

BROWN

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counties’ gun relinquishment protocols and recommended a statewide policy to enhance the safety of domestic violence survivors. Brown made the announcement Friday at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum, flanked by U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, other elected officials and gun safety advocates.

After her announcement, Pastor Mark Knuston of the Augustana Lutheran Church announced that he and other faith leaders plan to circulate an initiative petition to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines in Oregon.

House Minority Leader Mike McLane, R-Powell Butte, quickly issued a statement calling for bipartisan dialogue on any gun control measures.

“Oregon House Republicans welcome a conversation about how to address violence in our communities, but it is absolutely critical that those conversations maintain the appropriate level of respect for Oregonians’ constitutional rights and the thousands upon thousands of gun owners in this state who responsibly exercise their Second Amendment rights and Article I, Section

27 rights every day,” McLane said. “Sadly, this element of the conversation is all too often an afterthought for politicians in Salem.”

Senate Minority Leader Ted Ferrioli, R-John Day, issued a statement Monday morning condemning the plan as an attack on people who follow the law. He said many mass shootings in Oregon have been perpetrated by people who were already prohibited from legally owning firearms and obtained them illegally. In order to reduce random gun violence, he said, “the cause of the problems leading to hostility, including inadequate mental health care” must be treated.

“Kate Brown’s reckless attempt to politicize gun control while tension is significantly heightened across the country may propel us into a debate on the confiscation of private property and criminalization of law-abiding citizens and cause the kind of provocation almost guaranteed to produce more violence and anger,” Ferrioli said. “Instead of attacking the freedom and rights of law-abiding citizens through gun registries and bans, we should unite to address the real problem of inadequate mental health funding that leaves struggling individuals without the help they desperately need.”

DERBY

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“I do it for the local people — the crowd,” he said. “Out in the arena, it’s the only time you can go out and hit a car legally.”

He and Steve Patterson approached two of the derby organizers, Hugh Farrell and Dave Traylor, about adding a two-wheel drive pickup derby during the intermission.

Nodine said the pickup derbies in Lakeview are fun to watch.

EMRY

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The weapon was not registered to Emry in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, as required for fully automatic firearms.

After being arrested, Emry said the gun could fire 550-650 rounds per minute and that he took it from a shop where he worked in Idaho, according to Perez’s complaint. Perez also said Emry took the gun without the shop owner’s knowledge and obliterated the serial number before transporting it from Idaho to Oregon. He is charged with illegally possessing an unregistered machine gun and possession of a firearm with an obliterated serial number.

In a document supporting the recent release request, Emry’s attorney said, although FBI agents located the M2 and a blasting cap in Emry’s trailer, no M2 ammunition or explosives that might have been associated with the blasting cap were found. He also argued the government’s evidence relied on a confidential witness who is a felon and “who has been described by an FBI case agent as ‘dishonest and unreliable.’”

Sabitt said, when Emry was recorded on a jail phone saying the confidential witness “ain’t going to escape this one,” it

“It’s something new for the crowd, and cars are getting harder to find,” he said.

So far, there are four signed up for the pickup derby, and Farrell said most entrants sign up on the day of the event. Nodine said he has five more derby cars on his dad’s property.

A ’70s Buick sits in Nodine’s driveway. “It’s in the future lineup,” he said. “It has to get some wear on it first.”

This year’s top prize for the main event is \$2,000. Second place earns \$1,000 and third place \$500. There are also \$250 prizes for winners of the first and second heat, most aggressive driver and the winner of the pickup derby. Presale tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for



A .50-caliber cartridge, left, compared to smaller caliber cartridges.

was not a threat of violence but a warning to Emry’s associates that the witness could not be trusted.

“In any other case charging a Class C Felony to a 54 year old man with no significant criminal history, no history of violence, no mental illness or drug and alcohol concerns, a stable place to live and employment available to him, the Government would conceded the defendant is not a danger,” Sabitt said in the document.

In response, the U.S. attorneys filed the government’s opposition to the release request July 13. Williams and Lichvarcik argued Emry should remain in custody because the gun has “military, war-time capabilities,” was stolen, had the serial number obliterated and was transported across state lines during the occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge earlier this year.

They said a cooperating

witness indicated Emry wanted to take the machine gun to the refuge during the occupation but could not because of the law enforcement presence. They said the witness also said Emry “has a large arsenal of weapons, access to grenades, spoke about shooting police officers and how a bullet from the .50 caliber machine gun would penetrate the side of a police car and a Kevlar vest.” Despite the fact the witness “has been dishonest and unreliable in the past,” the federal prosecutors said, the witness was correct about the machine gun.

Emry, they said, was also in negotiations to sell the machine gun in Oregon to a person he had been told was a felon and the captain of a Texas militia group, who was actually an undercover law enforcement officer.

