Taking stock of this year's fair



A young competitor rides around the barrels during the Junior

Rodeo.

Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle

By STEVEN MITCHELL Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — With the 113th Grant County Fair and Rodeo in the books, the fairgrounds manager looked back at this year's fair and discussed plans for next year's

Mindy Winegar said this year's fair saw 7,000 people come through the gate throughout the fair week, slightly down from last year.

However, she added, the

fair also saw a record number of vendors and the rodeo had the best turnout since the 1980s, with over 1,300 people showing up over the event's two-night run and more than 150 contestants entering the junior rodeo.

She said the fair's Friday night concert, which featured Eddie Montgomery of Montgomery Gentry as the headliner, did not sell enough tickets to break even.

Winegar said she needs the community to tell her what attractions they would like to see at the fair other than a carnival.

With roughly \$2.2 million coming in grant funding this year, Winegar said the fairgrounds would start working on projects that will include a renovation of Keerins Hall once they have the money in hand.

In the interim, she said planning for next year's fair is starting now. That planning will include deciding whether to book another concert with a big name touring act as the headliner. Additionally, she said, she is thinking about changing the dates so Grant County Fair is not happening at the same time as the Crook and Baker County

Having the fair the same week as Baker and Crook Counties, Winegar said, affects Grant County's overall

numbers. "Being in Grant County," Winegar said, "we need to pull from everyone around us."

FACES IN THE CROWD

Photos from the 113th Grant County Fair and Rodeo



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle

Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle Tate Waddel leads his market steer into the auction pen

during the Grant County Fair Youth Livestock Auction.

THANK YOU MARY ELLEN BROOKS

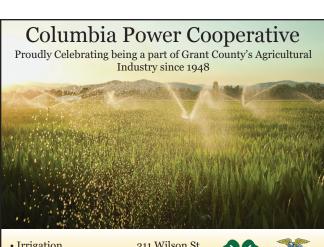
Headliner Eddie Montgomery of Montgomery Gentry kept the audience entertained on Friday, Aug. 12, 2022.

Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle

Singer Jesse Leigh warms up the crowd at the Grant County



 Irrigation Plumbing

Electric

311 Wilson St Monument 541-934-2311



A float in the Grant County Fair and Rodeo parade honors longtime volunteer Mary Ellen Brooks.





Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle A young fair-goer reaches out to pet a goat.

Fair on Friday, Aug. 12, 2022.

Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle A young steer rider holds on during the Junior Rodeo.







Lori Hickerson, Principal Broker, GRI • Office: 541-575-2617 • lih@ortelco.net Sally Knowles, Broker, GRI • Office: 541-932-4493 • sknowles@ortelco.net Babette Larson, Broker, GRI • Office: 541-987-2363 • ddwr@ortelco.net dukewarnerrealtyofeasternoregon.com