

# FOR SALE

## A piece of Bates history at Prairie City School

### Bids start at \$950 for Bates Building

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

A piece of history is up for bid at Prairie City School — all 7,620 square feet of it.

The single-story building on school property once served students in grades 1-8 in the former logging town of Bates. Known as the Bates Building, the structure was moved to the Prairie City School as an add-on to the existing school in 1977.

The building has served its purpose with classrooms, an elementary library and music room and was later



Eagle file photo

The unused Bates School building, located at Prairie City School, is up for bid.

used for storage. With the decline in student enrollment and the decline of the building itself, school officials

decided to sell it.

There were no buyers when it went up for bid locally last year, so Superintendent Julie

Gurczynski has re-listed it for sale both inside and outside of Grant County. The minimum bid is \$950, and full removal of

the building and foundation is required.

"We don't need the building anymore, and we just don't want to support taking care of it anymore," Gurczynski said, adding it had deferred maintenance issues, including a leaky roof.

The structure is also known to have, or probably has, lead-based paint and asbestos.

Last year, former Bates resident Frances Preston of Prairie City attempted to save the building by gathering signatures to voice opposition to the sale. However, the school district maintained its stance, arguing the care of the building was more than it could handle.

Two initial ideas for the extra space that would be created by the building removal

include adding more parking space near the new gym or creating a fenced-in garden, Gurczynski said. She added, the removal would also provide easier access to the boiler room.

"We hope it goes to a good home," she said. "It has a lot of history attached to it, and we would hope that it would remain in the county."

The Bates Building is located at the school, 740 Overholt St., and bidders may contact Gurczynski for more information at 541-820-3314 or gurczynskij@grantedes.k12.or.us.

Sealed bids are due by 3 p.m. July 19. For more details on the bidding process, see the classifieds section of the Eagle.

### COPS AND COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

#### Grant County Circuit Court

Heather Marie Brown pleaded guilty to one count of first-degree failure to appear and one count of fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer and was sentenced to 86 days in jail. One count of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and one count of possession of methamphetamine were dismissed.

Christopher Boyer pleaded guilty to one count of harassment and was issued a 10-day jail sentence.

#### Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of June 8-14:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 7
- Average inmates: 18
- Bookings: 10
- Releases: 11
- Arrests: 3
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 2
- Civil papers: 21
- Warrants processed: 3

#### Justice Court

The Grant County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

Violation of the basic rule: David Richard Wernecke, 64, Freelan, Michigan, 75/55 zone, May 28, fined \$160; Eric Lindsay Jessup, 51, Pullman, Washington, 73/55 zone, May 27, fined \$160; Shane Royce Lazinka, 25, Heppner, 72/55 zone, May 26, fined \$160.

Jesse David Willyard, 55, Pleasant Hill, 84/65 zone, fined \$260.

Driving Uninsured: Steve Dewey Coleman, 33, Mt. Vernon, June 6, fined \$130;

Christopher M. Schoenbein, 38, Canyon City, April 26, fined \$260; Dillon Glen Winters, 19, John Day, May 9, fined \$260.

Driving while suspended: Christopher M. Schoenbein, 38, Canyon City, April 26, fined \$435; Dillon Glen Winters, 19, John Day, May 9, fined \$435.

Stanley Dehiya was found guilty of failure to perform the duties of a driver and fined \$260, ordered to pay \$647.20 in restitution. The fine will be waived if Dehiya does not have any traffic citations involving animals before Dec. 7, 2017.

Ethelene Yazzie was convicted of keeping a dog as a public nuisance and fined \$200.

#### Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 197 calls during the week of June 12-18. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

#### • John Day Police Department

June 13: Advised of a suspicious subject driving around downtown John Day.

June 14: Advised of an aggressive driver following a subject through the downtown area. Cleared a number of people out of the John Day City Park after receiving a call from someone thinking they were camping there. Dispatched to a business where a group of subjects kept leaving and returning despite being unwelcome. Received a report of menacing in the Dayville area. Received a report of suspicious subject loitering behind a John Day business.

