

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Southern Blues Restoration Coalition

• Noon-4 p.m., Juniper Room, Malheur Supervisor's Office, Patterson Bridge Road, John Day

The symposium will cover a range of monitoring programs related to ongoing work within the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration project boundary area. The public is welcome.

Grant County Democrats meeting

• 6:30 p.m., 511 S.E. Hillcrest Road, John Day

All local Democrats are encouraged to attend. Call 541-542-2633.

THURSDAY, MAY 19

People Mover open house

• Noon-3 p.m., 229 N.E. Dayton St., John Day

The event celebrates the Grant County Transportation District's ConnectOregon V Enhancement Project. The community is welcome to stop by and see changes to The People Mover building, view history of the transportation service's 30-year history and learn plans for the future. Board and staff members will be on hand to answer questions. In appreciation of its customers, The People Mover will offer free rides all day in John Day, Canyon City, Mt. Vernon and Prairie City. For a schedule and more information, call 541-575-2370 or visit www.



grantcountypeoplemover.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Auxiliary yard sale

• 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Canyon City Community Hall

Blue Mountain Hospital Auxiliary's yard sale is a fundraiser that supports the needs of Blue Mountain Hospital.

Canyon Mountain cleanup day

• 10 a.m., Canyon Mountain

Anyone is welcome to bring rigs, trailers and gloves to help clean up the mountain area. For more information, call Nathan Watt, 541-620-4340.

25th annual Seneca Oyster Feed

• Noon, Seneca Park

The cost is \$30 a person for all you-can-eat oysters, salads, garlic bread, corn and drinks or \$20 for one time through. A hamburger stand will also be open. Other activities include a softball tournament, golf scramble, kids activities in the park, live music and a reverse draw raffle with over \$1,000 in prizes. Call Seneca City Hall, 541-542-2161.

Curt Pereira fundraiser

• 5 p.m., John Day Senior Center, 142 N.E. Dayton St.

A by-donation spaghetti feed, silent auction and live dessert auction will benefit Curt Pereira with medical expenses and other bills in his fight against an aggressive brain tumor. To donate auction items, food for the dinner or to volunteer, call 541-575-2949, 541-575-1825 or 541-620-2861.

GU dinner and auction

• 6 p.m., John Day Elks Lodge

The smokehouse roast beef dinner and silent auction is a fundraiser for the Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., trip for the classes of 2021 and 2022. Auction items include a two-night stay in Leavenworth, Wash., a half a beef, a Ruger American rifle and student "slave" labor. Tickets are \$15 pre-sale and \$20 at the door. Call or text 509-881-4965 or neaner015@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

PC kindergarten round-up

• 3:30 p.m., teacher Becky Sharp's classroom, Prairie City School

Parents should bring their child's birth certificate and a copy of their immunization record. Children need to be 5 years old before Sept. 1, 2016.

25 years of savoring seafood in Seneca

Annual oyster feed is coming up May 21

By Cheryl Hoefler
Blue Mountain Eagle

SENECA — The oysters are coming.

They've been coming, in fact, for 25 years — brought hundreds of miles from their oceanside habitat to the small Grant County town of Seneca — all for the delight of oyster fans far and wide.

This year's feast begins at noon Saturday, May 21, in Seneca Park. The cost is \$30 a person for all you-can-eat oysters, several salad selections, garlic bread, corn and drinks. This year, a one-time-through option is offered for \$20 a plate.

The Seneca hamburger stand will also be open nearby for non-oyster lovers.

However, while the oysters are the main attraction, the fun begins much earlier in the day.

Other activities include a softball tournament, golf scramble, kids activities in the park and live music. There will also be a reverse draw raffle for \$5 a ticket, with over \$1,000 in prizes, including a first-place prize of \$500.

The popular tradition draws crowds from well outside the county.

The first Seneca Oyster Feed was held in 1992, and was originally organized to



Eagle file photo

From left, Kris Long, Brady Long, Shelby Long and Thaddeus Cowan Thompson tend oysters at the 2015 Seneca Oyster Feed. This year's event is the 25th annual, coming up on Saturday, May 21.

help fund the newly developed Bear Valley Meadows Golf Course. In fact, in the May 20, 1993, issue of the Eagle, the event was billed as the "Bear Valley Meadows Golf Course Oyster Feed," and held in the late afternoon.

The purpose of the oyster feed was to "have fun and enjoy a late spring afternoon in Bear Valley," according to organizer Jack Southworth.

Activities that year included music and a softball tournament.

Over the years a variety of competitions have been included in the big day: canoe races on the Silvies River, the Silvies River Bud Race, which began in 1995 and drew over 200 entries, and a golf tournament, which started in 1998.

