

Flood danger: Bridges, roads close in Grant County

By Richard Hanners
Blue Mountain Eagle

Runoff from mountain snowpack combined with significant rainfall in past weeks has contributed to high creek and river levels, posing flood risks to many areas of Grant County.

The county declared an emergency Monday, and rain fell through the night in the John Day area, bringing river and creek levels even higher by Tuesday morning.

The National Weather Service in Pendleton issued a flood warning for small streams in Grant County on Monday through 4 p.m. Tuesday, when rivers and creeks were expected to crest.

NWS forecast about 0.10 to 0.24 inches of additional rainfall in the region on Tuesday, with cooler air moving in later in the day and light snow expected above 5,500 feet elevation. The cooler temperatures were expected to slow mountain snowpack runoff.

Canyon Creek was flowing freely over several bridges in Canyon City, including Nugget Street and Inland Street. In addition, the Portal Road and Adam Drive bridges were closed to traffic.

Several highways in Grant County were experiencing flooding. Flooding from the North Fork of the John Day River had closed Highway



Eagle photos/Richard Hanners

Canyon Creek was flowing over the Inland Street bridge in Canyon City by Tuesday morning, April 9. School teachers, staff and students joined other volunteers in sandbagging along the creek to protect school property.

402 and Highway 19 near Kimberly, and flooding from the Silves River temporarily closed Highway 395 just south of Seneca.

Emergency workers were called out in Mt. Vernon, where lots of sandbagging was underway on Tuesday and the city park was closed. Much of the Clyde Holliday State Park was underwater from the overflowing John Day River.

All Grant School District 3 schools were closed on Tuesday, including Grant

Union Junior-Senior High School, Humbolt Elementary and Seneca School.

Canyon Creek was flowing about 1.5 feet higher at Inland Street than one day earlier. The railings and pedestrian bridge at Inland Street had been removed to prevent logs and debris from lodging and preventing stream flow. A county excavator was in place to remove debris as it reached the bridge.

Extensive sandbagging and barricade placement was established from the Inland

Street bridge downstream in an effort to prevent any creek water that overran its banks from running onto the Gibco and Grayback properties nearby or to the Grant School District 3 bus barn and superintendent's office or farther on to Grant Union High School property.

School buses had been moved from the bus barn to a parking lot just north of the high school. In 2011, flooding at Inland Street ran into the Gibco store, with about 1.5-foot high flood water run-



Canyon Creek was flowing over the Inland Street bridge in Canyon City by Tuesday morning, April 9, and extensive sandbagging was in place to protect nearby properties. The pedestrian bridge and the railings had been removed to improve flow. A county excavator was in place to remove logs and other debris.

ning through the north side entrance door. Flooding that year also reached the school superintendent's offices.

Some evacuations were underway along Canyon Creek on Tuesday, with one family in shelter by Tuesday morning.

The Red Cross Cascades Region opened a shelter Tuesday morning at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 944 E. Main St., John Day. Individuals and families who have been impacted by flooding conditions and are in need of shelter assistance are encouraged to simply show up at the shelter for help.

Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer issued a press

release warning the public about flood dangers and asking people to cooperate with emergency workers as they deal with high-water dangers.

"Typically, flooding and high water events draw crowds and onlookers into areas where emergency and maintenance crews are trying to access," he said. "We are asking people who do not live in specific or general areas of where this flood is taking place, to stay out of or away from these areas. Traffic and congestion generates delays and a potential for accidents in these areas also rise. As of right now, we do not need additional issues to contend with."

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

Cashelle J. Miles, 25, Medford, pleaded guilty March 28 to misdemeanor failure to appear on a criminal citation committed Dec. 20. She was sentenced to 30 days jail concurrent with a March 28 supplemental judgment for violating probation conditions. In that judgment, she was found in violation of failing to complete community service work, failure to pay fines or fees, reckless driving, reckless endangering another and endangering the welfare of a minor, and she was sentenced to 45 days in jail.

Cathleen A. Rose, 63, Long Creek, pleaded guilty April 2 to misdemeanor criminal driving while license was suspended or revoked committed on

Sept. 19. She was sentenced to 18 months probation, 30 hours community service and a \$1,000 fine.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of April 3: concealed handgun licenses, 27; average inmates, 11; bookings, 10; releases, 13; arrests, 1; citations, 0; fingerprints, 7; civil papers, 12; warrants processed, 2; asst./welfare check, 0; search and rescue, 0.

Justice Court

• Violation of basic rule: Tristan G. Bass, 43, Newport, March 12, 74/55 zone, fined \$140; Amy E. Charrette, 42, John Day, March 26, 79/55 zone, fined \$225; Bradford H. Williams, 57, San Jose, California, March 2, 74/55 zone, fined \$260.

• Exceeding speed limit: Joshua W. Reynolds, 35, Richfield, Utah, March 2, 80/65 zone, fined \$225; Jeremy D. Field, 40, Prairie City, March 21, 75/65 zone,

fined \$165; Tamera C. Bancroft, 51, Klamath Falls, March 1, 78/65 zone, fined \$265; Carrie E. Sullivan, 47, Dayville, Feb. 5, 42/25 zone, fined \$165.

• Violation speed limit: Harry P. Hosey, 72, Walla Walla Washington, March 3, 44/25 zone, fined \$165.

