

Opinion

Pub Talk: CPOs

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Nelson introduced new business owner and SBDC client Theresa Ball, of Theresa's Treasures, LLC, who spoke to the crowd about her success and business experience, and introduced a couple of new products. She said she wanted to bring something new to Main Street, and she envisions a type of mini-mall in the future.

Dawson, considered an expert by Nelson on the topic of CPOs, spoke to the audience. She said, "It's (the CPO) a new form of providing capital for businesses. What it is, is security crowd funding." She gave examples of securities, as in a loan with interest, or the purchase of a business with an expected return.

"So, why is this new securities crowd funding special? It's special, because it allows anyone to become an investor in a business. It opens up investing to anyone that has a little bit of money. It makes this type of investing available to people who are not wealthy. It gives the opportunity to Oregonians to become stable in their

community, and it's real effective," she said.

Dawson went on to explain other details regarding CPOs, followed by Nelson's introduction of Baker County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Debi Bainter, who said, "A mini-Hatch will be located at 490 Campbell Street, in the Baker County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center," followed by applause from the audience. "We are super excited about it; it's a great opportunity," she said. The "mini-Hatch" Bainter referred to will be a local component of Hatch Oregon, a new economic engine for growing community capital.

Nelson introduced John Childers, President and CEO of Baker City Saddle Co., at 2950 Church Street, an SBDC client, and said, "John's is our first northeast Oregon, company that has jumped through the process, and been kind of our guinea pig, for this Community Public Offering." Childers, accompanied by Alex Bogardus (who was enlisted to represent and speak for the company about its offering), talked about his business briefl , before

handing the microphone to Bogardus.

Copies of the company's offering, for the sale of securities, were provided at the event, for interested investors. The document's Executive Summary states, "Baker City Saddle Co. was founded in 2015 as a full service saddlery and is an Oregon Corp. We combined the tools, materials, clientele and existing orders of two small established businesses and formed Baker City Saddle Co. This company is now poised to grow. For Baker City Saddle Co. to operate efficientl , additional equipment, inventory and working capital is now necessary. We are raising \$50,000."

The offering document included comprehensive company details, including the minimum of \$5,000 to be raised, with a maximum of \$50,000 (the minimum per investor would be \$100, with a maximum of \$2,500). The crowd was informed that the company has raised over \$7,000 so far. For more information, including offering details, Baker City Saddle Co. can be reached at 503-896-0055, or john@bakersaddle.com.

— GUEST OPINION —

On the death penalty

By Bob Niemeyer

The Constitution guarantees to the people that no one can be deprived of life or liberty without due process of law, and expressly forbids cruel or unusual punishment.

I ask the following question: What is the difference between "life without the possibility of parole" and "death by imprisonment?" Either way, the government is taking away all of someone's life.

For me, there is no real difference, other than you definition of "cruelt ."

- It is 'cruelty' to put someone in a box and then feed, clothe, and provide health care for that person until they die of old age.

- It is 'cruelty' to the People of the United States to risk their very lives should some day, for some reason, that person is put on the street and kills again.

- It is 'cruelty' to the loved ones of the victims to force them to live with waiting for the person who took the life of their loved one to finally be punished for what they did.

- It is 'cruelty' to everyone to use 'fear' that the government will require the release of prisoners due to budget cuts as a way to increase taxes."

Being a representative of the people "is" being responsible for the lives of the people, both now and in the future.

If someone attacks the United States, it is the responsibility of the Government to take life from those



Submitted Photo

Bob Niemeyer has just declared his candidacy for Governor. This op-ed is printed in order to provide information to voters on his views. More about this candidate is available at www.bobniemeyer.com.

that attack us to protect the citizens of our country.

If someone rapes and kills a child, is caught, and convicted of the crime, it is the responsibility of the government to take the life from those who attack the innocent to protect the citizens of the United States.

If someone kills a prison guard doing his or her duty of protecting the public from criminals that would kill again if allowed on the streets, it is the responsibility of the Government to take life from those who obviously will kill again to protect the citizens of the United States.

And if you do not have the guts to be a responsible representative of the people of the State of Oregon and the United States of America, then get out of office

The end of an era ...



