



Contributed photo/JJ Collier

The Grant Union Junior-Senior High School choir and band, directed by Mary Ann Vidourek, perform together at the school's Dec. 15 winter concert.

Grant Union entertains with traditional tunes

Humbolt students also perform concert

during the Dec. 15 winter concert.

The highlight of the show was "On with the Snow," which included a medley of traditional Christmas songs the choir sang with accompaniment from the senior band, directed by Mary Ann Vidourek. The senior band also combined with the junior high band.

A special song performed by the choir was dedicated to Grant Union seventh-grader AJ Dickens, who died Friday, Dec. 11.

Foreign exchange student Katja Kőeneche helped teach the choir the German words to "Silent Night," which they sang in remembrance of Dickens.

Vidourek also directed Humbolt Elementary School's Dec. 14 "Elfs and the Frozen Princess" concert with help from Samantha Gerry who teaches music for kindergarten and first grade.

Youth Arts Program presents 'Sounds of the Season'

Myriad of talents share facets of Christmas

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — An evening of musical talent was shared at the Youth Arts Program's "Sounds of the Season" concert held Dec. 11 at the United Methodist Church in John Day.

Presentations from three community choirs (ages 4-8, 9-16 and 17 and up), small groups and soloists, ranged from fun, such as "Frosty the Snowman" and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" to spiritual, including selections from Handel's "Messiah" and "Sweet Little Jesus Boy."

"The concert was a perfectly balanced blend of se-



Contributed photo

Megan Maxwell of John Day performs on trumpet, accompanied by Samantha Floyd of Canyon City, at the Youth Arts Program Christmas Concert Dec. 11 in John Day.

ular and sacred, vocal and instrumental and varying styles of music," said Rebecca Bogardus, director of YAP.

String ensemble and flute choir rehearsals start up again

Jan. 2, and community choirs start Jan. 19. For more information on joining, volunteering or contributing to YAP, contact Bogardus at 541-987-2440.

Seneca celebrates a historical Christmas

Blue Mountain Eagle

SENECA — The audience at this year's Seneca School Christmas program was transported 60 years back in time to a historic, yet fictional, view of 1950s Seneca.

In "Christmas Comes to Seneca," students offered a musical production celebrating the community's lumber and railroad heritage.

The main story line was one of suspense, wondering if the train engine the Oregon and Northwestern 26 broken down at the end of the spur line would make it back into town for Christmas.

"Loggers," stuck in the woods with the engine, performed a rousing rendition of "Blue Christmas," while sixth-grade girls, wearing red 1950s-style dresses, sang their own wish in "Baby, Please Come Home."

The "children," students in grades K-4, sang "Where are you, Christmas?" as they wondered if Christmas would be the same without all the



Contributed photo

Seneca School presented "Christmas Comes to Seneca," a historical and fictional tale of the community's rich heritage, set in the 1950s. Back row, from left: Hayden Spencer, Grace Taylor, Eli Wright, Billy Radinovich, Raney Anderson, Madison Metcalf and Tucker Wright. Front row, from left: Bridger Walker, Macy Carter, Audrey Walker, Lauryn Pettyjohn, Sage Browning, Hunter Noel, Kynlee Pettyjohn and Layla Wenick.

families together.

The program closed with "Rockin' on Top of the World," a dance number choreographed by Jessica Moore, which ended with four pyramids, two round-offs and a daring flop onto the hardwood floor of the school's gym.

School secretary Laurie

Stinnett said the performance went well.

"The word on the street was that it was a top-notch performance worthy of the long and illustrious Seneca Christmas program tradition," she said.

According to Stinnett, one lifelong resident said, "Long live Seneca Christmas programs!"

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Dayville talents are a holiday hit



Contributed photo/Skip Inscore

Dayville students perform in their Christmas talent show at the school.

Students learn the fun of performance

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

DAYVILLE — Dayville School had a variety of performances from students at the Dec. 16 Dayville Holiday Talent Show held at the school.

It was a new approach to their traditional Christmas program, although it did include a visit from Santa Claus.

The entertainment came in many forms, including a rock band performance, instrumental solos and other musical presentations, a dance routine, rope tricks and a magic show.

"The students learned important performance skills including ... how to use their pre-performance jitters to enhance rather than detract from their performance," said coordinator Rebecca Bogardus.

Dinner is Served!

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