

Recall raises campaign finance questions

Complaint filed against committee in favor of recall

By Rylan Boggs and Sean Hart
Blue Mountain Eagle

A campaign finance complaint has been filed against the Committee to Recall Boyd Britton, while another group campaigning to keep the county commissioner in office recently learned it was required to register as a political action committee.

The complaint, filed by Kimberly resident James O. Kelly with the Oregon Secretary of State Aug. 5, accuses the committee of failing to report any campaign finance activity.

An account summary obtained from Oregon Elections System for Tracking and Reporting (ORESTAR) confirms that the Committee to Recall Boyd Britton had not filed any contributions or expenditures as of Monday.

Julie Carr, the treasurer for the committee, could not be reached for comment.

Kelly claims the committee established March 20 did not report contributions and expenses related to the printing of 72 recall signature pages or file a Certificate of Limited Contributions and Expenditures.

Kelly claims the signa-

ture-gathering committee has also been active in supporting the recall and "is required to declare its intent to function as a political committee dedicated to supporting the recall."

The committee was not registered as a political action committee for the recall election as of Monday, according to information obtained from ORESTAR.

Kelly noted the group has not reported any financial information after gathering the signatures.

"At the very least there should have been reporting of: printing and postage for the distribution of an estimated 4,000 mailers in support of the recall that appeared in mailboxes countywide on or around July 28, 2016," Kelly stated in the complaint.

Secretary of State Communications Director Molly Woon said the department will be contacting both Kelly and the committee to further investigate the complaint. Woon said the committee could possibly face fines depending on the outcome of the investigation.

"At the Secretary of State's office, we believe transparency is an advantage," Woon said.

On the other side of the political battle, Vote No on Boyd Britton Recall, which is registered as a political action committee for the recall, has reported \$10,743 in contributions, including \$250 from Kelly,

and \$5,856 in expenditures.

Another group that voiced support for Britton, however, did not realize until last week that doing so with collective funding was required to be reported.

Grant County Positive Action Treasurer Judy Schuette said the organization recently learned it was legally required to register as a political action committee for the recall election, which it did Aug. 2. She said the group, which is not affiliated with a political party, never intended to become a political action committee, but when members pooled their funds to purchase advertising against the recall, the group became legally classified as one.

"As soon as we understood that we technically were a political action committee, we were the ones who contacted the Secretary of State's office and said, 'What do we do? How do we fix this?'" she said. "We didn't know that we were going to have to do all this. Evidently, if more than one person takes in a donation to support a campaign or person, and since we had our members donate to help pay for the ad, it opened up this other door that we didn't know we'd have to be going through."

Schuette said the group has seven days to report a contribution, and she would be reporting contributions and expenditures to the Secretary of State Tuesday, seven days after registering as a committee.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

John Day Volunteer firefighters respond to the Gleason Pool with a large fan to quell some fumes from a chemical mixture in the pump house at the facility.

Firefighters respond for fumes at pool

Blue Mountain Eagle

John Day volunteer firefighters responded to Gleason Pool at about 4:30 p.m. Friday after a report of fumes in the facility's water treatment room.

The department came with one engine and four on

board, along with John Day Fire Chief Ron Smith. Two firefighters with masks on placed a fan near the building to dissipate the fumes.

Smith said there was an equipment failure inside the water treatment room, which blew and spread some granules, causing a strong smell.

He said a maintenance person would be looking into the issue.

John Day ambulance was on standby at the scene, and John Day Police chief Richard Gray closed off the area.

The pool was closed at the time of the call, and no one was injured.

County Court meeting begins at 1:30 p.m.

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant County Court meeting Wednesday, Aug. 10,

will begin at 1:30 p.m.

The few items on the agenda include signing contracts related to the Grant County

Fair, which begins that day.

For more information, contact Laurie Wright, 541-575-0059.

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.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Aug. 8: concealed handgun licenses, 7; average inmates, 10; bookings, 7; releases, 7; arrests, 1; fingerprints, 5; civil papers, 22; warrants processed, 2; asst./welfare check, 3; search and rescue, 2.

Justice Court

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

- Failure to perform the duties of a driver: Linda Marie Bond, John Day, sentenced to 10 days jail, 12 months probations, 10 days community service, and fined \$1,797.46.

- Violation of speed limit: Dawn Marie Thomas, 53, Auburn, Washington, 43/25, Aug. 9, fined \$160.

Exceeding speed limit: Ker-

ith Gene Crabb, 24, Canyon City, 75/65, July 29, fined \$135.

- Violation of basic speed rule: Sakhan Meth, 42, Tualatin, 76/55, June 24, fined \$260; Jeremy S. Taylor, 44, Bend, 75/55, July 19, fined \$135.

- Driving while suspended: Travis James Freniere, 30, John Day, July 8, fined \$435, July 13, fined \$435; Harry Samuel Nardstrom, 36, John Day, July 9, fined \$435; Melinda Paris Cox, 42, Prairie City, June 24, fined \$435; Melinda Paris Cox, July 1, fined \$435.

- Driving uninsured: Travis James Freniere, July 8, fined \$260, July 13, fined \$260.

- Failure to properly use safety belt: Sierra Lynn Dahlen, 16, Prairie City, July 28, fined \$110.

- Failure to renew registration: Nicky Joe Ballou, 39, John Day, June 21; fined \$110.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 178 calls during the week of Aug. 1-7. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints,

these calls included:

• Oregon State Police:

Aug. 5: Responded to a truck accident at Highway 26, milepost 182.

• John Day Police:

Aug. 1: Responded with sheriff's office to a possible domestic at Riverside Trailer Park in John Day.

Aug. 3: Received a report of theft from Mt. View Mini Mart in Prairie City.

