

The deadline for What's Happening items is 5 p.m. Friday. Call the Eagle, 541-575-0710, or email editor@bmeagle.com. For meetings this week, see our list in the classifieds.



THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Chamber of Commerce meeting

• 10:30 a.m., chamber office, 301 W. Main St., John Day
The public is welcome to attend the business and board meeting of the Grant County Chamber of Commerce, with an adjournment to the Outpost restaurant at noon. Speakers are Deanna Longair from "Oregon Saves," a retirement program through the Oregon State Treasury and Mark Webb, who will give an update on the Blue Mountains Forest Partners' current projects. For more information, call the chamber office at 541-575-0547.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Sam Riggs concert

• 7:30 p.m., Madden Brothers Performing Arts Center, 116 NW Bridge St., John Day
Country rock singer-songwriter Sam Riggs from Austin, Texas, and his band will perform with opening act Tylor & The Train Robbers from Idaho. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 for seated, \$25 for general admission and \$15 for children, available at maddenbrothers.tix.com.

Bluegrass in Baker

• 7:30 p.m., Lefty's Taphouse, 1934 Broadway, Baker City
The Eastern Oregon Regional Theater will present the show, featuring Grammy Award-winning artist Laurie Lewis and Friends. The event is a fundraiser for the restoration of Baker Orpheum Theatre. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 the day of the show. Tickets are available by visiting bakerlivetheatre.com, calling 541-523-9652 or at Betty's Books at 1813 Main St. in Baker City. For more information, visit bakerlivetheatre.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation dinner and auction

• 4 p.m., Grant County Fairgrounds
Current foundation members are invited to attend the fundraiser benefiting elk and other wildlife. The doors open at 4 p.m., dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. and the auction begins at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information, call Gale Wall at 541-575-2661.

Wild and Scenic film festival

• 7 p.m., Madden Brothers Performing Arts Center, 116 NW Bridge St., John Day
The festival features a collection of a dozen films that speak to the environmental concerns and celebrations of the planet. Suds Pub will be present for food and drinks, and a raffle will be held. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, and children 17 and under are free. The event is hosted by the Blue Mountain Land Trust and sponsored by the Madden Brothers Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available by visiting bmlt.org.



Contributed photo

Sam Riggs and his band will perform April 20 at the Madden Brothers Performing Arts Center with Tylor & The Train Robbers opening.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 21-22

Rummage sale

• 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monument Senior Center
Proceeds benefit the senior center at the third annual rummage sale. Chili, rolls, coffee and maple bars will be served April 21. 4-H'ers will serve hot roast beef sandwiches and desserts April 22. For more information, call Judy Harris at 541-934-2244.

JC Oliver Memorial Team Roping

• 1 p.m. Saturday
• 10 a.m. Sunday
• Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day
The event is an American Cowboy Team Roping Association qualifier. All proceeds benefit the Grant County Family Heritage Foundation. Doors will open an hour prior, and admission is free.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Candidate forum

• 1 p.m., Grant County Fairgrounds pavilion
All local candidates in the upcoming election are expected to attend a candidate forum sponsored by the Mt. Vernon Grange. Ted Ferrioli, former state senator and current member of the Northwest Power & Conservation Council, will moderate the event. Each candidate will be allowed to speak for five minutes, with an opportunity for a three-minute rebuttal. Questions from the audience for Ferrioli to present will be gathered during an intermission. Coffee and cookies will be available during the intermission. For more information, contact Jean Sagert, 541-575-1007.

Fossil beds auto tour

• 1 p.m., Thomas Condon Paleontology Center, 9 miles west of Dayville
Participants will drive their own vehicles on a free three-hour tour, guided by former park ranger John Fiedor. The tour will travel through the Sheep Rock Unit with stops for discussion. Quality tires are recommended for the gravel road portion. For more information, contact the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument at 541-987-2333.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Child sexual abuse prevention program

• 2-4 p.m., Canyon City Community Hall
Stewards of Children is a prevention training program that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The program is designed for organizations that serve youth and individuals concerned about the safety of children. Community members are welcome. For more information, contact Lisa Weigum at lweigum@gobhi.net or Tracey Blood at pcaorinfo@gmail.com.

T-ball registration deadline

• Parks and Recreation office, 845 1/2 Bridge St., John Day
Registration for players is due by April 27 to John Day-Canyon City Parks and Recreation. A late fee of \$5 will apply to those turned in after the date. The registration fee is \$45, or \$50 for out of district, and a scholarship fund is available on request. For questions or to receive a registration form, visit jdccparksandrec.weebly.com or contact Bobbee Hueckman at 541-575-0110.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

CH Strong dinner

• 6 p.m., Dayville School gymnasium
Proceeds will benefit Cheryl Hubbird in her fight against cancer. The silent auction begins at 5:45 p.m., dinner starts at 6 p.m. and the live auction begins at 7 p.m. On the menu is pulled pork and sloppy joes with sides, drinks and dessert. The cost for ages 11 and up is \$10, and \$5 for 10 and under. Tickets are available through local area merchants or by contacting Skip Inscore at 541-987-2383. Auction items or financial donations are appreciated and may be arranged through Inscore.

