

Income survey determines grant eligibility

John Day seeking federal funds for treatment plant

By Richard Hanners
Blue Mountain Eagle

Selected residents in John Day and Canyon City will be asked to participate in an online income survey in coming weeks.

The information will be used to determine if the city of John Day is eligible for a federal Community Development Block Grant that will help pay for a new wastewater treatment plant to serve the two cities.

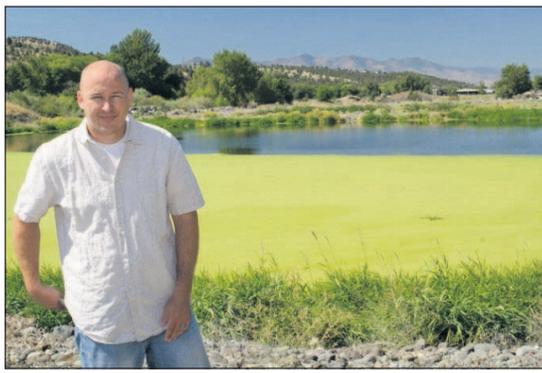
"Our community may receive up to \$2 million in CDBG funds toward the new treatment plant, depending

on the outcome of the survey results," John Day City Manager Nick Green said in the city's November newsletter.

To be eligible for the grant funding, more than 50 percent of the population surveyed must be in the low- to moderate-income bracket, Green said.

About 2,440 people live in John Day and Canyon City in about 1,080 households. A random sample of households will be surveyed, with the goal of receiving 284 completed surveys to ensure a plus-or-minus 5 percent sampling error.

Green told the Eagle one strategy for the income survey is to make sure every household selected for the survey is accounted for. People who do not respond to the survey will be considered to have high income, hurting the chances of eligibility for the grant.



Eagle file photo

City Manager Nick Green poses for a photo next to one of the holding ponds for the city's wastewater treatment plant. An upcoming income survey of randomly selected John Day and Canyon City residents will determine eligibility for up to \$2 million in federal grant funding toward a new wastewater treatment plant.

The survey has three questions: 1) How many families reside at each surveyed location (families must be surveyed separately)? 2) How

many people are in a family? and 3) What is the family's income range? Nine brackets are provided, with the lowest being under \$29,900 and the

highest being over \$56,301.

Green notes steps will be taken to ensure confidentiality. Each individual survey will have a unique four-digit PIN number, not the household address. The Survey Research Lab will possess the only master list linking the PIN number to the household address.

"The customer's responses to the survey items will never be directly linked to their personal information to ensure confidentiality is maintained throughout the survey process," Green said in the proposal.

A similar income survey recently was conducted in the cities of Mt. Vernon, Seneca and Monument so they could qualify for CDBG funds needed for infrastructure improvement projects.

Sewer customers will be notified in advance of the survey through flyers and a no-

tice printed in the local newspaper. Randomly selected households will then receive a postcard in the mail providing them with the online survey's internet address and the PIN number needed to access the survey.

Two weeks later, a physical copy of the survey will be mailed to the randomly-selected households that did not respond online. If the minimum number of needed responses has not been reached two weeks later, trained volunteers will go door to door to personally interview the households, with attempts made in the morning, afternoon and evening.

Green told Business Oregon it's possible more than the minimum number of surveys will be completed, but that "will only increase the response rate and improve the validity of the data."

Candidates nominated to replace Ferrioli

County commissioners will select GOP successor

Blue Mountain Eagle

Three people have been nominated to fill the state Senate vacancy left by the departure of Sen. Ted Ferrioli.

At a special nominating convention held by the Oregon Republican Party Dec. 2 in John Day, Republican precinct committee persons from Senate District 30 nominated the candidates to be considered by Baker, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Lake, Malheur, Wasco and Wheeler county commissioners, according to a press release.

The nominees are Rep. Cliff Bentz, a rancher, farmer, attorney and current state House representative for District 60 from Ontario; Suzan Ellis Jones, a rancher and Baker County Republican Party chair from Bridgeport; and Dr. Eric Wattenburg, a family, emergency and urgent care doctor, small business owner and medical radio show host from Bend.

Under state law, the county commissioners from each county of District 30 must select by Dec. 22 from one of the



Cliff Bentz



Suzan Ellis Jones



Eric Wattenburg

three Republican candidates nominated. Commissioners are expected to announce soon when and where they will interview the nominees, after which they will cast their weighted votes according to the number of voters from each of their counties registered within the boundaries of District 30.