• Driving uninsured: Nick Gibson, 27, Prairie City, Jan. 23, fined \$1,000; Victoria J. McLean, 36, Baker City, Jan. 19, fined \$300; Tami L. Sasser, 37, Canyon City, Feb. 25, fined \$265, March 26, fined \$265.

• Driving while suspended: Nick Gibson, 27, Prairie City, Jan. 23, fined \$2,000; Victoria J. McLean, 36, Baker City, Jan. 19, fined \$500.

• Failure to obey traffic control device: Wyatt J. Waliser, 18, Prineville, Feb. 10, fined \$165.

• Exceeding maximum weight limit: Carroll Walton, 68, Prairie City, March 13, fined \$150.

• Exceeding permitted weight limit: Paul V. Novotny, 36, Imbler, March

21, fined \$150.

• Use of cellphone while driving: Diane Hartwick, 64, John Day, March 2, fined \$265.

• Failure to renew registration: Tami L. Sasser, 37, Canyon City, March 26, fined \$440.

• Andy R. Chester, 60, Myrtle Point, pleaded guilty April 1 to second-degree criminal trespass. He was sentenced to \$940 in fines, fees and restitution.

• Brian Johns was convicted April 3 of failure to perform duties of a driver. He was sentenced to a \$440 fine.

Oregon State Police

March 25: Following a traffic stop on Highway 395 north of the Silves Road junction, the trooper allegedly saw drug paraphernalia and empty open beer cans and smelled

green marijuana. Michael S. Thomas, 28, was given a field sobriety test and then arrested. His blood alcohol content was measured three times at 0 percent. Following a drug recognition evaluation at the Grant County Jail, he was charged with driving under the influence of cannabis and inhalants.

April 1: Served a Grant County warrant on a woman on Overholt Avenue in Prairie City. The woman said she had a hypodermic needle in her bra. Cheyanne N. Marquez, 26, was arrested.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 141 calls during

the week of April 1-7, including:

John Day Police Department

April 6: Responded to a video store on West Main Street in John Day for a burglary report.

April 6: Dispatched to a report of possible explosions in John Day.

Oregon State Police

April 2: Received a report of a burning vehicle that was abandoned on Highway 26.

Grant County Sheriff's Office

April 2: Received a 911 call about a kidnapping from Buckhorn Road in Canyon City.

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ALL FILMS \$6 ON TIGHTWAD TUESDAY
MOVIE SCHEDULE APRIL 12 - 18

MISSING LINK (PG)
LAIKA Animation. An explorer travels to America's Pacific Northwest to prove the existence of a legendary creature.
FRI & SAT (4:10) 7:10 9:45
SUNDAY (4:10) 7:10
MON - THURS 7:10

SHAZAM! (PG-13)
By shouting out one word - SHAZAM!
- Billy Batson can turn into the adult superhero Shazam.
FRI & SAT (3:45) 6:45 9:35
SUNDAY (3:45) 6:45
MON - THURS 6:45

PET SEMATARY (R)
A family discovers an ancient burial ground behind their home with the power to raise the dead.
FRI & SAT (4:00) 7:00 9:40
SUNDAY (4:00) 7:00
MON - THURS 7:00

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

Thank you to the Long Creek Volunteer Ambulance, Myla, Craig & crew. Also to the BMH Ambulance team for the quick response and care you gave my husband, Allen Chappell, when you responded to our call.

Many heartfelt thanks,
Kelly McGirr

happy BIRTHDAY
Evelyn Ogilvie!

Join us to celebrate Evelyn's 99th birthday at the United Methodist Church in John Day on April 13th from 1-3 p.m. (No gifts)

Play, Learn and Grow... Together!

ENROLL TODAY
SONSHINE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Registrations are being accepted for 2019-2020
We offer a high-quality school-readiness program for little learners. *Eligibility requirements apply.
Pre-Kindergarten (4-5 yrs): 3 days a week, (T, W, TH). Now registering for afternoon classes 12:15 pm-3:15pm. *Must be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2019.
Pre-School (3-4 yrs): 2 days a week, (T, TH) 8:15 am-10:45 am. *Must be 3 years of age by Sept 1st, 2019 and be independent when using the bathroom.

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541-968-9865
office@
johndaynazarene.com

113568

Grant SWCD Weed Control Dept. Working for You in 2019

Thanks to the Grant County Court and Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee, Grant Weed Control is able to offer a **25% Cost share program for Noxious Weed Control on Private Grazing Lands**, through a Title II funded Grant Project. This program will provide a maximum \$5,000 of noxious weed control services with a \$1,250 maximum landowner contribution to qualifying participants. To be eligible for participation, the treatment property must not be actively irrigated and must be primarily managed for livestock grazing, minimum of 20 acres in size, located within Grant County, and must contain priority noxious weed species. Applications for this limited weed control assistance opportunity will be ranked and funded according to a priority noxious weed list.

Contact the Grant Soil and Water Conservation District Office at (541) 575-1554 or visit 721 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845 for applications and additional information.

The application deadline for this program is April 12th, 2019.

107999

WILD & SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL
WHERE ACTIVISM GETS INSPIRED

FRIDAY, APRIL 19
6:30 PM
MADDEN BROTHERS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
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