are not looking to stay in the community after the festival.

"My goal was to bring in a lot of people from all over the place that are going to leave money here with lodging and food, and then go home," she said.

Shive said the festival drew around 30 vendors, and 10 workshops filled up.

The event also featured musical acts on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday, jazz pianist Jeff Barbour stepped in as the scheduled musician while "Sage Rats," featuring Joan Suther and Janet Braymen of Burns, performed on Sunday.

Different vendors had different reasons for coming out to the festival.

Angela Rictor, the owner of Painted Harlot Fiber Arts of Vale, said she participated in the festival to "get out of the house and support 4-H and FFA."



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
Isabella Orr of Ukiah and her Valais sheep.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
A sheep at the Prairie City Fiber Fest.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
Workshop instructor LeBrie Rich at the Prairie City Fiber Fest.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
A workshop participant crochets Saturday during Prairie City's fiber festival.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
Miguel Rubio, left, and his grandfather Juan Rubio serve up a burrito Sunday during the Prairie City Fiber Fest.

Thank you!

I would like to express my appreciation to the Prairie City Volunteer Fire Department for their response to the Dixie Creek Fire that suddenly ignited on Saturday, July 3.

Their quick, professional, expert and dedicated work is so much appreciated.

*Thanks,
Bonnie Nance
Prairie City, Oregon*



Thank you to all who attended our 50th wedding anniversary and all of the well wishes & gifts. It was a very special day for us.

Also a special thank you to Julie, Winnie and Brad for planning and arranging this amazing event for us.

**Sincerely,
Mike & Diane Browning**

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Thank you to everyone who supported the 14th Annual Blue Mountain Healthcare Foundation Fundraiser Golf Scramble

Between sponsorships, entries, and donations we raised just over \$10,000! All of which will go toward the purchase of a 3D Mammography Machine for Blue Mountain Hospital

Thank you to our sponsors!

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