

BUDGET: County employed 420 a decade ago, down to 280 now

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time officer under that contract," Rowan said.

The criminal division of the sheriff's office has a \$2.3 million budget for 2014-15, and a proposal of \$2.6 million for the next fiscal year.

He also wants to boost jail staff. Rowan said with an exception to one shift, correction deputies work the jail control room. Hiring a non-correction officer for that job, he said, would free up a deputy to fulfill the role of a corrections officer.

Additionally, the sheriff's office placed courtroom security under the roof of the corrections division. "By hiring the person to work in control that also gives us latitude to assign a corrections deputy to work in courthouse security," Rowan said, particularly during a major trial or to help handle high-security offenders.

The jail budget for 2014-15 was \$5.43 million, and the proposal for 2015-16 is \$5.81 million, according to county

budget documents.

Murdock said the county has a little wiggle room for requests, but an increase in one place means a decrease somewhere else. He said it will take a convincing argument for the budget committee to consider that kind of move. The county employed 420 people full time a decade ago, he said, and that's down to 280 now. "The ultimate goal," as he stated in his budget message, "is to create a nimble organization designed to do more with less."

The committee consists of the three county commissioners and three citizens. The county's budget hearings are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday and 8 a.m. to noon Friday at the Umatilla County Courthouse, 216 S.E. Fourth St., Pendleton. Department head and staff will present their budget requests, and after each there is time for public input.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

HISTORY: Victory at state isn't an automatic ticket to the nationals

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"It was called 'the Tombstone Bonus,'" Cope said, "because by the time you got it, so many years would have passed, you'd be dead."

Waters, who lived in Portland after the war, organized about 300 men in 1932 to travel to Washington, D.C., to support a bill that would move up the date for receiving bonuses. The so-called "Bonus Army" took the train, riding in cattle cars. When they arrived at the Capitol, the veterans had attracted about 20,000 other supporters who camped in buildings abandoned during the Great Depression and marched against the slow bonus.

"It was pretty much the first civil rights movement," Cope said.

Congress defeated the bill 62-18. Four years later, however, legislators authorized \$2 billion in bonuses and in 1945 passed the G.I. Bill.

"Roosevelt vetoed the bill, then Congress overrode the veto," Cope said. "It helped pull Americans out of the Great Depression."

The pair of young documentary filmmakers started with an idea and not much else.

"The topic is kind of obscure," Flerchinger said. "There's not a lot out there."

They conducted interviews of a National Guard recruiter, a West Point professor and a woman who experienced the Great Depression. They wrote a narration and whittled it from 20

minutes to 10. They located photos in the Oregon Historical Society archives. They got behind the microphone and then spent hours editing. The result was "Walter W. Waters and the Bonus Army: A Soldier's Legacy."

The second-place state team of Tucker Wilson and Connor Westfall actually beat Cope and Flerchinger during an earlier competition in Helix.

"It was rather an upset victory for them (at state)," said their teacher and advisor Lorin Kubishta.

Wilson and Westfall's documentary focuses on the Scopes Monkey Trial, where John Scopes was tried in 1925 for breaking Tennessee law by teaching evolution to his high school class. Attorney Clarence Darrow defended Scopes.

Kubishta expects great things of both teams at nationals. "Both documentaries are exceptionally strong," he said. "I wouldn't be surprised if one or both make finals in D.C. — that's how good they are."

Victory at state isn't an automatic ticket to the nationals, said Denise Brock, education director at the Oregon Historical Society. If judges don't think an entry will be competitive at the national level, they won't advance it.

"If you're going to represent the state of Oregon," Brock said, "it has to be good."

Contact Kathy Aney at kaney@eastoregonian.com or call 541-966-0810.

BRIEFLY

Tickets available for Irrigon awards banquet

IRRIGON — There's still time to get tickets to celebrate the people and businesses of Irrigon.

Time to Shine, the Irrigon Chamber of Commerce's Citizen Recognition banquet, is Friday from 6-9 p.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 N.W. Opal Place. Tickets purchased in advance are \$25 each and at the door they are \$30.

Chef Donna will be preparing diners a choice of salmon or prime rib and Anderson Events will provide no-host wine and beer for the celebration.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call Phyllis Danielson at 541-922-3857.

Classes offer caregiver help

Free trainings with a focus on Alzheimer's, medication concerns for older adults and issues with dementia are offered through Oregon Care Partners.

Designed for caregivers, family members and people working in the health care profession, the upcoming classes include:

- Living with Mid-Stage Alzheimer's For Caregivers Thursday, April 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at NE Public Transit Building, 2204 E. Penn Ave., La Grande

- Understanding Medication in Older Adults Part 2: Care Team Principles

Wednesday, May 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Eastern Oregon University, La Grande

- Person Centered Dementia Care: Leading Your Team to Success

June 8-9 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Red Lion Hotel, 304 S.E. Nye Ave., Pendleton.

For a full list of free classes or to register, visit www.oregoncarepartners.com. For more information, call Kathleen Stuart at 503-334-9516.