Photo courtesy of Linda Evans Wentworth.

On Tuesday, the In and Out sign, so famous in Baker City, stood above that establishment for the last time. After decades, the Lethlean family has sold the business. Trucks arrived for removal early in the morning and the sign was gone by midday.

Letter to the Editor and Guest Opinion Policy: The Baker County Press reserves the right not to publish letters containing factual falsehoods or incoherent narrative. Letters promoting or detracting from specific for-profit businesses will not be published. Word limit is 375 words per letter. Letters are limited to one every other week per author. Letters should be submitted to Editor@TheBakerCountyPress.com.

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— LETTERS TO THE EDITOR —

Wrong strategy used against road closures

To the Editor:

Past letters to this Editor have encouraged readers to bombard the USFS and BLM with comments, opinions, and demands regarding proposed federal actions on road closures, sage grouse habitat, wolves, B2H project, etc. This strategy is all wrong.

Here's why. The Federal agencies are *required* by Congress to follow specific laws regarding closure of forest roads and other proposed actions. These laws are clearly set forth in the National Environmental Policies Act, Endangered Species Act, National Forest Management Act, Regulatory Flexibility Act, Data Quality Act, etc. *all* these Acts mandate *coordination* with local governments, in which local economic, safety, and health issues are addressed in a plan— with which the feds then coordinate.

That is why it is so crucial for our commissioners to pass the NRAC plan immediately to fulfill the first step in compelling federal agencies to recognize, and obey, our local requirements. Before any road can be lawfully closed by the feds, it must first be subject to an exhaustive "inventory", which considers the impacts on the local economy, social cohesiveness,

consultation with relevant local agencies and authorities, public safety issues, Environmental Impact Statements, and many other required studies. Then, and only then, can the feds propose their plan to coordinate with the local law or policy. Fortunately for us, past Commissioner Brian Cole (2001) sponsored Ordinance No. 2001-1, which is the law of this county. It is seven pages of detailed requirements to which the federal and state agencies must comply in order to preserve and protect the local economy, private property rights, public safety, etc, and also mandating an extensive list of studies to be done first by the feds

Significantl , any right of way on public land established prior to 1976 (RS 2477 road) is not under the authority of the USFS to regulate. It is beyond its jurisdiction.

So comments and complaints against proposed federal actions are a waste of time. By the people neglecting to hold them to their own laws, the federal agencies deem that we have waived their requirements, and then they proceed ahead. We need to challenge them on their required compliance with their own law, and make them go back and start over.

Jim Iler
Baker City

Police respond to bus incident

On Tuesday, during the afternoon bus route, Baker City Police responded to an incident on a Baker 5J school bus near Campbell and 17th Streets.

The allegation, according

to Lt. Dustin Newman, was that one child had shot another child with an Airsoft gun during the ride home. Witnesses at the time reported hearing the same claim. Due to the young

age of all parties involved, names will not be made available.

No arrests were made and no additional information was available at the time of print.

— CONTACT US —

The Baker County Press

PO Box 567
Baker City, Ore. 97814

Open Monday-Thursday for calls
9 AM - 4 PM
Open 24/7 for emails
Office location: TBA

Phone: 541.519.0572

TheBakerCountyPress.com

Kerry McQuisten, Publisher
Editor@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Wendee Morrissey, Advertising and Sales
Wendee@TheBakerCountyPress.com

David Conn, Advertising and Sales
David@TheBakerCountyPress.com

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President Barack Obama

202.456.1414

202.456.2461 fax

Whitehouse.gov/contact

US Sen. Jeff Merkley

503.326.3386

503.326.2900 fax

Merkley.Senate.gov

US Sen. Ron Wyden

541.962.7691

Wyden.Senate.gov

US Rep. Greg Walden

541.624.2400

541.624.2402 fax

Walden.House.gov

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown

503.378.3111

Governor.Oregon.gov

State Rep. Cliff Bentz

503.986.1460

State Sen. Ted Ferrioli

541.490.6528

Baker County Commissioners Bill Harvey; Mark Bennett; Tim Kerns

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