

Report on women should serve as a call to action

In a state that makes efforts that go a long way to helping others in need, it has a long way to go in helping raise the status and equality for women who live within its borders.

That's the urgent wakeup call that the "Count Her In" report delivers in what is the first comprehensive look at the status of Oregon women and girls in nearly two decades. The 120-page report comes from the new Women's Foundation of Oregon and was released to state officials this past Wednesday in Salem, ironically a day before American Business Women's Day.

The findings in the study are both stark and grim. The last comprehensive report on the status of Oregon women and girls came out in 1998 and relied on census data from 1990. Much was different then, and much has changed.

The material for the "Count Her In" report, which one legislator described as "really top-notch work," was gathered from surveys, interviews and federal and state reports. It reflects the harsh daily circumstances facing Oregon women in nearly every walk of life:

- Women in Oregon have the nation's highest rates of reported depression and heavy alcohol use.
- Federal surveys found that nearly half the women and girls in Oregon have suffered domestic or sexual violence.
- Census numbers show women across the state earn less than men, and the wage

gap is even wider for women of color. In Umatilla County, women make \$0.77 for every dollar a male counterpart makes, while in Morrow County that figure is \$0.72.

• Oregon is one of the least affordable states in the nation for working mothers to care for children. In Umatilla and Morrow counties, there are fewer than 14 child care slots per 100 children, the lowest rate in the state.

• Elected and appointed leaders also skew heavily toward men, with 30 percent of those positions statewide filled by women and only 20 percent in Umatilla County.

Clearly, the report illustrates serious problems Oregon women face every day.

Emily Evans, director of the Women's Foundation in Oregon, put out a call to action that policymakers and all Oregonians should heed, saying "... there is something hopeful about finally knowing the full measure of the problem. Then we can move past the speculation of whether it is a problem and move toward creating solutions together."

State Rep. Knute Buehler, R-Bend, is already on board.

"Good policy will be produced from such great foundational efforts," he said.

Other lawmakers and leaders throughout the private sector need to get on board as well. If Oregon wants to live up to its reputation for progressive values, the "Count Her In" report presents the challenge to uphold those ideals.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concerns about Trump have already happened

To the Editor:
In regards to Mr. Moskowitz's letter on Sept. 14: All the things he is afraid Donald Trump will do if elected, President Barack Obama has already done and more.

The Constitution means nothing to Obama unless it will help with his agenda. Obama wants to bring in hundreds of thousands of Syrian so-called refugees but no Christians.

He has said virtually nothing about the slaughter of thousands of Christians in the most horrible ways — even did not object to the beheading of an American. Within a few minutes of the act, he was back on the golf course.

Some say he is not a Muslim, but it is hard to believe he is not when he is silent to the murder of Christians.

You be the judge. As to some of the claims Moskowitz claimed about Trump wants to do, he had better pay better attention to how our government is supposed to work.

There are supposed to be three branches to check on each other. Sometimes in the last eight years they haven't done it. What is wrong with asking Japan and South Korea to help pay for their protection? They can afford it.

Joe Clarke
Long Creek

Let's make a deal

To the Editor:
Let's make a deal. President Barack Obama wants to bring 110,000 Syrians to the U.S.A. OK, we send Obama to Syria.

W. Toop
Canyon City

Harney County sheriff not selective with assistance

To the Editor:
I am a homeowner, taxpayer and a registered voter in Grant County. Currently, I work for an agency in Harney County, doing much the same work I did in Grant County. My work in both counties involved working closely with all law enforcement agencies, but due to the scope of the geography, mostly we work with the sheriff's department.

I cannot tell you how refreshing it is to work in Harney County with a responsive, professional force.

With this particular line of work, you never know what type of a situation you may be facing, and the Harney County Sheriff's Office never picks and chooses what they will assist us with.

They assure my safety and also the safety of the vulnerable population with whom I work.

I wish I could have said the same about my experience in Grant County. I am looking forward to a change in November.

