

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, Dec. 13**

**Light Up a Life**

• 6 p.m., Valley View Assisted Living  
Blue Mountain Hospice will host its annual Light Up a Life event to remember and reflect upon the lives of those who have passed away. To have a loved one honored, contact Michelle at 541-575-1648.

**Friday, Dec. 14**

**Blue Mountain Care Center Christmas party**

• 2 p.m., Blue Mountain Care Center  
The Blue Mountain Care Center will host a Christmas party for their residents and their families followed by a silent dessert auction to raise money for the resident council fund. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided. All are welcome. RSVP by Dec. 7. For more information or to RSVP, call 541-820-3341.

**Christmas tree lighting ceremony**

• 5:30 p.m., Bridge and Main streets, John Day  
Shops will be open extended hours. Caroling, refreshments and in-store specials will be available. For more information, call Sherrie Rininger at 541-620-2638 or the Grant County Chamber of Commerce at 541-575-0547.

**Saturday, Dec. 15**

**Ugly Sweater 5K**

• 10 a.m., The Corner Cup, John Day  
The fundraiser run benefits the Tree of Joy. Prizes will be awarded for the ugliest sweater and first-place finisher. Registration is \$25 and includes a T-shirt that will be delivered after the event. For more information, contact Macy Strong at 541-792-0574.

**Christmas bird count**

• 7 a.m., The Outpost Pizza, Pub & Grill, John Day  
The Grant County Bird Club will meet no later than 7 a.m., earlier for breakfast. Assignments for the bird count will be explained. The club's December potluck meeting will be that night along with the compilation of the day's sightings. It will begin at 5:30 p.m. at Cecil and Irene Gag-



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

**The Grant Union Junior-Senior High School choir sings out in 2017 at their holiday concert at the school. The middle school and high school bands also performed.**

non's home off Dog Creek Road, 62012 Dugout Lane, John Day. For more information, contact Tom Winters at 541-542-2006 or tjwinters1951@gmail.com.

**Winter Festival**

• 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dayville Community Hall  
The winter bazaar will feature crafters, food and fun activities. Crafters and vendors are wanted for \$10 per site with tables provided. For more information or to reserve a site, call Tracy Bird at 541-575-0866 or Kelly Cooper at 541-620-4947.

**Winter Wonderland dance recital**

• 6:30 p.m., Canyon City Community Hall  
Dancers from age 4 through seventh grade, including levels 1, 2 and 3, will perform dance routines, including solos, duets and trios as well as group routines. Admission is \$2 per

person at the door. Children 6 and under are free. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Body, Fitness & Dance at 541-792-7421.

**Sunday, Dec. 16**

**Winter bazaar**

• 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monument School gym  
The sixth annual winter bazaar features homemade decor, beauty products, food and accessories. The 4-H club will serve hamburgers, and the Monument ambulance will host a dessert fundraiser. The cost per table is \$10. For more information or to set up a booth, contact Stacy Robinson-Cox at 541-934-2155.

**Monday, Dec. 17**

**Antone Christmas bird count**

• 8 a.m., Cant Ranch house, John Day Fossil Beds  
Joel Geier will conduct a bird count west of the John Day Fossil Beds. The compilation will take place after 4:15 p.m. For more information, contact Geier at joel.geier@peak.org.

**Tuesday, Dec. 18**

**Ski club meeting**

• 5:30 p.m., The Ugly Truth Bar & Grill, John Day  
The Strawberry Mountain Nordic Club will host a ski club meeting. All ages are welcome to come meet with fellow snow sport enthusiasts. For more information, call Hannah Grist at 541-285-7817.

**Wednesday, Dec. 19**

**Food bank distribution day**

• 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Grant County Food Bank  
The Grant County Food Bank will hold its monthly food distribution day on the third Wednesday (Dec. 19) instead of the fourth because of the holidays. The food bank is located at 530 E. Main St., Suite 9, in John Day. For more information, call 541-575-0299.