Inclement weather has,

at times, caused some activities to be canceled, but the "oyster migration" itself always goes on — rain, sun, wind or snow.

And transportation to the oyster feed is a snap this year, with The People Mover offering a "Seneca Shuttle" from John Day. Departure times are 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. from The People Mover barn at 229 N.E. Dayton St. Call 541-575-2370 for fare information and to reserve a seat.

Golf scramble registration starts at 8 a.m. The cost is \$10 a person for four-person teams. Call 541-542-2201 to sign up.

To participate in the softball tournament, call 541-620-4533.

For all other information about the Oyster Feed, call Seneca City Hall at 541-542-2161.



Eagle file photo

From the May 18, 2011, issue of the Eagle, Grant Union High School stands surrounded by water on Sunday, May 15, after nearby Canyon Creek overflows its banks.

OUT OF THE PAST

May 16, 1941

Blue Mountain Eagle 75 years ago

"The American Legion Auxiliary has not forgotten"

With the entire world rapidly becoming a veritable battlefield, with our own peace-loving nation straining every resource to defend our freedom with the future dimmed by uncertainty, the patriotic sentiment of all Americans has been highly stimulated.

Determination to keep our valuable possessions and privileges is shadowed by the possible frightful cost of our youth. The sight of the soldiers today send our minds back to thoughts of our soldiers of yesterday. They were heroes then, those boys of but little more than 20 years ago.

The memories of those left on the battlefield of Flanders was a national sorrow. Gratitude and sympathy for those who were brought back on hospital ships, those who had before them a living death, barred forever from the world by hospital walls, prompted a deep national resolve that nothing was too good for them.

May 18, 1995

Blue Mountain Eagle 21 years ago

Annual oyster migration observed over the Izee Summit

SENECA — It's finally spring time here in the Valley of the Bears, and the residents of Seneca are eager to catch bushels of oysters, as the little fellers make their annual migration out of the Silvies River and on to the Pacific Ocean.

In what is a little understood biological phenomenon, Pacific Ocean oysters actually winter at the head of the Silvies River. Tucked snugly into the mud,

they hibernate the winter away, far from the pounding surf that used to take such a toll on them.

As the ice leaves the Silvies River, the oysters jump out of the mud and walk overland about 15 miles until they get to the head of the South Fork of the John Day River, and then it is on to the ocean for the summer.

The only person to see this annual migration was an Izee rancher who will remain anonymous. Needless to say, the sight of tens of thousands of migrating oysters strolling over the Izee Summit on a moonlit night left him speechless.

In his words, he was "twit-terped to the point of being squeeny-puckered."

However, the people of Seneca were quite capable of reaping some of Nature's bounty, and helping themselves and sharing with others. Hence, the annual Seneca Oyster Feed that this article is really about. ...

As our Izee rancher would say, "You don't want to be nilly-knockerin' 'round the low country when the fillyfartherin is up in the hills." What that means, no one knows, but it sounds like a good time had by all.

May 18, 2011

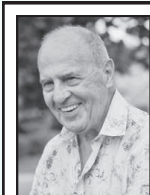
Blue Mountain Eagle 5 years ago

Area rivers surged past their flood stages, the John Day River at John Day hitting 8.3 feet — above its flood level of 8.0 feet — by Monday. Gauging stations measured the precipitous rise in all county rivers. Statistics from the Grant County Watermaster's office showed the John Day running at 712 percent of average, the Middle Fork John Day at Ritter at 657 percent of average, and North Fork John Day at Monument, 666 percent.

With Fondest Memories

We remember those who have passed away & are especially dear to us.

On Wednesday, May 25, we will publish a special section devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten. The names will be placed in alphabetical order and will be similar to the sample below:



Andrews, David C

July 10, 1920 - May 5, 2000

May God's angels guide
you and protect you
throughout time.

Always in our hearts,
John and Mona Andrews
and Family

If you wish, select one of the following verses below to accompany your tribute.

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
2. May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.
3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in God's heavenly glory.
6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
8. The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.
9. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
10. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
11. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
12. May God's graces shine over you for all time.
13. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
14. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.
15. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.
16. Write your own.

To remember your loved one in this special way, please fill out the form below and mail to:

BLUE MOUNTAIN EAGLE

195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR. 97845

or stop by the office

541-575-0710

Deadline: Friday, May 20, 2016 at 5 p.m.

Please publish my tribute in the special Memorial Section in May.

Blue Mountain Eagle = \$25⁰⁰

Publishes on 05/25/2016

Make check payable to the Blue Mountain Eagle

E-mail photo to: office@bmeagle.com

Questions: Call Lindsay at 541-575-0710

Name of deceased _____

Relationship to me _____

Date of birth _____ Date of passing _____

Verse # or special message _____

Who the message is from _____

Print your name here _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____