Jan Keil
Mt. Vernon

Park would have been special for athletes

To the Editor:
If I want to train to be a Navy SEAL or to join the IDF at age 50 in the middle of the night when it's cool and the sun is down, I'm going to do it.

Most would agree that, for serious folks such as myself, a treadmill just doesn't provide the best long-distance training for military readiness.

It can be good, but needs to be in concert with cross-country running, free weight training, swimming and other extreme-endurance training.

The upshot of this letter is to get my point across that, if you don't like me performing long-distance training between John Day and Prairie City, then you should have allowed "low-elevation" Grouse Mountain State Park to go in and right-of-way access could have been provided for law-abiding, conscientious athletes like myself to run or bike straight to the park from John Day. I don't like to dredge up the past either, but this one has been slow cooking and needed to come out on paper.

I know Agent 21 when I see it. Owyhee Canyonlands and other attempts to lock up precious metals and other resources in order to act as a down on our national debt, under the guise of beautiful, sparsely populated country, which it certainly is.

Other examples are NEPA analysis of climate change, or was it freeze-thaw waste of time and money analysis? "Journey" can also in my opinion be considered a form of locking up lands for more reason than simply an important wildlife migration corridor to the Kalmiopsis or Marble Mountain Wilderness areas so that wolves can eat salmon carcasses on Wooley Creek or Taggarts Bar.

But Grouse Mountain would have been a very special place for many local athletes, hikers, picnickers, campers and bikers. The low-elevation trail system would have been much longer than the Fossil Beds and much closer to John Day.

So please get used to my long-distance training at night while it is cool and before the sun comes up and creates any more skin cancer in me.

Scott Cotter
John Day

Forest Commission threatened Webb's paycheck

To the Editor:
Former County Judge Mark Webb is executive director of the Blue Mountains Forest Partners, the local collaborative group. His salary is somewhere in the \$50,000 range.

When Webb served as County Judge, there was not a problem with the Grant County Public Forest Commission (GCPFC) in providing the county court with advice, opinions and written comments on the Forest Plan.

The GCPFC was passed with a 70-percent vote and its members elected by the citizens of the county.

During the past dozen years of working with the court and Forest Service, the "legality" of the commission was never questioned.

The past year, the GCPFC has pushed for "coordination" in dealing with the Forest Service. Coordination is a law that requires equal footing in dealing with issues from agency to agency.

Collaborative groups would be compromised if the county court were to utilize coordination and exercise their authority.

Mark Webb's paycheck was not compromised as county judge, thus the GCPFC posed no threat. One circuit court judge's opinion does not necessarily mean it is set in stone.

Nor does one man's effort to undermine what is good mean that he succeeded.

Bob Stewart
John Day

Sheriff should put safety of community first

To the Editor:

Over the years it has been frustrating to see over and over again our current sheriff's lack of leadership, transparency and communication. He has refused to communicate and work with other agencies on multiple occasions, especially government agencies. Most concerning has been his support of those involved in the take over of the Malheur wildlife refuge and his willingness to use his position as sheriff as a platform to further his own political agendas, which in turn created a large divide in our community and endangered his fellow law enforcement officers. He is a constitutional sheriff who upholds and protects the constitution as he and other constitutional sheriffs interpret it.

In November, we all have the great opportunity and responsibility to choose those who will represent us and be leaders in our community. This community needs someone who will lead the sheriff's office honestly, openly and with a great deal of cooperation with other agencies. We need someone who is willing to communicate with the public, the media and other agencies whenever necessary, not just when it's convenient. We need someone who has common sense and puts the safety of our community first.

In November, I will be voting for someone who has all those qualities and so many more. I will vote for someone who throughout the years has consistently shown an immeasurable amount of leadership and service in our community. I will support a sheriff candidate who will support not just those who support his political views but all of Grant County.

I will be voting Todd McKinley for Grant County sheriff.

