

Refuge occupiers concerned about liberal Portland jury

By STEVEN DUBOIS
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Lawyers for those who occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge earlier this year are concerned a jury comprised of people from liberal Portland won't be impartial.

Andrew Kohlmetz, who represents defendant Jason Patrick, suggested a change of venue for the September trial, and asked a federal judge Wednesday to approve funding for an analysis of the media attention the case received and, possibly, a survey of community attitudes. The two requests would total nearly \$130,000.

Kohlmetz said the "almost constant" media coverage of the 41-day protest was far different from a typical case, when the alleged crime happens out of the public eye.

"For 41 days — and even before — there was lives-treamed media coverage that I expect the government sees as amounting to an immediate and ongoing confession," he said.

U.S. District Court Judge Anna Brown seemed inclined to reject the funding unless the need was apparent after a thorough jury selection process.

She seemed more agreeable to a request from lawyers and defendant Ryan Bundy, who's representing himself, that the jury includes people from throughout Oregon.

Brown, however, said it's "totally speculative" to suggest a jury from the Portland district would be too liberal. The district includes Oregon's entire northwest quadrant, and is a "far more



AP Photo/Rick Bowmer, File

In this Jan. 5 file photo, Ammon Bundy speaks during an interview at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

conservative crowd" than the city of Portland.

The armed occupiers led by Ammon Bundy took over the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge on Jan. 2, demanding that the government turn over the land to locals and release two ranchers imprisoned for setting fires.

Bundy and 25 others were indicted on federal charges of conspiracy to impede employees at the wildlife refuge from performing their duties. Many face additional charges.

Though short of a circus, the atmosphere was lively during the monthly status hearing. Brown said she's leaning toward modifying the courtroom for the trial, perhaps by seating the media and spectators in a separate room.

"Right now, there's not even a way for a witness to approach the witness stand," she said.

Mike Arnold, Ammon Bundy's lawyer, objected, saying his client deserves the right to a public trial and witnesses should have

to face the spectators. He proposed the trial be moved to a convention center.

Also Wednesday:
• Occupier Jason Patrick told Brown that a U.S. Marshal physically accosted him and threatened to harm his mother. Brown said she would bring his concerns to the head marshal.

• Arnold said Ammon and Ryan Bundy have been underfed in jail and are losing weight. He asked for a boost in their rations. The lawyer also asked for better pens to aid in their legal defense, saying the jail-issued pens are uncomfortable to write with.

• Occupier Blaine Cooper suffered chest pains and had to be escorted out. He returned 30 minutes later.

• Occupier Kenneth Medenbach renewed his concern that the judge never took an oath, despite her insistence that she took it in 1999. Arnold interjected that perhaps the judge could "renew her vows." The exasperated judge replied: "Mr. Arnold, please take your seat."

Getting young voters to turn out is elusive goal

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon is among the easiest places in the nation to vote, with a vote-by-mail system and an automatic voter registration program.

Still, turnout among the state's youngest voters has lagged behind other age groups for years, just as it does nationally.

That disparity is a popular target this year for state politicians, who have pitched a variety of ideas aimed at getting more young people to vote. However, their proposals are limited to things government can control, from free ballot postage to mandatory mock elections in public schools.

Some observers said young people are also looking for something else that is often missing: Exciting candidates.

Turnout among voters ages 18 to 29 was lower than any other age group in the last two presidential and midterm elections, according to data from The Bus Project, a nonprofit in Portland that encourages young people to participate in politics and elections.

In the 2008 presidential election, turnout for Oregon's voters aged 18 to 29 reached nearly 65 percent. Turnout among these voters dipped to 40 percent during the midterm elections. By contrast, 93 percent of registered voters ages 60 to 69 participated in the 2008 presidential election, according to data from The Bus Project.

Nikki Fisher, the group's executive director, said she hears from young people that political candidates do not share their experiences or values, but "this year in particular, I think there are a lot of candidates who are reflective."

Paul Gronke, a political science professor and director of the Early Voting Information Center at Reed College, offered a different perspective. Gronke said Oregon has a highly educated electorate and attracts large crowds to political rallies.

"But then when you look at the political leadership, it's so bland," Gronke said. "Who's the next hot shot in Oregon politics? I don't know." There are few competitive state or congressional races this year, and many of the candidates have been politics for decades.

State politicians have pitched a variety of ideas to boost young voter turnout in Oregon.

All three Democrats in the May 17 primary for secretary of state — the official in charge of elections — want the government to begin paying for postage for vote-by-mail ballots. The proposal was included earlier this year in a bill sponsored by state Sen. Richard Devlin, R-Tualatin, and Rep. Val Hoyle, D-Eugene, each a candidate for secretary of state.

"When I go to my children and ask them — who

are both of voting age — if they have a stamp, they look at me like I have three heads because they don't use the mail very often," Hoyle said during a hearing on the bill.

According to the legislative staff, the proposal would cost \$1.8 million over then next two-year budget cycle.

The Legislature didn't pass the free postage proposal, but did approve legislation that will require a ballot drop box within four miles of every public university and community college campus in the state.

Gronke said he was skeptical of the claim it is inconvenient or unfamiliar for young people to purchase stamps, which are available at grocery stores and other locations.

Democratic candidate Brad Avakian, the state's labor commissioner, wants to revive the state-paid postage proposal. He also wants to require mock elections and a new civics curriculum in public middle and high schools.