The U.S. attorneys said Emry also possessed a belt of blank .50-caliber shells for the gun and the blasting cap, which is a detonator for a bomb. They also mentioned Emry’s testimony from a 2004 case in which Emry admitted he illegally made a bomb out of C-4 and a silencer for a drug dealer but cooperated as a witness to avoid prison and that he illegally made 66 machine guns for a friend.

“A man with a history of making a bomb and silencer for a drug dealer to kill witnesses, and manufacturing 66 machine guns for another person in preparation for a civil revolt — who then brings a .50 caliber machine gun to our state during a time of unrest and then negotiates to sell it to someone purporting to be a felon and the captain of a militia — poses a serious danger to the community,” they said.

Before the first detention hearing, Emry’s attorneys submitted declarations in support of his release submitted by eight people, including Judy Kerr and Elaine Smith from Grant County.

Kerr said in her May 11 declaration she had known Emry for several months since he and his wife moved to Grant County and offered to help establish a community newsletter.

“I know Michael as an even-tempered and peaceful individual who has acted as a calming influence at community meetings and gatherings,” Kerr said.

Smith said Emry was not a flight risk or a danger to the community.

The judge disagreed and denied Emry’s release request but did so “without prejudice,” which allowed him to file the second release request.

POT

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commissioners made the right decision for the medical marijuana patients in the county,” she said. “This decision came after very emotional testimonies from patients.”

At a previous court meeting in June, former county roadmaster and Mt. Vernon Mayor Sue Horn testified she did not agree with marijuana use until she was diagnosed with brain cancer and became a medical marijuana patient. She said she believes marijuana may have medical benefits beyond the pain and nausea for which it can be prescribed.

Horn said she was diagnosed with glioblastoma and was given three to six months to live. That was two and a half years ago. She said her doctor encouraged her not to change her treatment, including using marijuana, and could only explain her longevity as a miracle.

Horn said she can’t drive — and even riding in a vehicle can make her sick — so getting her medicine from Bend is taxing on her family.

“It would make so much sense if we had a store,” she said.

Beth Spell, who was in the audience at the June meeting, was brought to tears after Horn’s testimony as she recounted how her brother died of cancer and had a difficult time procuring pain medication. She said it changed her stance on medical marijuana.

“I have had a change of heart here this morning,” she said. “If somebody can be saved from that pain and that stress ... if I could have saved my brother with a (medical marijuana) card, I would have done it.”

About 20 people were in attendance at the follow-up meeting in July when the commissioners voted to allow medical marijuana.

Marijuana advocates also spoke to the court about allowing recreational marijuana producers and processors in the county. The court, however, said those additions would have to go forward through the initiative petition process to place it on the ballot to be approved by county voters.

Although about 65 percent of the votes in Grant County were against Measure 91 to legalize recreational marijuana in 2014, only 53.5 percent voted against an initiative to legalize marijuana businesses in the county in May of this year. David Kilpatrick, the chief petitioner for the recent initiative, said he believes the county’s beliefs are changing.

“I think the county court’s approval of dispensaries shows the changing attitudes toward medical marijuana in Grant County,” he said.

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Grant County Chamber Monthly Newsletter

Well, it looks like summer is in full swing with school out, the ranchers are getting their winter hay put up and local activities are in high gear. We see many new faces in the area, taking in the sites. The recent article in the Blue Mountain Eagle and the activity report from Tammy Bremner, our local Chamber manager, indicate that Grant County and all that we have to offer is starting to appeal to folks from outside of the area. I don’t recall the formula on how many times a dollar turns over once it is spent, but it does have a profound effect on our economy, which helps keep our loyal businesses up and running.

If you haven’t seen the photos on the Len’s Drug windows, you must take the time to do so. They represent all of the communities in Grant County and depict some of our history and life style and are very tastefully and professionally done.

The solar eclipse seems to get more worldwide attention every day and our planning committee and all the communities are busy trying to prepare for the event. Sources say that a large number of visitors that are coming are from outside of the country; we may need some interpreters. Mark your calendars for Friday, Aug. 5, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and come to the Canyon City Community Center and listen to Professor Darlene Yan and associates from UC Berkley, who will educate us on the science of the eclipse.

The Chamber has some new members we would like to welcome: Sissy Dawson, the new Farmer’s Insurance representative, Sherry Nehl of Sherry’s Bake House. Our next meeting is Thursday, July 21, with our board meeting at the Chamber office at 11 a.m. and the lunch meeting at the Outpost restaurant at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend both meetings. Our guest speaker will be Haley Walker, the new airport manager. She will share with us the exciting things that are happening at the airport. Hope to see you all there.

Jerry Franklin,
President

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