June 15: Dispatched to Prairie City after receiving a call about a "hot rod" driving fast on residential streets.

June 16: Arrested a 50-year-old John Day resi-

dent for a probation violation after receiving a report of an unwanted subject. Arrested a 30-year-old Dayton, Ohio, resident at Chester's for theft. Arrested a 34-year-old John Day resident for disorderly conduct following a driving complaint.

June 17: Arrested a 38-year-old John Day resident for violating a release agreement after responding to a report of someone sleeping on a couch next to a dumpster.

June 18: Responded to an unattended death on Canyon Boulevard with the Grant County Sheriff's Office. Advised of illegal camping on the river trail.

#### • Grant County Sheriff's Office

June 13: Dispatched to a report of a man stuck in a snowbank for two days.

June 14: Advised of a possible trespasser on West Bench Road.

June 15: Received a report of subjects angry they had to pay money to leave garbage at the transfer station. Received a call from a landowner concerned about people setting up camp near their property.

June 16: Responded to a fight in the Grant County Jail. Advised of an ongoing harassment on Rebel Hill.

June 17: Advised of suspicious subjects near the Mt. Vernon Middle School. Responded with the United States Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to a report of someone planning to confront campers at the Rainbow Gathering. Responded to a report of an assault on a juvenile male.

June 18: Advised of two dogs that were shot on Highway 26. Arrested a 24-year-old Canyon City resident on a Grant County warrant. Responded to a report of a

dog attack. Caller reported shooting a skunk on his property. Responded to a report of illegal camping.

#### • John Day ambulance

June 13: Dispatched for a boy who cut his finger on obsidian in Dayville.

June 17: Responded for a female patient who had been vomiting blood.

June 18: Responded with Seneca Ambulance, Grant County Sheriff's Office and John Day Police Department to a motor vehicle accident on Highway 395 South.

#### • Oregon State Police

June 15: Responded with John Day Police and the Grant County Sheriff's Office to a report of a dispute at the hospital.

June 18: Responded to a collision on Highway 395 North between a car and elk that killed the elk but did not damage the vehicle.

#### • John Day Public Works

June 13: Dispatched for a report of a deer that fell in a reservoir.

#### • Grant County Road Department

June 17: Responded to an abandoned vehicle blocking a county road near the Izee Paulina Highway.

## Vandals strike shooting range

Blue Mountain Eagle

An informational sign at the Bear Creek shooting range was vandalized last month.

Members of the Bear Creek Shooting Range board are offering a \$200 reward for information, including the name of the culprit.

Board president Rod Carpenter said the vandals scratched vulgar language into the emergency contact

information sign at the range sometime before May 20.

The range, which was built with the help of donations and volunteer work, is located between John Day and Prairie City near Keeney Fork Road.

The entrance gate is locked, but accessible to range members and those with permission.

Anyone with information can call Carpenter at 509-385-9334.

## Firefighters extinguish house blaze in John Day

Blue Mountain Eagle

Firefighters extinguished a house fire in John Day Thursday afternoon.

John Day Fire Department, John Day Police Department, Oregon State Police and Grant County Sheriff's Office personnel responded to a report of a house on fire at 907 E. Main St. in John Day at 12:42 p.m.

Fire Chief Ron Smith said the fire was extinguished by about 1:15 p.m. He said he was unaware what caused the blaze.

The fire was limited to the residence's kitchen, and no people or animals were injured, according to John Day Police Chief Richard Gray.

The homeowner reported the fire, according to dispatch.

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**TRANSFORMERS:**  
**THE LAST KNIGHT** PG-13  
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FRI - THURS (3:30) 6:30 9:30

**CARS 3** PG  
Lightning McQueen sets out to prove to a new generation of racers that he's still the best race car in the world.  
FRI - THURS (4:00) 7:00 9:40

**WONDER WOMAN** PG-13  
Diana, princess of the Amazons and trained warriors, leaves home to fight a war to end all wars.  
FRI - THURS (3:45) 6:45 9:45

\$9 Adult, \$7 Senior (60+), Youth

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