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Contact: Britnee Packwood, Festival Director

Phone: 509-334-3565

Email: director@lentilfest.com

National Lentil Festival Awards 2018 Lentil Family of the Year

Pullman, WASH.—The National Lentil Festival awarded Bill Newbry the 2018 Lentil Family of the Year at the Western Pulse Growers Association’s annual meeting on Dec. 13.

Newbry grew up in Twin Falls, ID and graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1970. After service in the U.S. Army, he moved to Spokane, Wash. to work for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Shortly after finishing his Bachelor of Arts in business administration and marketing from Eastern Washington University, Newbry took a position with Genesee Union Warehouse Company.

Newbry was instrumental in the mergers and growth of Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperative (PNW), and has served as the president and CEO since 1996.

Today, PNW is a 1400-member agricultural cooperative with a growing area of grains and pulses that spans over 70 facilities. PNW is also a leading exporter of pulses to over 40 countries world-wide. Through the years, Newbry has continued to guide and grow PNW and build on the values and traditions of their family of farmers. From innovative specialty crops, to the dedication to provide the highest quality products, PNW is “anchored in tradition and reaching for the new frontier...” and Newbry has been instrumental in helping to achieve that.

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Since its beginning in 1989, the National Lentil Festival has brought national attention to Pullman. The Palouse region of farmlands in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho has a reputation for producing the highest quality lentils in the United States. We think that is worth celebrating!