

# Deadline to file for Grant County positions is March 8

Blue Mountain Eagle

Several Grant County positions are open for elections this year.

Positions up for election include assessor, county commissioner No. 2, sheriff, surveyor, treasurer and Public Forest Commission Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7 and alternates Nos. 1 and 2.

Tonya Cates has filed for assessor. Chris Labhart and Jim Hamsher have filed for county commissioner No. 2. Dave Traylor has filed Public Forest Commission No. 1. Larry Blasing has filed for

Public Forest Commission No. 7. Glenn Palmer and Todd McKinley have filed for sheriff. Mike Springer has filed for surveyor. Tandi Merkord, Doug Carpenter, Mary Weaver and Julie Ellison have filed for treasurer.

No one has filed for the other positions.

Precinct committee person positions are also open in five different precincts. For both Republicans and Democrats, six male and six female positions are open in Precinct 3, which covers the John Day Valley, including the John Day, Canyon City, Mt. Vernon

and Seneca area.

For both Republicans and Democrats, one male and one female position is open in each of the following precincts: 4, Union, including the Prairie City, Bates, Austin and Granite areas; 8, North Fork, including the Monument and Kimberly area; 16, South Fork, including the Dayville area; and 17, Long Creek Valley, including the Long Creek and Fox area.

No one has filed for any of the precinct committee person positions.

The deadline to file is March 8.

# Council says complaints against sheriff not solicited by city

By Sean Hart

Blue Mountain Eagle

The John Day City Council has issued a statement clarifying that complaints filed against Sheriff Glenn Palmer by the city's police chief and dispatch manager were not filed at the direction of city leaders.

Before the council approved it at the regular meeting Tuesday, Mayor Ron Lundbom read the statement, which says the council is aware of the complaints but did not solicit them.

"To be clear, neither the council nor city manager directed or tasked the subject employees to file the DPSST complaints," he said. "Notwithstanding that the complaints may have been filed on the city letterhead, the employees filed the complaints as individuals, citizens, and not in their official employee capacity."

Lundbom said the city has no further comment about the complaints or the employees who filed them.

Chief Richard Gray and Dis-

patch Manager Valerie Luttrell were among at least eight who filed formal complaints against Sheriff Glenn Palmer regarding the Malheur refuge occupation with the state Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, which licenses Oregon police officers. The department sent the complaints to the Oregon Department of Justice recommending an investigation.

Palmer said in an email Feb. 19 he is being represented by an attorney, but he declined to discuss the complaints.

## COPS & COURTS

*Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.*

### Circuit Court

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Circuit Court reported the following fines and judgments:

- Mathew Walker, 32, pleaded guilty to second-degree disorderly conduct. He was sentenced to jail for five days, bench probation for 12 months and 25 hours of community service, and fined \$450.
- Glen Daniel Starbuck pleaded guilty to driving under the influence of intoxicants. He was sentenced to jail for 48 hours and bench probation for 18 months, and fined \$2,000. His driver's license was suspended for one year.

### Oregon State Police

- Jan. 27: At about 5 p.m., responded to a reported single vehicle rollover crash on Highway 26 at Blue Mountain Summit. The driver, Lori J. Mallonee-Taylor, 43, of Burns, was cited for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and failure to maintain lane.
- Jan. 28: Cited Tel Reece Abbe, 23, of Riley, for failure to maintain lane, following a crash involving his northbound vehicle and a southbound log truck. There were no injuries.
- Feb. 2: At about 4:21 p.m., on Highway 26 near Pine Creek Road, cited Tracy Allen Reed, 52, of Bend, for driving while suspended or revoked-misdemeanor.
- Feb. 20: Cited Amy McCool, 43, Santa Cruz, Calif., for non-resident hunting license.
- Feb. 20: At 10:48 a.m., arrested Sarah L. Ake, 27 for DUII.
- Feb. 21: Cited Ernest Zuniga, Mt. Vernon, for driving while suspended or revoked-misdemeanor.
- Feb. 24: At about 4:30 a.m., responded to a single vehicle crash on Highway 26 between Dog Creek and Pine Creek roads.
- Feb. 24: At about 10:30 a.m., responded to a report that a man was stabbing a dog near the Grant County Fairgrounds, at Northeast 3rd and Northeast Elm streets in John Day. Police arrested Jason D. Ersland, 42, of Sequim, Wash., for first-degree animal abuse.
- Feb. 26: cited Evan Hodge, 38, of Mt. Vernon, to appear in Baker County Circuit Court for violating conditions of his DUII diversion.

### Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Feb. 19-25:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 11
- Average inmates: 11
- Bookings: 6
- Releases: 9
- Arrests: 2
- Fingerprints: 8
- Civil papers: 23

### Justice Court

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

- Careless driving-accident: Brett Olson, 43, Mt. Vernon, Nov. 30, fined \$330; Andrew Ryan Copenhagen, 18, John Day, Jan. 31, fined \$370.
- Driving while suspended-violation: Brett Olson, 43, Mt. Vernon, Nov. 30, fined \$330.
- No operator's license: Andrew Ryan Copenhagen, 18, John Day, Jan. 31, fined \$220.
- Violation of the basic rule: Ryan Scott Thompson, 36, Gresham, 72/55 zone, Dec. 25, fined \$135.
- Exceeding speed limit: Kevin David Dunham, 51, Hermiston, 81/55 zone, Feb. 12, fined \$160.
- Henry Eugene Goslin, Prairie City, was convicted of second-degree criminal trespass. He was sentenced to 12 months probation and 20 hours community service. He was fined \$300 and ordered to have no contact with or entry onto Ochoco Lumber property.
- Eric Daniel Towers, John Day, was convicted of harassment. He was sentenced to jail for five days, 12 months probation and 40 hours community service. He was fined \$525 and ordered to have no contact with the victim. The five days of jail time will be suspended upon successful completion of the plea agreement terms — payment of all fines, fees and costs by April 18, and 40 hours community service by May 18.
- Joshua A. Moulton, Mt. Vernon, was convicted of second-degree disorderly conduct. He was sentenced to jail for five days, 12 months probation and 25 hours community service. He was fined \$275 and ordered to not enter into the Dirty Shame except in the normal course of employment. Jail time will be suspended upon successful completion of community service hours by May 18 and if all fines, fees and costs are paid by April 18.

### Dispatch

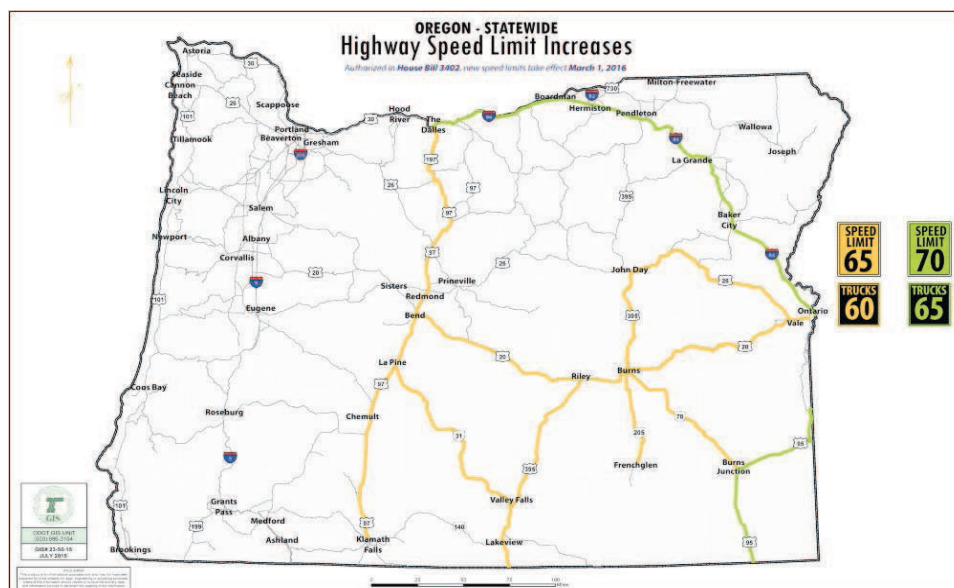
John Day dispatch worked 105 calls during the week of Feb. 22-28. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

