



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.

Wednesday, March 18

American Red Cross blood drive
 • 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, John Day
 Register by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.
Lenten luncheon — canceled
 For more information, call 541-575-0104.

Thursday, March 19

Special Olympics basketball game with local law enforcement — canceled
 For more information, contact Deronda Lallatin at 541-620-4295 or Kathy Gill at 541-620-2186.

Saturday, March 21

Grant County Genealogical Society seminars — canceled
 For more information, call 541-932-4718.

Forest Service requiring visitors to self-screen

Blue Mountain Eagle

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is implementing a screening process before allowing entry to USDA facilities, including Forest Service buildings, according to a press release.

Visitors are asked to self-assess using the following USDA-provided questions:

1. Have you, someone living in your household, someone you have been in close or frequent contact with, or someone you are caring for been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) or had any contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?

2. In the last 14 days, have you or someone living in your household, or someone you have been in close or frequent contact with, or someone you are caring for returned from, or made a travel connection through a CDC Level 3 or Level 2 country or State Department Level 3 or Level 4 country?

3. Do you currently have, or have you had within the last 24 hours, any cold or flu symptoms with a fever greater than 100.4 or acute respiratory distress (e.g., shortness of breath and coughing)?

If the answer to all of these questions is no, call the following appropriate numbers for assistance during normal business hours to obtain entrance to that particular office.

- Malheur National Forest, Supervisor's Office/Blue Mountain Ranger District: 541-575-3000 (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
- Prairie City Ranger District: 541-820-3800 (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
- Emigrant Creek Ranger District: 541-573-4300 (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

If any of the answers to the questions is yes, call the appropriate numbers above to determine how to receive assistance through other means than face-to-face.

In addition to minimizing personal contact by calling Forest Service offices for assistance rather than coming in person, the public is also encouraged to postpone non-critical business with the Forest Service and practice "social distancing" when they encounter Forest Service employees in the field.

Office hours and screening procedures are subject to change due to the rapidly-changing nature of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Most events canceled because of coronavirus

Here is a list of confirmed cancellations

Blue Mountain Eagle

The following events have been canceled due to public safety concerns from the new coronavirus:

- All school classes through March 31.
- All OSAA school activities and sports practices through March 31.
- The Grant County Ministerial Associations Lenten luncheons scheduled on Wednesdays.

- The Grant School District board meeting scheduled for March 18.
- Special Olympics basketball with local law enforcement scheduled for March 19.
- The Richardson Brothers and Friends show scheduled for March 20 at the Prairie City Senior Center.
- The Grant County Genealogical Society seminars planned March 21.
- Painted Sky Center for the Arts will be postponing most in-person events, including the March 17 book club meeting, until April 8. The young writer's club will continue, but all of the activities will be hosted online only.

- Oregon RAIN in-person events through April 10.
 - Ashley Stevick Yoga in-person classes through April 10.
 - State Sen. Lynn Findley's offices in Vale and Salem until further notice.
 - Senior centers are closed for all activities until further notice. Each center is offering to-go or delivered meals. For more information, contact the local center: John Day, 541-575-1825; Prairie City, 541-820-4100; Monument, 541-934-2700.
- Please contact the Eagle if an event is being cancelled at 541-575-0710 or email office@bmeagle.com.

County launches Phone a Friend program in response to coronavirus

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant County COVID-19 Response Team has launched a new program called Phone a Friend.

According to a press release, Incident Commander Deputy Dave Dobler said the team is requesting individuals to make a list of friends and then phone them each day to see how they are doing.

"This could be a great help in this otherwise difficult time, and it will allow the community to become active

participants in our prevention strategies," Dobler said in the release.

Those interested in the program are encouraged to start immediately by making a list of friends they are willing to check on each day. When the program is fully operational, the incident management team would like to get a little information from each volunteer coordinator.

Dobler said there is no need for these Phone a Friend coordinators to reveal the names of those on their list or

to share the phone numbers of their friends. Instead, the Phone a Friend coordinators will be encouraged to share how many are on their list and if they are all OK.

