

# Hope 4 Paws looking for volunteers

By Rudy Diaz  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Rescuing stray or lost dogs and cats, providing spay or neuter assistance and returning lost pets to their owners are a few things that Grant County Hope 4 Paws brings to the community.

When the group was founded in 2016, they focused on providing these services because there were no shelters, impound facilities or government-sponsored animal control in Grant County, said Scotta Callister, the board chair for Hope 4 Paws.

In 2019, Hope 4 Paws spent nearly \$14,000 to help people spay and neuter 230 pet cats and dogs as well as 46 foster or adoptive animals and 119 feral cats. A lot of work was done through an ongoing, year-round voucher program and a new series of free spay and neuter clinics available for Grant County pet owners through the John Day River Veterinary Center, Callister said.

"In bigger population counties, people take those things for granted in being able to call animal control or going down to the shelter," Callister said. "That's one of the reasons that Hope 4 Paws was formed because there was no rescue program, spay or neuter programs, which led to a lot of unplanned and unwanted litters. ... We had to look at the beginning of the problem and address that."

With litters of unwanted pets, people would try to sell them during the spring and summer, but Shawn Duncan, a director that focuses on dogs, added that this



Contributed photo/Scotta Callister

**Rescue dog Milo, adopted locally, is dressed up to attend a 2019 fundraiser.**

led to problems with the canine parvovirus spreading because people weren't vaccinating puppies and the virus would spread.

"And it used to be the mentality of people to take the dogs or puppies out and shoot them if they didn't want them," Duncan said. "So now they have a place to bring them and call for help, but we have to get the word out that you can email or Facebook us for help."

Hope 4 Paws needs more volunteers to help serve on the board or help on various projects and activities planned for the year, according to Duncan, Callister and Susan Church, a director that focuses on cats. The board currently includes Callister, Duncan, Church, vice chair Chris Labhart, treasurer Robin Olterman and secretary Lindsay Bullock. People can also help by fostering animals.

"When we have dogs that come into our system, a surrendered dog or a lost dog, before we can re-adopt

them, they have to be held for a certain amount of days and are checked out," Callister said. "They go to the vet clinic and we pay boarding, but with cats, we have these three houses that are overwhelmed. People can choose to foster a cat, and that would be a really big help."

If fostering is not an option, people can transport animals to a shelter such as Brightside in Redmond. Volunteers can walk the dogs when Hope 4 Paws has dogs at the veterinarian. Callister said this allows dogs to socialize and exercise, which would help dogs when people are looking to adopt them. On June 6 at the Grant County Fairgrounds, there will be a joint event with Silent Wave Horse Rescue, and volunteer help would be appreciated, Callister said.

The organization also wants to incorporate signage where cats and dogs are commonly abandoned and have a microchip and tag clinic to make it easier to find an owner of a lost pet. Finding

the owner faster would help minimize the cost of lodging at the clinic, Duncan said.

A common misconception people have regarding Hope 4 Paws is that they have a shelter when they don't, but as the years have gone on, the community developed a better idea of what the organization does, Callister said. Church said another misconception is that the organization will trap feral cats and take them away.

"If there's a feral colony somewhere, we will go — there is a contract they sign that they will continue to feed and receive the animals — so we go out and we trap them and neuter them and spay them, and they have a clipped ear (for identification)," Church said. "Then we release them back to where we trapped them."

For Church, Callister and Duncan, finding forever homes for dogs and cats provides the greatest reward.

Callister said a major project that cat volunteers did at Riverside Home Park on feral cats in 2018, and certain rescues, have been highlights of their work.

"Volunteers, we need help, and we want you to join us," Callister said. "It is a rewarding experience."

"We want to also thank the community for the support we have gotten," Church added.

When making donations or contacting Hope 4 Paws, Duncan said to make sure the numeral four is used since Hope for Paws is a different organization. People can contact the organization through Facebook or by emailing hope4pawsgc@gmail.com.



Contributed photo

**The Cycle Oregon Fund awarded \$10,000 to the city of Seneca to support the building of a new two-bay, pull-through fire station to house two newer engines. The city also received a \$3,000 Classic Event Community Support Grant from Cycle Oregon.**

## Cycle Oregon donates \$13,000 to Seneca

Blue Mountain Eagle

Cycle Oregon, a Portland-based nonprofit dedicated to transforming individuals and communities through bicycling, has announced its latest round of grant recipients from the Cycle Oregon Fund. Now in its 23rd year, the Cycle Oregon Fund grant program awarded a total of 22 nonprofits with a combined \$139,050.

The city of Seneca received \$10,000 to support the building of a new, two-bay, pull-through fire station to house two newer engines. The city also received a \$3,000 community grant.

All proceeds from Cycle Oregon's four signature events — Classic, GRAVEL, Joyride and WEEKENDER — go to the Cycle Oregon Fund, which is managed by the Oregon Community Foundation.

"The Cycle Oregon Fund is one of the tools we have to give back to many of the communities who offer outstanding hospitality to our staff, volunteers and the thousands of riders who participate in Cycle Oregon events every

year," said Steve Schulz, executive director of Cycle Oregon. "People who participate in Cycle Oregon fall in love with Oregon's rural communities and love knowing that proceeds from our events support many good causes in those same places they rode through."

Cycle Oregon will accept applications for its next grant cycle from Sept. 28 to Oct. 26. To determine if an organization is eligible to apply and to learn how to apply, visit cycleoregon.com/our-work/our-impact.

