



# John Day mill pares back to one shift

Company faces scant log decks, small-log stallout

By **Scotta Callister**  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – Ochoco Lumber Co. is laying off the second shift at its Malheur Lumber Co. sawmill in John Day, some seven months after the swing crew was hired.

Bruce Dausavage, Ochoco Lumber president, cited a lack of logs for the mill as the problem.

Dausavage called the decision to lay off some workers “beyond disappointing,” but also termed it a temporary move.

He said Ochoco will work to restore those jobs.

“Our main goal is to keep the one shift going,” he said. “And then we want to put these folks back to work again.”

The exact number of workers affected was not available, as mill officials refined their plans.

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Work continues this week at the Malheur Lumber plant in John Day.

The Eagle  
 Scotta Callister



Eagle photo  
**Forest Commissioner Nicky A. Sprauve takes the oath at the Grant County Courthouse.**

## New year, new duties

Blue Mountain Eagle

CANYON CITY – Several county officials elected or re-elected in 2014 were sworn into a new term of office Monday at the Grant County Courthouse in Canyon City.

The ceremony led off with County Clerk Brenda Percy taking her oath, following by the rites for County Commissioner Boyd Britton, District Attorney Jim Carpenter, and two commissioners on the Grant County Public Forest Commission, Nicky A. Sprauve and Dan Bishop. Two other forest commissioners, Brooks Smith and Roger McKinley, were not at the ceremony but were scheduled to be sworn in later by the commission.

Also sworn in Monday were Justice of the Peace pro tem Jamie McKay and alternate pro tem Riccola Voigt.

# COMING IN 2015 Designs for a new library

A grant puts the Foundation over the top to hire an architect

By **Scotta Callister**  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Grant County Library Foundation has received a \$20,000 grant and is moving ahead toward its goal of a new county library.

The nonprofit group announced the grant award last week. It comes from the Oregon Community Foundation’s participating funds, including the Shelk Fund, Ward Family Fund and Jerome S. and Barbara Bischoff Library Subfund.

Library Foundation organizers said the grant, on top of earlier fundraising efforts, sets the stage for the group to hire an architect to prepare a preliminary design for the new building.

“This is a huge step for us,” said Tracie Unterwegner, noting a new library has been a long-term goal for the group.

She said the Foundation has been in contact with several architects in earlier stages of the planning, but

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Eagle photos/Scotta Callister  
**The site for the Library Foundation’s new library building is a vacant portion of the lot that’s home to the former junior high building and Kam Wah Chung Interpretive Center.**



**The current library, at 507 S. Canyon Blvd., in John Day, draws patrons from across the county but library supporters say a new, modern library would provide more space for the collection, computer use, and community activities that encourage literacy and reading.**

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## Word on the Street

### WINTER WATCH

The Eagle asked people in Grant County “What have you been doing during the recent cold snap – either for fun or just to stay warm?”



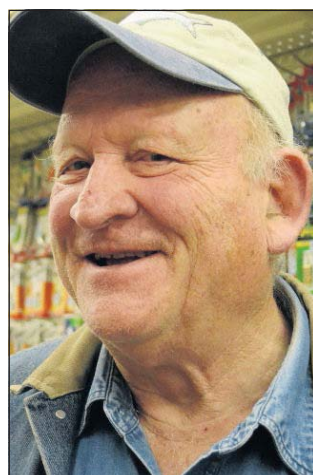
“Working to keep everyone’s ATVs and UTVs going, so they can plow snow.”

Monty Bond,  
 John Day



“I went out and tried out my new camera that Santa got me – in 15 degrees. You just dress warm for it. I’ve lived here all my life; I’d better be used to it.”

Sandra Sutton,  
 John Day



“Unpacking boxes. I just moved here Nov. 1. This isn’t cold. I just moved from Bragg Creek, Alberta, Canada. It was -30 degrees Celsius there a couple of weeks ago.”

John Conley,  
 Mt. Vernon



“Wearing extra long johns and wool socks at work. I hate winter!”

Sherri Giffin,  
 John Day



“I got a cold and stayed home. The day I went out, we went sledding over near McDonalds, and I kept on flipping my sled. Overnight, my cold got worse.”

Rylan Cox,  
 John Day



**Blue Mountain Hospital District Presents**  
**January Visiting Specialists**

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