He said the volunteers could focus on friends and neighbors and especially those who are elderly or have health issues.

"There may be overlaps, but it is better to capture more information than to miss something that is potentially critical to a family or our community," Dobler said.

Those interested in formally becoming part of this program do not need to wait to make their lists and start calling their friends. Volunteers who want to register themselves with the Phone a Friend program may call the emergency operations center at 541-575-0520 starting Wednesday, March 18, and ask for Sue Beard, the program coordinator.

The Phone a Friend volunteer coordinators will receive a special weekly briefing with up-to-date information.

County Justice Court announces postponement policy

Blue Mountain Eagle

Due to COVID-19 health concerns, Justice of the Peace Kathy Stinnett has announced a temporary postponement policy for Grant County Justice Court effective through April 26.

Anyone with a scheduled court date in Justice Court in Canyon City may receive a postponement by contacting the court by phone at 541-575-1076, by fax at 541-575-3811, by email at gjusticecourt@grantcounty-or.gov or by mail at 201 S. Humbolt St., Suite 320, Canyon City, OR 97820.

Citizens have the option to respond to traffic citations in writing by choosing one of the options on the back of the citation and mailing it to the court. Mailed submissions must be received by

the scheduled court date and time.

"Justice Court will remain open during regular business hours, however we are asking all citizens to either contact the court for a postponement or to use mail or e-mail to resolve your matter," Stinnett said in a press release. "Our primary concern is to protect those members of our public who are most vulnerable: persons over age 60, those with underlying health conditions and those with weakened immune systems."

Stinnett said the court would make every effort possible to facilitate those needing access to legal services, but citizens must contact the court to receive the accommodations offered.

For more information and updates, visit grantcountytoregon.net.

OBITUARIES

Tammy Jenkins

June 20, 2019

Tammy Jenkins, a long-time resident of John Day, Oregon, passed away at Renown Regional Medical Center on June 20, 2019, in Reno, Nevada.

Born in Ritzville, Washington, Tammy received an associate degree in nursing from Trinity Oaks Community College, The Dalles, Oregon, in 1986. Tammy worked as a social worker for about 20 years with Training and Employment Consortium, and Oregon Child Protection Services in John Day and Burns, Oregon. Tammy's lifelong passion for helping children was apparent in her dedicated service to the state and community, and through the countless children and families she helped over the years.

Tammy loved spending time with her family, working with children, reading, gardening and caring for her dog, Benjie.

She is survived by her children, Tia and Nathan; former spouse, Phil; her grandchildren, Nathan Jr., Hunter, Emma and Harrison; her mother Donna; and sisters Dawn and Deborah. She was a devoted mother and grandmother who will be truly missed for her caring nature, and never-ending compassion.



OTEC suspending disconnects and closing offices to walk-in traffic

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative is closely monitoring the developments of the new coronavirus and continuing to take precautions to protect the public and our employees.

OTEC closed its four offices in Baker City, La Grande, John Day and Burns to the public at 5 p.m. Tuesday. The offices will remain

closed to walk-in traffic until further notice. The drive-through window at the La Grande district office will remain open. Appointments for in-person business will be available by calling 541-523-3616.

To further the support for members impacted during this time, OTEC is temporarily suspending late fees and disconnections. Call 541-523-3616 with difficulties pay-

ing an electric bill to set up a payment plan.

Members can conduct business by phone, 541-523-3616; by mail; by the payment drop box outside each office; by payment kiosks; and by the online portal at <https://ebill.otec.coop>.

To report an outage, call the 24-hour hotline at 1-866-430-4265. For more information, visit otec.coop.

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Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	56/27
Wednesday	59/32
Thursday	50/27
Friday	58/27
Saturday	44/27
Sunday	39/23
Monday	40/27

24/7 FORECAST

AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY

162.500 MHz

WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 18 - 24

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Rain possible	Mostly cloudy	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Cloudy	Mostly cloudy
47	49	57	55	56	56	52
32	28	29	31	34	29	29