According to Avakian's website, "This education will lead to higher voter turnout, greater civic engagement, and stronger communities."

The League of Women Voters of Oregon already has a mock election program in many schools, and Gronke said there is some evidence that mock elections can encourage voter participation.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
A shower or t-storm in spots	Mostly cloudy and comfortable	Very warm with sunshine	Mostly sunny, breezy and warm	Partly sunny and pleasant

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

73° 52° 80° 52° 83° 56° 78° 50° 71° 41°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

78° 53° 86° 55° 89° 58° 82° 51° 76° 44°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	75°	53°
Normals	68°	43°
Records	92° (1966)	22° (1897)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.13"
Year to date 4.40"
Last year to date 3.13"
Normal year to date 5.28"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	76°	57°
Normals	70°	43°
Records	90° (1966)	29° (2011)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. Trace
Month to date 0.16"
Normal month to date 0.16"
Year to date 2.98"
Last year to date 1.79"
Normal year to date 4.18"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:37 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:08 p.m.
Moonrise today	5:15 a.m.
Moonset today	6:57 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
May 6	May 13	May 21	May 29

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Periods of clouds and sunshine today; a couple of showers in the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly cloudy today with a shower or thunderstorm around.

Western Washington: Partly sunny today, except more clouds across the south. Clear tonight.

Eastern Washington: A shower or thunderstorm around today; however, dry toward the Cascades.

Cascades: Mostly cloudy today and tonight; a couple of showers, but dry across the north.

Northern California: A shower or thunderstorm today, but rain and drizzle in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	65	48	c	70	50	s
Baker City	74	46	c	75	46	c
Bend	62	45	t	68	48	c
Brookings	62	51	sh	67	54	pc
Burns	72	43	c	71	47	pc
Enterprise	69	48	pc	70	47	pc
Eugene	68	48	pc	79	51	pc
Heppner	70	50	c	76	51	c
Hermiston	78	53	c	86	55	c
John Day	70	49	c	72	53	c
Klamath Falls	59	45	sh	68	47	t
La Grande	71	52	c	75	50	c
Meacham	68	49	c	73	49	c
Medford	68	52	c	76	54	c
Newport	60	48	pc	65	50	s
North Bend	61	50	c	65	53	pc
Ontario	83	55	pc	81	53	pc
Pasco	80	55	c	87	59	pc
Pendleton	73	52	c	80	52	c
Portland	72	52	pc	83	56	s
Redmond	66	43	t	75	47	c
Salem	72	49	pc	82	52	pc
Spokane	72	55	c	78	55	s
Ukiah	65	46	c	69	45	c
Vancouver	70	49	pc	81	52	s
Walla Walla	74	54	c	80	58	c
Yakima	79	55	c	87	58	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	82	51	s	77	49	s
Hong Kong	87	79	t	88	79	pc
Jerusalem	73	54	s	68	53	pc
London	66	49	pc	71	55	pc
Mexico City	81	52	t	81	51	pc
Moscow	57	42	r	67	42	c
Paris	67	45	s	74	53	pc
Rome	71	50	s	71	51	pc
Seoul	79	59	pc	67	51	sh
Sydney	74	56	s	77	58	s
Tokyo	74	60	s	71	60	c

WINDS

	Today	Friday
(in mph)	WNW 4-8	NNE 8-16
Boardman	WNW 4-8	N 6-12
Pendleton	WNW 4-8	N 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

1	3	4	4	3	1
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8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2016

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary: Many areas from North Carolina to Ohio and Maine will be unsettled with clouds and showers today. Showers and thunderstorms are forecast to spread inland across California, Oregon and Washington.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 102° in Gila Bend, Ariz. **Low 14°** in Cabin Creek, Okla.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	82	55	pc	81	49	pc
Atlanta	65	51	pc	73	53	s
Baltimore	54	49	r	56	50	r
Birmingham	84	56	sh	62	48	c
Boise	84	57	pc	78	52	c
Boston	50	46	sh	56	48	s
Charleston, SC	75	51	t	75	53	pc
Chicago	66	41	pc	75	58	s
Cleveland	57	45	sh	64	47	c
Dallas	80	57	s	83	61	pc
Denver	80	50	pc	79	48	s
Detroit	67	45	pc	70	50	s
El Paso	90	64	pc	93	61	s
Fairbanks	59	41	pc	61	44	pc
Fargo	86	57	s	81	43	pc
Honolulu	85	73	sh	85	72	pc
Houston	82	54	s	83	56	s
Indianapolis	64	44	pc	70	55	s
Jacksonville	77	50	s	77	52	s
Kansas City	72	50	s	80	61	s
Las Vegas	85	59	pc	70	55	t
Little Rock	75	50	s	79	56	t
Los Angeles	66	57	pc	66	56	t
Louisville	64	50	c	73	56	s
Memphis	71	51	s	75	58	s
Miami	85	65	s	83	62	s
Millwaukee	56	43	s	70	55	s
Minneapolis	75	57	pc	85	55	t
Nashville	64	48	pc	74	52	s
New Orleans	78	59	s	78	62	s
New York City	56	50	sh	57	51	sh
Oklahoma City	78	52	s	81	58	s
Omaha	77	52	s	84	57	s
Philadelphia	58	50	r			