Tri-tip dinner and auctions

• 6 p.m., Long Creek School
All proceeds will go to the Long Creek ambulance crew and volunteer fire department. Live and silent auctions will be held, along with a 50/50 drawing and fire engine auction. Dinner includes sides, dessert and beverages. Admission is by donation, and reservations must be made by April 23. For more information, call the city of Long Creek at 541-421-3601 or email info@cityoflongcreek.com.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Town hall meeting

• 6-8 p.m., Long Creek Community Center
Local election candidates will attend a question and answer meeting. All county residents are invited to attend. For more information, call Linda Hunt at 541-519-4663.

Madden center to host concert Friday

By Sean Hart
Blue Mountain Eagle

Tylor & The Train Robbers from Idaho with doors opening at 6 p.m.

Owners Jesse and Joe Madden said they hope for a better turnout because attendance has been low at the last two concerts. Although feedback from the shows has been positive,

not enough people have been attending over the winter to cover the costs, Jesse Madden said.

"People need to know, if it's something they want to have in their community, they need to find a way to participate in it, or we're going to have to not do

it anymore," Joe Madden said.

While attendance at the first concerts in August 2017 was over 200, attendance at the last two concerts was less than 100. Not only does the lack of ticket sales make it difficult to break even, bands aren't willing to come to the area with poor

ticket sales. Joe Madden said a show was almost canceled recently by a band's management team because of poor sales.

He said the venue could adjust ticket prices higher to cover costs, but that would lead to less attendance, and they are trying to keep ticket prices reasonable for most of the county.

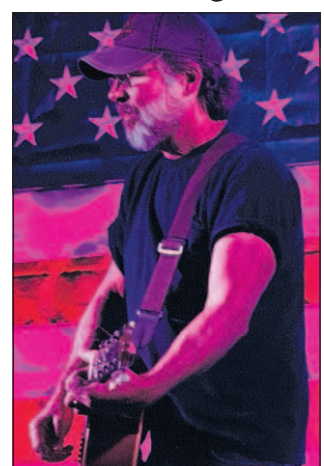
Joe Madden said having a concert hall makes the community more attractive by providing something to do in an area that has no bowling alley or movie theater.

"We have less to do in our community as far as any kind of entertainment events than any community I can think of," he said. "I really expected more of a community turnout for it."

Jesse Madden said the venue is bringing some money into the community with out-of-town attendees, and each show brings a little more. He said many attendees often go out to other establishments after the shows as well.

He said, depending on attendance, they may have to book fewer shows, or only during summer when temporary visitors could bolster attendance.

The concert hall was started as a way to improve the com-



Eagle file photo

Chris Knight plays at the Madden Brothers Performing Arts Center on in 2017. Lagging ticket sales may force changes at the new venue.

community, Joe Madden said, and he appreciates the many people and sponsors who have supported it.

"There's a good group of people who have been really supportive and have showed up in attendance," Jesse Madden said.

After Friday, the next show is Jeff Crosby & The Refugees May 18.

Grant County Chamber Members Advertise Here
Contact the Grant County Chamber for more information
541-575-0547

Grant County Chamber Monthly Newsletter
We are looking forward for the 2018 tourist season! We had a nice preview recently during Spring Break. The weather was decent and several visitors stopped by.

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This year, the Grant County Museum, Kam Wah Chung, and the Ranch and Rodeo Museum were open the week of Spring Vacation and received quite a few visitors because of it!

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I would like to thank Peggy Murphy from the Grant County Historical Museum and Bobbee Hueckman from John Day/Canyon City Parks and Rec. for all they did to make the "Passport to Fun" such a BIG success! They not only provided lots of fun and educational things for our local families to do, but several visiting families enjoyed it as well.

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Home: 541-820-3721
JFranklin@easternoregonrealty.net
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We would like to welcome two new members this month – Cowboy Cottages and Roan Outwest as members.

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Our April meeting will be held Thursday, April 19th. The board meets at 10:30 AM at the Chamber office and the Membership Luncheon is at 12:00 PM at the Outpost. Our Guest Speakers will be Deanna Longair from Oregon Saves – the new Retirement Program initiated by

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Contact the Grant County Chamber for more information
541-575-0547

Virginia McMillan, DDS PC
IMMEDIATE DENTAL COMFORT
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the Oregon State Treasury and Mark Webb from Blue Mountain Forest Partners who will be updating us on what they are working on in Grant County.

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We continue to stay busy here at the Chamber. We are excited about the enthusiasm we are getting from our neighboring chambers who have agreed to get together here to talk about ways we can boost each other's economy. Our first meeting will be April 26th .

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We hope to see you at our Membership Luncheon!
Tammy Bremner,
Chamber Manager

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Great things are happening! **EOU IS CONNECTED**

- Men's track & field 4x400 relay team took first at a conference meet with a 3:27.18 finish
- Our student Chemistry Club received national recognition from the American Chemical Society for outstanding community engagement
- EOU's Fire Service Administration degree is ranked as one of the top programs in the country!

For more information visit **eou.edu/connected**

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