

# Old West fire fund continues to grow

## Elks offer \$10,000 to the Canyon Creek Complex cause

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — Old West Federal Credit Union's fund for Canyon Creek Complex fire victims continues to grow, thanks to generous donations from near and far.

According to Ken Olson, Old West CEO, the Community Fire Relief Fund is a little over \$158,000 as of Sept. 15, up \$58,000 from Sept. 2.



The Eagle/Kristina Kreger

**In the spirit of the Elks motto, "Elks care, Elks share," John Day Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler Tom Winters, left, and Carl Lino, past Elks state president, right, present a check for \$10,000 from the Oregon State Elks to Old West CEO Ken Olson for the Community Fire Relief Fund on Sept. 8.**

John Day Elks Exalted Ruler Tom Winters and past Elks state president Carl Lino presented a \$10,000 check to Olson Sept. 8, from

the Oregon State Elks.

Olson said they are still trying to get connected with some of the victims displaced by the fire. He said

there may be many factors for them not to come forward, including pride or the feeling that they don't believe they legitimately need any assistance.

The Old West account is set up in partnership with the Fairgrounds Relief Effort, which closed Sept. 11.

He encourages those who have been impacted — whether it be by inconvenience or total devastation — to reach out to Old West to see what the fire relief fund has to offer.

Olson said several thousand dollars have been set aside for VISA gift cards to assist with immediate needs. The bank is also preparing

an advocate program to help them with longterm concerns.

Donations to the Community Fire Relief Fund may be made in person at any Old West branch, by mail to 650 W. Main St., John Day, OR 97845, or over the phone via credit card by calling 541-575-0264 or 1-888-575-0264.

Old West is administering the account at no charge and will account for all funds it receives to ensure donated funds are used efficiently

and effectively.

The fund is a growing collaboration of concerned community individuals, partners and agencies with the goal to provide relief to victims quickly.

Olson said Old West's state foundation, Northwest Credit Union Foundation, has also created an online fund to help communities throughout Oregon and Washington rebuild.

To make a donation there, visit <http://nwcuf.org/do-more/#donate>.

## DHS offers training

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The Department of Human Services will offer its Foundations Training Wednesday and Thursday,

Sept. 23 and 24, and Saturdays, Oct. 3 and 10, at the John Day DHS office.

To sign up or for more information, contact Sarah Hatfield at 541-575-0728.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

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

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

#### Grant County Democrats to meet

• 6:30 p.m., St. Thomas Episcopal, Canyon City  
All local democrats are encouraged to attend the meeting in the St. Thomas Parish House at 139 S. Washington St. Call 541-542-2633.

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 18

#### Legion Auxiliary luncheon

• 12:30 p.m., Outpost Restaurant, John Day  
All members of the Ellis Tracy Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary are encouraged to attend a no-host luncheon. State Vice-President Deby Levy will be the special guest, along with District President Linda Schmidt of Burns. Auxiliary members from Prairie City and Dayville are invited.

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 19

#### Clay pigeon shoot

• 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Kimberly Rock Products  
There will be men's, women's and kids' competitions at a cost of \$3 per shoot. A pulled pork sandwich lunch plus sides will be served for \$6 a person. Proceeds will help the Monument FFA attend the national FFA convention. Kimberly Rock Products is on State Route 402 at mile marker 9. Call 541-934-2143.

#### Comedy fundraiser for fire victims

• 8 p.m., Dirty Shame Saloon, John Day  
Bend Comedy presents the "Canyon Creek Complex Benefit and Fundraiser Comedy Show," featuring performers Benjie Wright, Ryan Traugher and Elaine Johnson. There will also be raffles with gifts and prizes from sponsoring businesses. Tickets are \$5 a person, and can be purchased online from [bendcomedy.com](http://bendcomedy.com). Proceeds will benefit those impacted by the wildfire.

#### Light up the Night

• 7-9 p.m., John Day City Park  
The free event, presented by Creative Light Project and hosted by John Day-Canyon City Parks and Rec., will feature glow in the dark/black light mural painting, positive vibes and uplifting music, LED lights and dancing, plus more fun activities for the whole

family. For more information, visit Creative Life Project on Facebook.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 23 PC town hall on recreational pot

• 6 p.m., Prairie City Community Center  
Prairie City residents are encouraged to attend the town hall and learn more about the issue of recreational marijuana. The city council seeks the community's input on the subject of the cultivation, processing and sales of recreational marijuana within the city limits.

#### Wildfire restoration forum

• 6-8 p.m., Mt. Vernon Community Center  
The local forestry community is coordinating a public forum to assist private timberland owners with restoration strategies after wildfire. Agency professionals will provide information on requirements of the Oregon Forest Practices Act for timber salvage, reforestation requirements, sources for funding assistance, opportunities for landowner assistance and more. Forest industry representatives will offer information on logistics, logging considerations and potential log markets. Contact information will be provided. There will be a question-and-answer period.

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 25 'Praise and Worship' concert

• 7 p.m., Prairie City Community Center  
Strings and Beyond and Friends presents "Alleluia! A Celebration of Praise and Worship." Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is by donation, with all proceeds going toward upgrades for the Prairie City Community Center.

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

#### AARP Smart Driver Course

• 9 a.m.-4 p.m., John Day Senior Center  
Topics include defensive driving techniques, proven safety strategies and new traffic laws and rules of the road. Multi-year discount on car insurance may be available upon successful completion. Those attending should bring a lunch. The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for all others. To sign up, call 541-575-4268 or 541-792-0587.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY, SEPT. 26-27

#### Playdays rescheduled

• 10 a.m. Saturday; 9 a.m. Sunday, Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day



## Michael Rushton, DPM

Podiatric Physician and Surgeon

Treatment and Surgery of the Foot and Ankle  
In-grown Nails • Bunions • Warts • Gout • Corns & Callouses  
Diabetic Foot Screening • Foot Odor • Athletes Foot  
Treatment for pain in feet, shins, heels, knees, lower back.  
Custom molded orthotics.

Dr. Rushton is a Preferred Provider for Lifewise and Blue Cross/Blue Shield and a Medicare participant.

2830 10th St., Baker City, OR  
541-524-0122

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**

*The doctor speaks Spanish— El doctor habla Español.*



## Rebuilding? Protect yourself by hiring a licensed contractor

Disasters that cause property damage often attract construction scam artists. The Oregon Construction Contractors Board (CCB) offers these tips to avoid problems:

- Get the contractor's full name, business address, and CCB license number.
- Call us or visit our website to verify that the person giving you a bid is licensed and to check the contractor's complaint record.
- Get several bids, and check references.
- Always get a written contract.
- Never pay the full amount up front and don't pay in cash.

[www.oregon.gov/ccb](http://www.oregon.gov/ccb)  
503-378-4621

Unlicensed contractors work illegally.  
They are not insured or bonded.  
Verify license information with the CCB.

Are you part of a **NON-PROFIT** in Grant County?

*We need your help!*

The Blue Mountain Eagle is working to create a master list of non-profits in Grant County. We are looking for the **NAME** of the non-profit, **CONTACT PHONE NUMBER**, **EMAIL ADDRESS**, and **WEB SITE** if available to be added to, or updated on the list for this year's Grant County Giving Back section, coming out in October.

Either call the information into the Eagle Office at 541-575-0710 or email [kristina@bmeagle.com](mailto:kristina@bmeagle.com)

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