The Cycle Oregon Classic, a weeklong road ride through Eastern Oregon, is coming back to Grant County Sept. 12-19. The ride includes stops in the historic "frontier" towns of John Day, Monument, Fossil, Mitchell and Dayville. New this year, Classic lets riders customize their experience, offering a wide range of route lengths (with weeklong totals ranging from 272 to 443 miles, and total elevation gain between 15,280 and 35,245 feet), plus 60 miles of optional gravel detours. Registration is now open at cycleoregon.com.

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Tune into KSPL 98.1 FM  
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PO Box 151, Mt Vernon, Or 97865  
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**John Day Valley Mennonite Church**  
Meeting every Sunday at Mt. Vernon Grange Hall  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship...10:50 a.m.  
Pastor Leland Smucker  
Everyone Welcome • 541-932-2861

**Prairie Baptist Church**  
238 N. McHaley St., Prairie City • 541-820-3696  
www.prairie-baptist-church.com  
Pastor David Hoeffner  
Pastor Keith  
Sunday School (all ages).....9:00 a.m.  
Sunday morning worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Awana (Oct-Apr.).....3:00 p.m.  
Youth Group.....5:30 p.m.

**Historic Remnant Church**  
Preparing for Jesus to come  
Meets Saturday at Mt. Vernon Grange  
Sabbath School.....9:30 am  
Church Services.....11:00 am  
541-620-0340

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
Morning Prayer.....10 am  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
Eucharist & Sunday School.....10 am  
(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
139 S. Washington, Canyon City  
541-620-1436

**VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
KJV Independent  
Fundamental • Premillennial  
Terence K. Crabb, Pastor  
A Bible-believing Church  
"He that hath the Son hath life..." I John 5:12  
Sunday School 9:45 am • Sunday Preaching 11:00 am  
Junior Church 11:00 am • Sunday Evenings 3:30 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study & Master Club 7:00 pm  
Saturday Men's Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
108 S. Washington Street, Canyon City  
541-575-2688 or 541-575-0844

**New Life Bible Church**  
2 Corinthians 5:17  
Every Sunday in the L.C. Community Center (Corner of Second & Allen)  
Contact Pastor Ed Studtmann at 541-421-3888 • Begins at 4:00pm

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School..... 10 am  
Church.....11 am  
Afternoon Service..... 2 pm  
No Mid-week Services  
Pastor Jesse Gosnell  
300 W. Main, John Day  
541-575-1355

**St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church**  
Corner of S Canyon Blvd and SW 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Mon. - Fri. Mass - 12:05 pm  
Saturday Mass - 5:00 pm  
Sunday Mass - 9:00 am  
Holy Days Mass: Noon & 6 pm  
Confession: Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm  
Anytime by appointment  
541-974-8638  
St. Anne  
Monument -  
2nd and 4th Sundays at 12:30 pm  
Office Hours  
Monday - Friday 9 am - 12 Noon

**Living Word Christian Center**  
Hwy 26 Mt. Vernon  
Celebration of Worship  
Sundays 5:30pm  
Youth: 0-6th grade  
Midweek Service  
Thursdays 6:30pm  
Youth: 0-6th grade  
Jr./Sr. High Youth Connection  
Contact the office for current schedule  
Overcomer's Outreach  
Fridays 6:30pm  
House on the Lawn  
A Christ Centered, 12 Step Recovery Support Group  
Pastor Sharon Miller  
541-932-4910  
www.livingwordcc.com

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
SATURDAY SERVICES  
JOHN DAY  
110 Valley View Dr.  
541-575-1216  
Head Elder.....541-575-2914  
Bible Classes (all ages).....9:30 am  
Worship.....11 am  
LONG CREEK  
E. Main Street  
541-421-3033  
Head Elder.....421-3468  
Bible Classes (all ages).....2 pm  
Worship.....3 pm

**CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Sunday School.....9:30 am  
Sunday Worship Service.....10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Service.....6:00 pm  
Children & Teen Activities  
SMALL GROUPS CALL FOR MORE INFO  
Weekdays: Sunshine Christian School  
Pastor Randy Johnson  
521 E. Main • John Day • 541-575-1895  
www.johndaynazarene.com

**JOHN DAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship • 9AM  
(541) 575-1326  
johndayUMC@gmail.com  
126 NW Canton, John Day  
Food Pantry Friday 3-4p.m.  
Like us on Facebook!

**CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
139 N.E. DAYTON STREET, JOHN DAY  
541-575-2180  
Sunday Worship Service 10 am  
Sunday Youth Group 3 pm  
Thursday Celebrate Recovery 6 pm  
Pastor Levi Manitsas  
cornerstonejohnday@gmail.com  
ccfd.org

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday School.....9:45 am  
Sunday Worship.....11 am  
Fox Community Church.....3 pm  
Sunday Evening Bible talk.....6 pm  
Saturday Men's Study.....6 pm  
Full Gospel- Come Grow With Us  
541-575-1202 Church  
311 NE Dayton St, John Day  
Pastor Al Altnow

**MT. VERNON PRESBYTERIAN Community Church**  
SUNDAY SERVICE.....9 am  
541-932-4800  
EVERYONE WELCOME

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Come Worship with us at  
627 SE Hillcrest, John Day  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Worship/Communion.....10am  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Worship/Communion/Potluck...4:30pm  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship .....10 am  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....6 pm  
For information: 541-575-2348