**Grant Union winter music program**

• 6:30 p.m., Grant Union Junior-Senior High School  
The Grant Union combined choir and junior and senior high school bands will present their winter music program in the school's old gym. Admission is free.

# Carrie Young Memorial Auction hits its mark

By RICHARD HANNERS  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Each year, the annual Carrie Young Memorial Dinner and Auction reflects the generosity and goodwill of the Grant County community, growing in donations and attendance since it began 25 years ago.

Lucie Immoos created the event to honor her older sister, Carrie Young, who was killed in an automobile accident in Alaska in 1993.

After her death, the Young family discovered that Carrie, who had worked at the Blue Mountain Care Center in Prairie City, purchased gifts each Christmas for residents of the home without family.

Immoos wanted to maintain that tradition and created the Carrie Young Memorial Drive for the Elderly in 1993. Little did she know how big that tradition would become. This year, the event raised \$31,000.



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

**Shoppers of all ages attended the Carrie Young Memorial Auction at the John Day Elks Lodge on Dec. 7.**

That money is used to purchase heating supplies, from furnace oil, propane and firewood to groceries and other needed supplies for hundreds of elderly residents.

"They're a proud generation — they don't ask for help," Immoos said.

Beneficiaries include 250 to 300 seniors who live at home that Immoos'

supporters keep track of, along with residents at Valley View Assisted Living, Blue Mountain Care Center, Mothers Creek senior home and Cinnabar Adult Foster Care Home.

"Word gets around about who needs assistance," Immoos said. "There are a lot of elves in the community."

Immoos and eight helpers traveled to Ontario right

after the event to purchase requested supplies for the seniors. She and two others then continued on to Boise, Idaho, to complete the shopping.

Many businesses in the community — along with the Pendleton Round-Up and the Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Pendleton — contribute items to the fundraiser, Immoos said.

The donations, ranging from food and drink, power tools, sporting goods and toys to tickets to events, accumulate in the HECS warehouse at the John Day Industrial Park where a crew assembles them into themed gift baskets.

Mike and Sharrie Slinkard donate the warehouse space. Terri Bowden, owner of A Flower Shop And More, leads a team including Immoos, Dawn Wood and Emma Anspach in selecting various items that might go together in a gift basket.

"Terri is the editor," Immoos said.

There's a lot of imagination involved — items of a similar color might be put together, but the team also creates humorous items each year such as a "Bad Mom" gift basket. This year, 290 gift baskets were assembled and brought to John Day Elks Lodge for the silent auction.

"That's slightly more than last year," Immoos said. Among the standout items included a 6-foot-tall doll house made by Pete Allen of Mt. Vernon, a wooden rocking bench made by Gordon Orr of Prairie City, a big elk horn with scrimshaw by Bill Immoos, a butcher block table made by Mark Immoos and a trampoline donated by John Day True Value.

The winner of the raffle for a Ruger American Predator rifle donated by Nydam's Ace Hardware was Kim Grove. Raffle winners

for the cords of firewood were Cynthia Jackson, Brian Hubbard, Kate Cueno and Kevin and Cindy Nelson. The firewood was donated by recently deceased John Short as well as Chris Gibson, Steve and Susie Combs, Blue Mountain Care Center and Duane Stokes.

A big-ticket item the past two years has been prints from the No-Tellum Ridge series by North American wildlife artist Leon Parson. Todd Donahue, who bought last year's Parson print, posted the winning bid again this year. The prints were donated by the deceased Charlie O'Rorke and his widow, Jan O'Rorke.

"Charlie was one of the most revered loggers in the county," Immoos said.

Immoos' sister Christie Winegar heads up a kitchen crew each year that cooks a big spaghetti feed for all the visitors. The tables quickly filled with smiling diners.

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Services available at **Home Health Office, 422 W. Main, John Day.**

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