Cammie Haney
John Day



WHERE TO WRITE

GRANT COUNTY

- **Grant County Courthouse** — 201 S. Humbolt St., Suite 280, Canyon City 97820. Phone: 541-575-0059. Fax: 541-575-2248.
- **Canyon City** — P.O. Box 276, Canyon City 97820. Phone: 541-575-0509. Fax: 541-575-0515. Email: tocc1862@centurylink.net.
- **Dayville** — P.O. Box 321, Dayville 97825. Phone: 541-987-2188. Fax: 541-987-2187. Email: dville@ortelco.net
- **John Day** — 450 E. Main St, John Day, 97845. Phone: 541-575-0028. Fax: 541-575-1721. Email: cityjd@centurytel.net.
- **Long Creek** — P.O. Box 489, Long Creek 97856. Phone: 541-421-3601. Fax: 541-421-3075. Email: info@cityoflongcreek.com.
- **Monument** — P.O. Box 426, Monument 97864. Phone and fax: 541-934-2025. Email: cityofmonument@centurytel.net.
- **Mt. Vernon** — P.O. Box 647, Mt. Vernon 97865. Phone: 541-932-4688. Fax: 541-932-4222. Email: cmv@ortelco.net.
- **Prairie City** — P.O. Box 370, Prairie City 97869. Phone: 541-820-3605. Fax: 820-3566. Email: pchall@ortelco.net.
- **Seneca** — P.O. Box 208, Seneca 97873. Phone and fax: 541-542-2161. Email: senecaoregon@gmail.com.

SALEM

- Gov. Kate Brown, D — 254 State

Capitol, Salem 97310. Phone: 503-378-3111. Fax: 503-378-6827. Website: www.governor.state.or.us/governor.html.

• **Oregon Legislature** — State Capitol, Salem, 97310. Phone: (503) 986-1180. Website: www.leg.state.or.us (includes Oregon Constitution and Oregon Revised Statutes).

• **State Rep. Cliff Bentz, R-Ontario** (District: 60), Room H-475, State Capitol, 900 Court St. N.E., Salem OR 97301. Phone: 503-986-1460. Email: rep.cliffbentz@state.or.us. Website: www.leg.state.or.us/bentz/home.htm.

• **State Sen. Ted Ferrioli, R** — (District 30) Room S-223, State Capitol, Salem 97310. Phone: 503-986-1950. Email: sen.tedferrioli@state.or.us. Email: TFER2@aol.com. Phone: 541-490-6528. Website: www.leg.state.or.us/ferrioli.

• **Oregon Legislative Information** — (For updates on bills, services, capitol or messages for legislators) — 800-332-2313.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

• **The White House**, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20500; Phone-comments: 202-456-1111; Switchboard: 202-456-1414.

• **U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D** — 516 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. Phone: 202-224-5244. Email: wayne_kinney@wyden.senate.gov Website: http://wyden.senate.gov Fax: 202-228-2717.



Grant County's Weekly Newspaper

PUBLISHER..... MARISSA WILLIAMS, MARISSA@BMEAGLE.COM
 EDITOR..... SEAN HART, EDITOR@BMEAGLE.COM
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT..... KRISTINA KREGER, KRISTINA@BMEAGLE.COM
 REPORTER..... RYLAN BOGGS, RYLAN@BMEAGLE.COM
 COMMUNITY NEWS..... ANGEL CARPENTER, ANGEL@BMEAGLE.COM
 SPORTS..... ANGEL CARPENTER, ANGEL@BMEAGLE.COM
 MARKETING REP..... KIM KELL, ADS@BMEAGLE.COM
 OFFICE MANAGER..... LINDSAY BULLOCK, OFFICE@BMEAGLE.COM

1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(including online access)
 Grant County\$40
 Everywhere else in U.S.....\$51
 Outside Continental U.S.....\$60
 Subscriptions must be paid prior to delivery

Periodicals Postage Paid at John Day and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
 send address changes to:
 Blue Mountain Eagle
 195 N. Canyon Blvd.
 John Day, OR 97845-1187

USPS 226-340

www.facebook.com/MyEagleNews @MyEagleNews