

Happy Thanksgiving

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Presidential Volunteer Service Award recipient Joan Bowling stands with volunteers at last Wednesday's blood drive at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in John Day. From left: Cliff Marsh of Dayville, Joyce Nodine of John Day, Joan Bowling of Canyon City and Kris Beal of Canyon City.

Red Cross volunteer receives award from President Obama

Joan Bowling recognized for 21 years service

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Joan Bowling of Canyon City had a surprise in her mailbox earlier this month — an award and letter signed by President Barack Obama.

She received the President's Volunteer Service Award for 21 years of service as coordinator of the local American Red Cross blood drives. She's also been captain of the local Red Cross disaster action team since 1996.

John Day resident Susan Sintay, who has volunteered with Bowling over the years, was happy to hear Bowling received the award.

"She has been what we call the glue," Sintay said.

While volunteering at last week's blood drive held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in John Day, Sintay said she was thinking of Bowling.

"I thought, 'How in the world has she done this?'" Sintay said. "She has done this faithfully. She has been our mentor and our anchor. She has been absolutely devoted to the cause of Red Cross and preparedness and blood services."

Sintay and Bowling have also volunteered together in the past with Boy Scout and Cub Scout committees through their church — the Boy Scout motto is "Be prepared."

Bowling said she started volunteering with Red Cross because she liked their focus on preparedness.

"Being prepared, no matter what comes up," she said, is something she's enjoyed learning and teaching about through her church, and she has a fairly full pantry — with bottled fruit and vegetables, wheat, honey and more — to show for it.

"I've had several people tell me, 'If there's a disaster, I know where I'm going,'" she said.

Currently, Red Cross chapters in Oregon are preparing for possible earthquakes, including in the Cascadia Subduction Zone, and the local chapter is also gearing up for the August 21, 2017, total solar eclipse, which could bring as many as 10,000 people to Grant County.

"Chester's (Thriftway) could be empty for three days," she said. "Each family needs to be prepared for two weeks."

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ELECTION AFTERMATH

Urban-rural divide has never seemed wider

By Eric Mortenson
EO Media Group

In Central Oregon, cattle rancher and timberland owner John Breese figures Donald J. Trump's election may finally bring some common-sense management to the state's choked forests.

In Seattle, Conservation Northwest Executive Director Mitch Friedman warns supporters, "A lying, bigoted brute has seized power, and you're well familiar with his intentions."

In the Willamette Valley, the heart of an Oregon wine industry that has risen to international acclaim, pioneering winemaker David Adelsheim considers the fact that his Yamhill County voted Republican, "But I don't know a single person who voted for Trump."

In the wake of a bitter presidential campaign and tight election, the gap has never seemed so wide.

"An urban-rural divide?" a commenter on the OregonLive.com website wrote this past week. "The rural folks support racism, the urban folks do not. Make no mistake rural Oregon, if you voted for Trump, you said racism is OK."

A commenter on the other side said Portland "progressives" think people outside Multnomah County are "a bunch of uneducated hicks." Rural residents, the commenter said, are "just about fed up with

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"If the core of environmental laws went away, would people in the timber and ag communities that have collaborated, would they still be with us?"

Mitch Friedman

Oregon timber interests welcome Trump victory

By Dylan Darling
The Register-Guard

When he visited Eugene last spring, Donald Trump promised to revive Oregon's timber industry, which for decades has been hamstrung by severe curbs against logging in federal forests west of the Cascades summit.

"Timber jobs (in Oregon) have been cut in half since 1990," he said during his May stump speech to a revved-up crowd at the Lane Events Center. "We are going to bring them up, folks, we are going to do it really right, we are going to bring them up, OK?"

Trump didn't offer specifics as to how — or how much — he would revive logging and milling, but he alluded to loosening federal restrictions.

Now, Trump supporters and critics in Oregon will see if he can live up to his promise.

Trump's election as president brings optimism to the state timber industry and acute uneasiness to environmental groups that have fought for decades to ensure that logging on federal lands complies with federal environmental law.

Both sides now wonder if and how Trump's administration and Republican lawmakers might seek to weaken long-standing key environmental laws. Enforcement of that law and the

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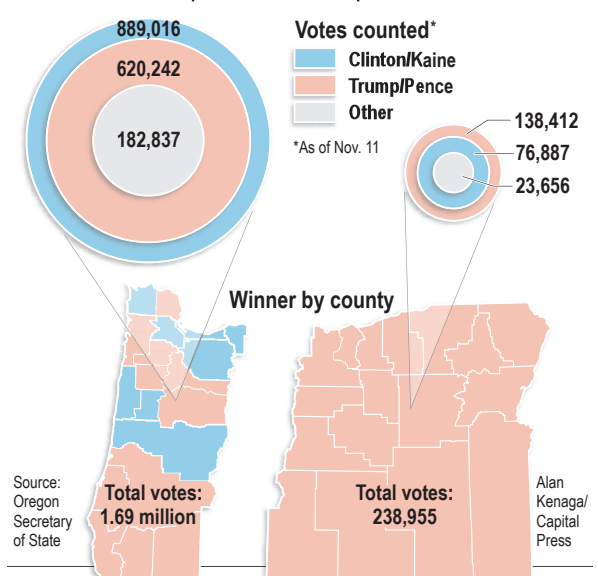


EO Media Group/Matthew Weaver

Laurier, Washington, rancher Len McIrvine addresses a Cattle Producers of Washington meeting. He believes city residents are controlled by the "mindbenders" of the media, Hollywood and conventional politics.

2016 Oregon vote count: East vs. West

Western Oregon accounted for more than 87 percent of all votes tallied statewide for president and vice president of the U.S.



Bulk of fundraising begins for new county library

Site near Kam Wah Chung interpretive center selected

By Rylan Boggs
Blue Mountain Eagle

If fundraising goes according to plan, Grant County could have a new library in as few as five years.

The Grant County Library Foundation has been steadily working toward a new facility and is now beginning the bulk of its fundraising work, Grant County Library Foundation Secretary Tracie



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

Grant County Library Foundation Secretary Tracie Unterwegner (left) and foundation President Megan Brandsma stand for a photo in the Grant County Library on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Unterwegner said. The foundation plans to raise the roughly \$3 mil-

lion needed through grants, donations and fundraising events. It currently has about

5 percent of the required funds to complete the design created by Straus & Seibert, an architectural firm in Medford, Grant County Library Foundation President Megan Brandsma said.

The foundation chose Straus & Seibert because of its experience building libraries in rural areas, Unterwegner said. The new library will be 9,270 square feet, about 50 percent larger than the current facility, she said.

The current facility on Canyon Boulevard is due for an upgrade for a number of reasons. The building is not fully ADA accessible, doesn't have enough space and has structural is-

sues, like a leak in the roof that closed a large portion of the building, Brandsma said.

The new facility will operate on the same budget the current library is on so the foundation is trying to find ways to make the building more energy efficient. Unterwegner said the foundation plans to gift the library to the county when completed.

The new library will be built next to the Kam Wah Chung interpretive center on Northwest Canton Street in John Day. The location was chosen because it is accessible but not on the highway, Unterwegner said.

