

# Taking stock of this year's fair



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle  
A young competitor rides around the barrels during the Junior Rodeo.

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 fair.

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 con-

cert 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 Fairs.

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



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle  
Tate Waddell leads his market steer into the auction pen during the Grant County Fair Youth Livestock Auction.



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle  
A float in the Grant County Fair and Rodeo parade honors longtime volunteer Mary Ellen Brooks.



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle  
Singer Jesse Leigh warms up the crowd at the Grant County Fair on Friday, Aug. 12, 2022.

**Columbia Power Cooperative**  
Proudly Celebrating being a part of Grant County's Agricultural Industry since 1948

- Irrigation
- Plumbing
- Electric

311 Wilson St.  
Monument  
541-934-2311



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



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

**Grant County Chamber of Commerce**

We would like to recognize all the Grant County Fair participants for their hard work and dedication in making the 113th County Fair a Great Success.

**GIBCO**  
AG & INDUSTRIAL

Family-Owned for 37 Years  
Providing Grant County's youth with feed & supplies for 4-H and FFA.

311 N Canyon City Blvd, Canyon City 541-575-2050

**Duke Warner Realty**  
Dayville, Oregon  
Licensed in the State of Oregon

**Congratulations to all 2022 Grant County Fair participants. Job well done!**

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