

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The deadline for What's Happening items is 5 p.m. Friday. Call Cheryl at the Eagle, 541-575-0710.

**WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY, AUG. 5-8**

**Grant County Fair**

• Fairgrounds, John Day  
For information, call the fair office, 541-575-1900.

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY, AUG. 7-8**

**NPRA Rodeo**

• 7-9 p.m., Fairgrounds arena, John Day  
For information, call the fair office, 541-575-1900.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 8**

**See the stars and planets**

• 8-10 p.m., John Day Fossil Beds

All are welcome to a free evening of viewing planets, stars and galaxies at the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center, nine miles west of Dayville on State Route 19. The outdoor viewing with telescope will be preceded by an astronomy program, which will be held regardless of clear or cloudy skies. The event is presented by National Park Service volunteer John Fiedor. Call 541-987-2333.

**SUNDAY, AUG. 9**

**CowKids Rodeo**

• 10 a.m., Fairgrounds arena, John Day  
For more information, call Simmie Waddell, 541-620-0596.

**THURSDAY, AUG. 13**

**Sports physicals, well check exams**

• 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Grant Union health center, John Day  
The cost is \$5 and two cans of food, which will be donated to the food bank. There's also an incentive of \$15 in Grant County Green Bucks, for families/children willing to have a complete adolescent well-child exam, which still fulfills the sports physical requirements. Call the Grant County Health Department at 541-575-0429 for more information.

**MONDAY-TUESDAY, AUG. 17-18**

**Sports physicals, well check exams**

• 8-11 a.m., Grant Union health center, John Day  
The cost is \$5 and two cans of food, which will be donated to the food bank. There's also an incentive of \$15 in Grant County Green Bucks, for families/children willing to have a complete adolescent well-child exam, which still fulfills the sports physical requirements. Call the Grant County Health Department at 541-575-0429 for more information.

**Boxcars put learning in motion**

Humbolt and Seneca elementary students ended their summer session with a cardboard boxcar competition at Humbolt School, learning to follow instructions and work in groups.

Instructors Georgia Boethin, Casey Hallgarth, Micah Sprouffske and teacher's aids teamed up for the project, helping students make the cars with cardboard for the body, old CDs for wheels, pencils for axles and a rubberband to set their contraptions in motion.

Summer school, organized by Title I teacher Devin Moan, was held four days each week, July 6 through 30, giving students going into grades 1 through 6 a learning boost before the new school year. Students also enjoyed trips to the



Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter

**Two student teams race cardboard boxcars in the championship July 30 at Humbolt. From left: Jacob Reeves, Layla Wenick (back), Xerina Noel, Billy Radinovich, Natalee Clarry, William Shaw, Rylan Cox, Wyatt Cates and Mickey Jacey.**



**Humbolt Elementary summer school teachers, Micah Sprouffske (front), Georgia Boethin (back, left) and Casey Hallgarth measure the results of the championship race.**



**Rylan Cox, left, smiles as his team's car moves.**



**Two teams are ready to race their cardboard boxcars.**

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**Parade route closure of U.S. 26 in JD**

JOHN DAY – U.S. 26 between Northwest Third Avenue and Southeast Dayton Street will be closed between 10 a.m. and noon Saturday, Aug. 8.

The closure is neces-

sary to facilitate the annual Grant County Fair parade.

When closed, legal sized freight traffic will be directed to use Northwest Third Avenue to bypass the closure.

**Bates State Park hosts Star Party**

PRAIRIE CITY – The night sky over Bates State Park will set the scene for a Star Party at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 14 at Bates State Park.

Local amateur astronomers and volunteers from Redmond will join the party with telescopes for visitors to view summer constellations, star clusters and planets.

"We are fortunate in rural eastern Oregon to have incredible dark night skies,

with little to no light pollution," said Park Manager Dennis Bradley. "Add a new moon and the Perseids meteor shower to the mix, and we have the perfect formula for an unforgettable evening."

The Perseids meteor shower produces up to 60 bright meteors per hour from mid-July through late August, peaking this year Aug. 12 and 13. The night sky will be darker than usual on Aug.

14 because the new moon will not be visible, and thus, there will be no moonlight.

That evening, stargazers can also enjoy an old-fashioned campfire and hear stories from folks who lived in Bates when it was still a thriving logging town. Visitors can sing campfire songs, roast marshmallows and munch on s'mores provided by the park. The event and day-use parking are free.

Bates State Park has 28 primitive or "non-hook-up" sites available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Pitch a tent or sleep under the stars. Bates State Park is 30 miles northeast of John Day on Middle Fork Lane off Highway 7, one mile north of its intersection with U.S. 26 at Austin Junction. More park information and directions are available at [www.oregon-stateparks.org](http://www.oregon-stateparks.org).

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**School starts soon**

Blue Mountain Eagle

It won't be long before school bells will be ringing again.

Here's the schedule for the first day of classes at Grant County schools:

- Monday, Aug. 17 – Monument.
- Monday, Aug. 24 – Prairie City and Dayville.
- Monday, Aug. 31 – Grant Union Junior-Senior High School, Seneca and Long Creek.

**Womens meetings to resume in September**

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – Just a reminder that the womens group Second Saturday

Gathering will not meet in August.

The monthly Saturday meetings will resume in September.

**Sports Physicals & Adolescent Well Child Exams**

**Where:** School-based health center at Grant Union High School

**When:** Thursday, Aug. 13, 8-5  
Monday, Aug. 17, 8-11  
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8-11

**Cost:** \$5 and two cans of food

**\$15 Greenbacks when you switch to adolescent well child exam**

If you have any questions, feel free to call the Grant County Health Department at 541-575-0429.

**Nazarene church to hold VBS**

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – Church of the Nazarene in John Day will hold vacation bible school from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Aug. 9-13.

The theme is "Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power." The program is for children ages 4 through fifth grade.

The church is at 521 E. Main St.

For more information, call 541-575-1895.

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