



Contributed photos

Kelsey Long shows off her breakfast “smile,” before eating it up following a Smart Eating nutrition presentation for Seneca School’s K-2 class. The lesson was given by Jenny Vannoy of the Oregon Health Council.

Penny Trip

Seneca School’s K-2 class enjoyed its annual “penny trip” on June 3. Their year-long math project of collecting and counting pennies earned them a stupendous grand total of 35,400 pennies, the greatest amount ever collected in the penny project’s six-year history.

Students and parents began the day with breakfast at the Squeeze-In restaurant. Their next stop was U.S. Bank, where each student helped push pennies through the counting machine.

All the students gleefully waved fistfuls of \$354 for a group photo before heading off



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for the new Fossil Beds center.

There, Sarah led them through the “Blast from the Past” volcano activity, and they had time for exploring the displays and the educational activities classroom before lunch.

After lunch, the entire group

set off on the Blue Basin trail, to hike and marvel at the wondrous colors, wildflowers, evidence of the power of wind and water on the landscape, and the fossil displays. Not even the downpour on the return hike could dampen spirits.

Dollar bills were burning holes in pockets, so the next stop was the Dayville Mercantile for a shopping spree. All the students came away with souvenirs of their trip. Before leaving Dayville, everyone took a break to either play in the park or explore the antique collections across from the park.

Before returning to John Day, the group stopped at the home of Cheri and Alan Miller to change into their “going-out-to-dinner” clothes. Dinner at the Outpost restaurant in John Day was the grand finale for the day, and took the last of the dollar bills.