Can drive benefits Umatilla seniors

UMATILLA — Parents of seniors at Umatilla High School are raising money for a safe and sober graduation party.

A can drive is planned as part of the effort Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Columbia Harvest Foods, 1411 Sixth St., Umatilla.

Also, donations can be made at www.gofundme.com/retfb7f

PENDLETON

American Idol star to headline Round-Up concert

Jack Michelson to open for Scotty McCreery

East Oregonian

American Idol winner and country music star Scotty McCreery will headline the 2015 Round-Up and Happy Canyon Concert.

Opening for McCreery will be Oregon's own Jackson Michelson during the Saturday, Sept. 12 event. Tickets go on sale Thursday, May 7.

Bill Quesenberry, Round-Up president, and Jason Hill, president of the Happy Canyon Night Show, are excited about kicking off Round-Up week with the two solo artists.

McCreery burst onto the national music scene in 2011 at the age of 17 when he won the 10th season of American Idol. He was named Breakthrough Artist at the 2013 American Country Awards.

Establishing himself as one of country music's hot new stars, by the time he turned 21, McCreery had sold nearly 2.5 million albums and received platinum and gold album certifications. Three consecutive albums debuted at the num-



McCreery



Michelson

ber one position on the Billboard charts.

In addition to success in the recording studio, the singer/songwriter has proven himself a hit on the road. McCreery has toured with Brad Paisley and The Band Perry and headlined his own tours.

His hits include "I Love You This Big," "The Trouble with Girls" and "See You Tonight." All three went platinum.

McCreery also believes in giving back. He's supported numerous charitable causes, including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, World Vision, The Opry Trust Fund and MLB RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities).

Concert opener Michelson was raised on country, rock, reggae and soul music. Known as an audience pleaser, Michelson's music ranges from raw country jams like "The Good Life" to ballads like "Fire Burns for You."

Michelson began his musical journey when he was 12 and tried to learn trombone, which he just as quickly surrendered.

"I couldn't play and sing at the same time," he said of his venture into brass instruments. "Writing songs came naturally after just a few days."

He has been selected to perform at the third annual Taste of Country Music Festival in June in New

York state. He'll share the stage with headliners Tim McGraw, Keith Urban, Toby Keith, Sara Evans and LoCash.

The Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon concert is Saturday Sept. 12 from 7-10:30 p.m. in the Happy Canyon Arena. Tickets may be purchased beginning Thursday, May 7 at 8:30 a.m. at the Round-Up and Happy Canyon office, 1114 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Tickets are also available by phone and online. Prices range from \$40 to \$130.

For more information, call 541-276-2553, 800-457-6336 or visit www.pendletonroundup.com/events/2015/concert.

FUEL: State will have to defend fuel standard in court

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things," Wind said.

Here's what Wind and the future employees must cross off their to-do list to launch the program by January 2016:

- Incorporate changes to the program that lawmakers passed this year. Senate Bill 324, which Gov. Kate Brown signed into law March 12, modified and made permanent the fuel standard established in 2009. The new legislation removed one of the cost control provisions adopted by the state's Environmental Quality Commission earlier this year, and instead directed the commission to design a system to limit costs by issuing credits to entities that use alternative fuels. Senate Bill 324 also added new exemptions to the fuel standard for construction equipment, water craft and train locomotives, and state employees must write rules this year to implement changes contained in the new law.
- Talk to fuel importers

about changes in which entity is responsible for complying with the fuel standard. State law places the burden of complying with the standard on fuel importers and producers, but until January 2015 importers were defined as the entities that owned the fuel when it was first placed in a stationary tank in Oregon. That would have placed the compliance requirement on gas stations, and Wind said "we wanted to go higher up the fuel distribution chain." Now, an importer is defined as the entity that owns the fuel when it crosses the border into Oregon.

- Inform fuel importers and producers of changes in reporting requirements. Importers and producers have already started to report to the state the amount of carbon generated during the life cycle of various fuels, from extraction to combustion.

But as the variety of production methods increases, the state wants more details about the fuels. For example, Wind said there used to

"The agency has done a terrific amount of work in laying the groundwork for implementation."

— Jana Gastellum, climate program director for the Oregon Environmental Council

be five types of corn ethanol and now there are more than a dozen, each with a different level of carbon content. Oregon wants fuel producers and importers to use these more specific reporting categories.

- Build a webpage with information about all regulated parties — fuel importers and producers — and any entities that register to generate carbon credits.

The state will also have to spend time in upcoming months defending the fuel standard in court. The same month lawmakers passed Senate Bill 324, the petroleum industry and truckers filed legal challenges to the fuel standard at the Oregon Court of Appeals and U.S. District Court in Portland.

Nonetheless, one of the groups that pushed for the

state to adopt the fuel standard remains confident Oregon can implement it on schedule.

"The agency has done a terrific amount of work in laying the groundwork for implementation," Jana Gastellum, climate program director for the Oregon Environmental Council, said in a written statement. "And Oregon doesn't have to start from scratch. For example, the credit platform isn't being created brand new, but merely revised based on California's already successful web tool creating both time and cost savings for Oregon."

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