

Long Creek, Prairie teams shine in Academic Bowl

By JUSTIN DAVIS
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY — A pair of Grant County teams placed in the 2022 Academic Bowl, an annual general knowledge competition for small schools from around the region held in Prairie City on April 20.

A high school team from Long Creek placed second in the first round of competition and third overall following a “lightning round” between the first round’s top three teams.

Prairie City’s middle school team placed third in the event.

A total of 12 teams took part

in this year’s Academic Bowl. Dayville, Monument and Prairie City each took two high school teams and one middle school team to the event. Long Creek had one high school team and didn’t bring a middle school team to the competition.

Teams generally consist of five members and one alternate, although Long Creek language arts teacher and team adviser Margee Powell said Long Creek’s team didn’t have an alternate. The students answered questions pertaining to a variety of subjects in the fields of math, history and language arts.

“The questions were in-depth

questions,” Powell said. “Nothing was easy-peasy.”

Powell said she was “really happy for them” when asked about her team’s third-place finish in the event. “We have bright kids that worked really hard.”

Powell taught in Dayville for 16 years prior to this year and says this is the first year she took a team from Long Creek to the event.

“We are a young team,” Powell added, noting that Long Creek’s team had no seniors and was made up of two freshmen, two sophomores and one junior. Given the makeup of the squad, the same team can compete in next year’s Academic Bowl.

GRANT UNION STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: APRIL 2022



12th grade
Luke Jackson
Parents: Layne & Janelle Jackson



11th grade
Lucas Wolf
Parents: Josh & Heidi Wolf



10th grade
Alex Finley
Parents: Aaron & Janita Finley



Ninth grade
Monel Anderson
Parents: M.T. & Cori Anderson



Eighth grade:
Lily Durych
Parents: Lily Durych Jay & Stacy Durych



Seventh grade
Everett Vardanega
Parents: Chris & Kabrina Vardanega

Shelton takes reins at Grant Union

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — Karen Shelton has been chosen to be the new principal at Grant Union Junior/Senior High School, the Grant School District announced.

Shelton has been the assistant prin-

icipal at Grant Union for the past two years. She has expertise in social emotional learning, response to intervention, positive behavior support and intervention systems, and has been a key person within the school and a leader of change, according to a news

release issued by the district.

Aug. 1 will be her first day in the building as principal.

Shelton succeeds Ryan Gerry, who is stepping down when his contract expires on June 30. Gerry has been the principal at Grant Union since 2015.

Grape & Grain set for May 13 at fairgrounds

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JOHN DAY — Fine wine and craft beer tasting and

sales, meats, cheeses and more will be available at Grape & Grain at the Grant County Fairgrounds on May 13 from 6-9 p.m.

The event, sponsored by the Grant County Chamber of Commerce, will be held in the Trowbridge Pavilion at the fairgrounds, 411 NW Bridge St. in John Day.

It will feature a silent auction and raffle baskets, with proceeds being donated to local museums. Chocolates, honey, specialty cookies and artisan booths will also be featured.

The DJ for the evening will be Jeff Meyerholz. Tickets are \$25 per person, \$45 per couple if purchased in advance and \$50 per couple at the door. Each ticket is good for one glass of beer or wine and 20 tokens which can be used for wine and beer tastings.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Grant County Chamber of Commerce, 301 W. Main St. in John Day.



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Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who participated, and a Big Thank to our Sponsors

LOCAL BRIEFING

New local business adviser named

LAGRANDE — The Small Business Development Center at Eastern Oregon University has hired a new business adviser for Grant County.

Prairie City resident Audrey Bremner is available to provide free, confidential advice to both established business owners and entrepreneurs looking to start a new venture.

Bremner can be reached at 541-620-2716. The Small Business Development Center in La Grande can be reached by email at eousbdc@gmail.com or by phone at 541-962-1532.

State offers tips on wildfire preparation

SALEM — With wildfire season around the corner, the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal reminds rural residents of the importance of creating defensible space around homes and other structures.

The agency advises property owners to keep grass and weeds cut low and examine their property for areas where embers could ignite spot fires and check vulnerable areas such as decks, patios and fences where flames could spread to homes.

Fire officials recommend taking the following steps now, before wildfire season begins in earnest:

- Clear roofs and gutters of dead leaves, pine needles and other debris that could be ignited by flying embers.
- Ensure your roof is in good repair.
- Move flammable material such as plants, woodpiles, leaves and needles away from exterior walls.
- Remove anything stored under decks or porches.
- Clear a non-combustible area around your home.
- Keep lawns and native grasses mowed during high fire danger conditions.
- Remove ladder fuels (vegetation under trees) so a ground fire can't reach the crowns.

Drought relief loans available

SACRAMENTO — Small nonfarm businesses in 18 Oregon counties, including Grant, can apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration to offset reduced revenues due to the drought that was declared on April 15.

The loans can be used to cover economic losses suffered by nonfarm businesses directly impacted by the drought as well as those that are dependent on farmers or ranchers that suffered drought-related production losses.

Economic injury disaster loans of up to \$2 million are available for qualifying small businesses.

Loan applications and additional information can be found online at <https://disasterloanassistance@sba.gov/>. Applicants can also call the SBA Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information.

— Blue Mountain Eagle

DEATH NOTICES

Daniel McKrola

Daniel McKrola, 80, of John Day/Prairie City died on Monday, May 9, at Blue Mountain Care Center in Prairie City. A memorial service will be held Aug. 6 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Canyon City. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamis-pinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Herbert and Betty McGetrick

A memorial service for Herbert McGetrick, who died July 27, 2010, at the age of 81, and Betty McGetrick, who died May 10, 2020, at the age of 92, will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Canyon City, on Thursday, May 12, at 1 p.m. Burial will follow at the Canyon City Cemetery.

Gloria Wilson

Gloria Wilson, 85, of Baker City, formerly of Prairie City and Richland, died at the Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Pasco, Washington, on May 3. A memorial service will be held on May 27 at 2 p.m. at the Pine Baptist Church in Halfway. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamis-pinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Spring has come to Lake Creek Youth Camp.
We are going to be having our annual Clean Up Day and are looking for volunteers May 15th from 9-1 to help get the camp ready for the 2022 season. If you are looking for a fun way to spend a day in the beautiful outdoors with great people we'd love to have you. This is also a great opportunity for students looking to fulfill their requirements of Community Service hours.
We will be supplying lunch for our volunteers after 1pm. If you or your Group are interested please let us know, You can message us through our Facebook page, email at lakecreekcamp@yahoo.com or contact our Executive Director Melissa Lounsbury at (208)371-0259

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Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Wednesday	72/45
Thursday	57/46
Friday	57/37
Saturday	44/31
Sunday	44/32
Monday	43/27
Tuesday	50/29

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 MAY 11-17

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
55	50	52	65	66	66	63
37	32	41	44	47	44	42