



# The Blue Mountain EAGLE

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**VOTE** See our Election Guide on pages 8-11

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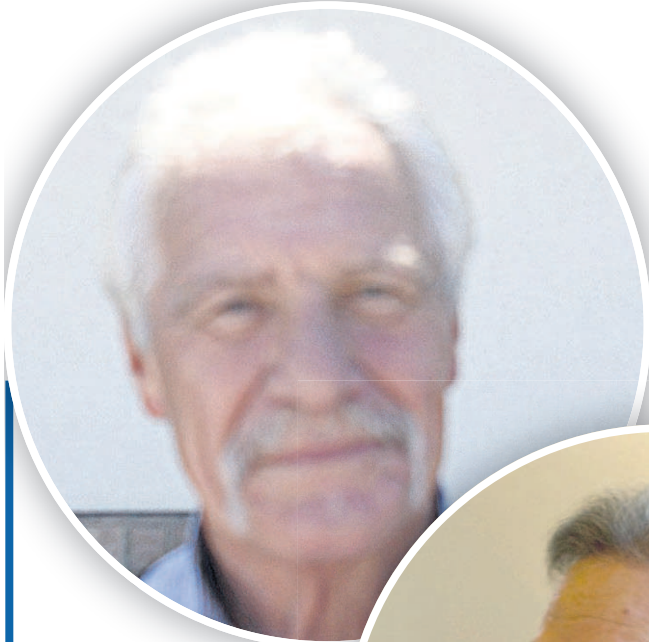
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## EXPERIENCE VS. A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

### Democratic newcomers seek to unseat longtime GOP lawmakers



**W. MARK STRINGER**

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

W. Mark Stringer, the Democrat underdog running against incumbent Republican Sen. Ted Ferrioli for Oregon Senate District 30, has been traveling the state in a whirlwind of appearances in preparation for the November election.

Stringer worked as a school teacher for nearly three decades, has been a rancher and is a former mayor of Nyssa. He grew up in Eastern Oregon and promises to represent the interests of the people. He said he is all for small business and industry and against over-regulatory government.

Stringer, if elected, plans to address issues like election financing and term limits, among others.

"We're meant to be a citizen legislature," Stringer said.

He wants to cap election spending, stating current levels take the opportunity of elected office out of the hands of the people.

He has quite literally put his money where his mouth is and accepted no contributions from businesses, unions, the Oregon Education Association or the Democratic Party, he said.

"I am beholden to no one," he said.

Regarding term limits, he points to Ferrioli as an example of a problem not having limits can cause. Though Stringer describes him as "very congenial and a nice fellow," he also said, "If I didn't know he

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**STATE SEN. TED FERRIOLI**

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Ted Ferrioli is up for his sixth term as state senator for Senate District 30, and this time, he has an opponent.

Despite being consistently elected since 1996 and becoming the ranking Republican in the Senate, he said he always campaigns seriously.

"If you're not running like you're 10 points behind, people assume you don't care," Ferrioli said.

One issue he is concerned with is the current management of national forests in Oregon. He points to the increased wildfires and loss of timber production as symptoms of an unsustainable relationship where the people of Eastern Oregon aren't always considered to be a factor.

"The question that's not getting an affirmative is do these communities have a right to be sustained," Ferrioli said.

He asserts the "move or starve" model of thinking doesn't work for everyone, that some people don't want to live in the city and shouldn't

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**U.S. REP. GREG WALDEN**

Blue Mountain Eagle

U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee from Oregon's Second Congressional District, is seeking re-election and believes his record speaks for itself.

Walden, who was first elected to the large district encompassing all of Eastern Oregon in 1998, said in a statement he has passed more bills through the U.S. House of Representatives than any other member of the Oregon House delegation in this term and all terms.

This term, he said he's passed seven bills, more than 94 percent of the other House members, including helping bring commercial air service back to Klamath Falls, accessing funding for bridges in the Columbia Gorge and helping improve rural internet service for consumers.

"Throughout my time in public service, I've worked very hard to be the voice for the people of the enormous Second Congressional District and solve problems so that we can better care for our veterans, grow our economy, better manage our lands, and fight threats to our safety and security," he said. "... I often hear the same frustrations from residents: concerns about an overreaching federal government stifling rural economies and livelihoods."

Walden said federal agencies need to do a better job listening to local communities affected by land management decisions. He said

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**JIM CRARY**

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Jim Crary, a Democrat, is running for U.S. Congress in Oregon's Second Congressional District.

Crory doesn't have an extensive background in politics, something he said might give him an advantage against his opponent, Rep. Greg Walden, whom he describes as a "career politician."

Though Crary considers himself an underdog, he said this inspires him to work even harder. If elected, Crary promised to represent the people and not special interests. He said the biggest issue he would tackle while in office would be campaign finance reform.

"I am so angry, upset and disgusted with how much money is in politics right now," he said. "It's obscene as far as I'm concerned. It gives people that have the money an inordinate amount of influence."

He wants to propose a constitutional amendment that would

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### Oregon Senate District 30

### Oregon's 2nd Congressional District

## Patriotic disputes

### 'Beyond Burns' attendees disagree about nature of 'patriot' movement

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Canyon City Community Hall was packed Friday Oct. 7 for a presentation covering the ongoing "patriot" movement in Oregon.

Jessica Campbell, organizing director for the Rural Organizing Project, shared "Beyond Burns," a brief presentation of the recent patriot activity in the Oregon area, hosted by Grant County Positive Action.

Campbell gave brief overviews of incidents at the Sug-

ar Pine Mine in Josephine County and the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Harney County. She identified militia groups, such as III Percent of Idaho and Oregon, the Oathkeepers and others as key players in these events and cited the Bundy Ranch standoff in Nevada in 2014 as a place where many patriots met with like-minded people and formed connections.

Federal officials eventually backed down in the Nevada standoff surrounding rancher Cliven Bundy and

disputes with the government over grazing fees, though arrests were made and charges filed after the occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge earlier this year by Bundy's sons and others.

That standoff, in which armed protesters occupied the refuge in protest of federal land management and extended jail sentences for two Harney County ranchers, lasted 41 days before the last holdouts gave up and were arrested. The trial for many of the key occupiers is currently underway.

Campbell asserted the patriot or militia groups are

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## 21st century policing

### John Day hopes policies reduce crime, distrust

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

In order to combat a rising local drug problem and increased national scrutiny of police, the John Day Police Department is looking at revising police practices.

These changes would reflect policing practices recommended by the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

The recommendations are centered around six pillars: building trust and legitima-



**Richard Gray**

cy, policy and oversight, technology and social media, community policing and crime reduction, officer training and education and officer safety and well-

ness. The task force states these recommendations are in response to "recent events that have exposed rifts in the relationships between local police and the communities." Though the program is aimed at larger departments serving larger communities, John Day

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