### John Day Police:

- Feb. 22: Arrested a John Day man for disorderly conduct and assault.
- Feb. 23: Harassment reported at Prairie City School; responded to a report of a fight at the Elkhorn Store in Canyon City.
- Feb. 27: Responded for a 65-year-old man having a hard time getting oxygen.
- Feb. 28: Hit-and-run reported at Chester's Thriftway in John Day.

### Grant County Sheriff:

- Feb. 24: Theft reported in Mt. Vernon; Search and Rescue called out for three people in the Top Road area near Monument.
- Feb. 25: Responded to a call at Strawberry Village Apartments in Prairie City.
- Feb. 26: Report of a hit-and-run at Dayton and Main streets in John Day.
- Feb. 28: Report of shots fired on South Adams Road in Canyon City.
- John Day ambulance: Feb. 22: Responded for an 82-year-old woman having a hard time breathing.
- Feb. 24: Paged for a man with difficulty breathing.
- Feb. 25: Responded for an 86-year-old man with joint pain.
- Feb. 27: Responded for a 61-year-old man; responded for a man injured in a machine accident.
- Feb. 28: Responded for a 92-year-old woman unable to walk.
- Prairie City ambulance: Feb. 22: Responded for a 78-year-old woman.
- Feb. 23: Responded for an 83-year-old woman.
- Seneca ambulance: Feb. 25: Responded for an 88-year-old woman with a possible stroke.
- Prairie City Fire Department: Feb. 25: Responded to a call on North River Road outside Prairie City.



Effective March 1, speed limits increased on some roadways in Central and Eastern Oregon.

# Regional speed limits increase

Blue Mountain Eagle

SALEM — Motorists traveling on some state highways in central and Eastern Oregon will see increased speeds effective March 1.

Oregon House Bill 3402, enacted by the 2015 legislation, raises the speed limit on Interstate 84 and some other routes east of the Cascades.

Legal speeds on I-84 between the Idaho border and The Dalles will increase to 70 mph for passenger vehicles

and 65 mph for commercial trucks. These same speed limits will apply for U.S. 95 that runs through southeast Oregon between the Nevada and Idaho borders.

The section of I-84 west of The Dalles will remain at the current speed limit of 65 mph for passenger vehicles and 55 mph for commercial trucks.

Speed limits will increase to 65 mph for passenger vehicles and 60 mph for trucks on sections of eight other roadways. These include portions of U.S.

highways 20, 26, 97, 197 and 395, and Oregon state routes 31, 78 and 205. For other state and U.S. routes, the speed limit will continue to be 55 mph for all vehicles, unless posted otherwise.

The new speed limits will more closely match those of neighboring states.

For more information, including a map showing the specific highway segments that will see the changes, visit [www.tinyurl.com/OR-speed2016](http://www.tinyurl.com/OR-speed2016).

# County voters to decide whether to allow marijuana businesses

Blue Mountain Eagle

Petitioners gathered enough signatures to put the question of whether to allow marijuana businesses before voters on the May ballot.

Chief petitioner David Kilpatrick, Canyon City, gathered 198 signatures by the deadline, two more than required, according to County Clerk Brenda Percy.

If approved by a majority of voters on the May ballot, the initiative would overturn the county ban and allow the production, cultivation, pro-

cessing, wholesaling, retailing and testing of marijuana as permitted by the state in areas outside of city limits within the county.

## JDRENTS

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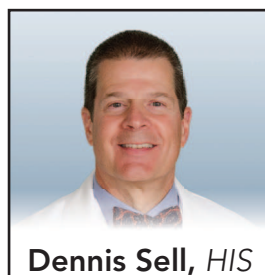
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# HARVEST AMERICA

## Greg Laurie

### MARCH.6.2016

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