• Grant County Sheriff:

Aug. 2: Responded to a report of shots fired on Ingle Street.

Aug. 3: Advised of a phone scam in John Day; responded with OSP to a report of a verbal dispute involving an intoxicated subject in Mt. Vernon — subjects were contacted and advised to return to their residence.

• John Day ambulance:

Aug. 3: Dispatched for a woman with chest pain in John Day; responded for a 62-year-old female with difficulty breathing.

• Dayville Fire Department:

Aug. 1: Responded to a fire at Franks Creek Road.

LETTERS

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Cooperation, collaboration and coordination

To the Editor:

For one county commissioner, cooperation, collaboration and coordination is the same thing. So for those who have a challenged vocabulary, here's what the dictionary has to say.

Cooperate: to act jointly or concurrently to a common end.

Collaborate: to work with another person or group to achieve or do something; to give help to an enemy.

Coordinate: to put in the same order or rank.

Steve Beverlin, Malheur forest supervisor, told those at the Wednesday meeting that all three of the "C's" were used in arriving at decisions involving forest issues.

Yes, one can cooperate with whatever may come

out of collaboration, but the result is based on appeasing and placating the environmental community that has a strangle hold on our natural resources. Coordination is a law passed by Congress that the county has been loathe to invoke. If the court were to use coordination and had a natural resources plan to back them up, then all citizens of the county would become "stakeholders," not just a few that collaborate to secure a piece of what we once had that made our county vibrant so many years ago.

The Grant County Public Forest Commission will be working on a natural resources plan for the county.

With input from a public that desires to see genuine improvement on our forests, among many goals, achieve a healthy, fire-resistant landscape. Surely with the intelligence, education, hands-on life experiences, we citizens can create a reasonable natural resources

plan suited to Grant County.

It is imperative we have a natural resources plan (not to be confused with a land-use plan already in effect). The county court must assert their authority in coordination so we can help ourselves now and provide a future generation a "future."

Dave Traylor

John Day

ELTRUM HISTORIC THEATER
1809 First Street • Baker City • (541)523-5439
BARGAIN MATINEE IN () Adults \$7
ALL FILMS \$6 ON TIGHTWAD TUESDAY
MOVIE SCHEDULE AUGUST 12 - 18

PETE'S DRAGON PG
The adventures of an orphaned boy named Pete and his best friend Elliot, who just so happens to be a dragon.
FRI-THURS (4:10) 7:10 9:35

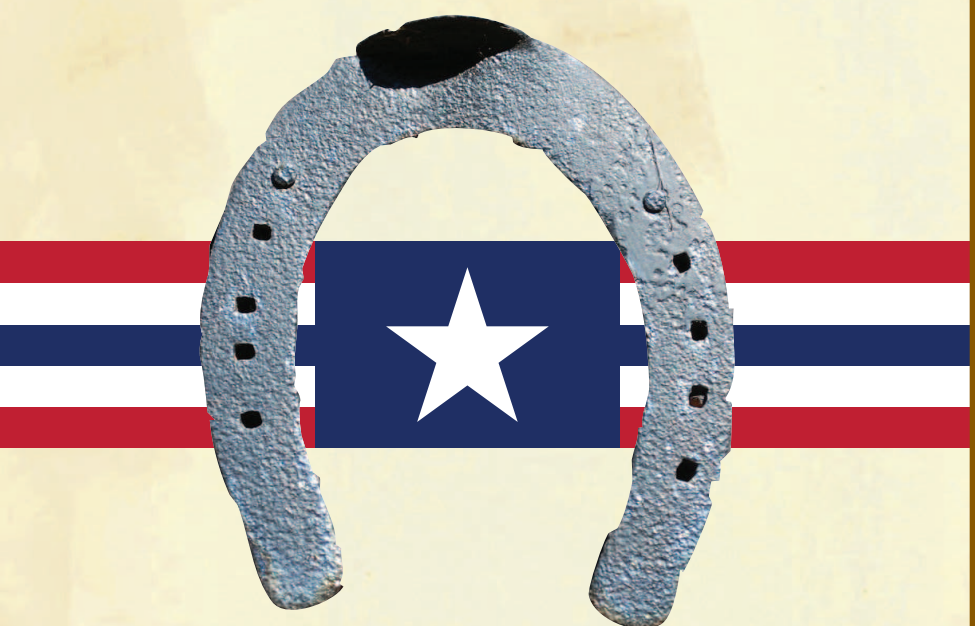
SUICIDE SQUAD PG-13
A secret government agency recruits imprisoned supervillains to execute dangerous black ops missions in exchange for clemency.
FRI-THURS (4:00) 7:00 9:40

NINE LIVES PG
Kevin Spacey & Jennifer Garner. A stuffy businessman finds himself trapped inside the body of his family's cat.
FRI-WED (4:20) 7:20 9:45
THURSDAY (4:20) 9:45

\$9 Adult, \$7 Senior (60+), Youth

Blue Mountain Eagle & Bisnett Insurance Co-ed Couples Teams HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

Double Elimination Bracket Play



AUGUST 11 AT 5:30 P.M. GRANT COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS HORSESHOE PITS

Must be 21 or over to play due to the location of the pits. Early sign ups are recommended. Only 14 teams. Sign up now by stopping by the Blue Mountain Eagle to fill out the registration form or at the horseshoe pit before 5:15 p.m., Aug. 11. Tournament starts promptly at 5:30 p.m.

\$25 ENTRY FEE PER TEAM

All entry money awarded to the top three places of the tournament, with an added

\$100 CASH PRIZE by the Eagle & Bisnett

Insurance. For more information or to sign up, contact Marissa Williams at the Eagle, 541-575-0710.