The nominee selected by commissioners will officially take office before the next Oregon Legislature session starting Feb. 1.

Ferrioli officially resigned from office Nov. 22 to begin his appointment as a member of the Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council, which oversees electrical energy co-operatives, public utility districts and hydroelectric generation facilities, along with planning, conservation and management of other renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar and geothermal.

Jerome assumes command of helicopter squadron

By John Hetherington
U.S. Navy

A member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3597 and American Legion Post 77 assumed control of a U.S. Navy helicopter squadron last week.

Cmdr. James Jerome relieved Cmdr. Joshua C. Ellison as commanding officer of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 6 during an airborne change-of-command ceremony, Dec. 6, above the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt currently deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.

His father, Jim, of John Day said James Jerome, his wife, Lauren, and 1-year-old son, William, now live near San Diego, California, where the squadron is based.

"I think it's fantastic," he said. "We're very proud of him, very proud of his accomplishments."

In a unique ceremony that highlighted the capabilities of the squadron, Ellison and Jerome, each piloting an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter, read their orders mid-flight. The pilots demonstrated evasive maneuvers and launched flares, completing the ceremony. More than 150 squad-



Contributed photo

U.S. Navy Cmdr. James Jerome launches flares from a helicopter he is piloting in a ceremony in which he relieved Cmdr. Joshua C. Ellison as commanding officer of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 6 on the USS Theodore Roosevelt in the Arabian Gulf. His father, Jim Jerome, of John Day said he was very proud of his son's accomplishments.

ron sailors observed from the ship's flight deck.

Prior to reporting to HSC-6 as executive officer in

September of 2016, Jerome served as regional engagement branch chief and aide-camp for the director of

U.S. Africa Command.

"I have seen this squadron work together through a year of arduous training and now on deployment in U.S. 5th Fleet," said Jerome. "The squadron's success is attributed to each member's dedication to the team and our mission. I plan to continue building on the high standard of operational excellence set by Cmdr. Ellison during his time leading the Indians. I am excited about serving with the men and women of HSC-6."

HSC-6 provides all-weather rotary wing operations, and conducts vertical lift search and rescue, logistics, anti-surface warfare, special operations forces support and combat search and rescue capabilities for Carrier Air Wing 17 embarked aboard Theodore Roosevelt.

Theodore Roosevelt and its carrier strike group departed San Diego on Oct. 6 for a regularly scheduled deployment to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations in support of maritime security operations to reassure allies and partners and preserve the freedom of navigation and the free flow of commerce in the region.

The Blue Mountain Eagle contributed to this report.

COPS AND 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 Nov. 30 to Dec. 6:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 2
- Average inmates: 20
- Bookings: 15
- Releases: 15
- Arrests: 1
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 4
- Civil papers: 19
- Warrants processed: 5
- Asst./welfare check: 5
- Search and Rescue: 0

Justice Court

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

Exceeding speed limit: Jeannette E. Davison, 72, White City, Nov. 25, 63/35 zone, fined \$260.

Violation of speed limit: Mychelle K. Hite, 31, Bend, Nov. 26, 84/65 zone, fined \$220.

Violation of basic rule: Mandi Jo Malone, 39, John Day, Dec. 4, 80/55 zone, fined \$220; Elizabeth C. Pace, 40, John Day, Oct. 28, 75/55 zone, fined \$135; Israel Baron, 51, Eugene, Oct. 29, 75/55 zone, fined \$160; Lori J. Hart, 25, John Day, Nov. 25, 75/55 zone, fined \$135.

Driving while suspended:

Todd M. Winegar, 40, Prairie City, Nov. 19, fined \$435; Todd M. Winegar, 40, Prairie City, Nov. 25, fined \$435.

Failure to register vehicle: Todd M. Winegar, 40, Prairie City, Nov. 25, fined \$110.

No operator's license: Israel Baron, 51, Eugene, Oct. 29, fined \$260.

Parking a vehicle in violation of restrictions: Gregory C. Davis, 67, Klamath Falls, Nov. 5, fined \$335.

Hunting in a prohibited area: Stephen A. Wess, 57, Winston, Nov. 6, fined \$110; Ryan M. Lane, 37, Lowell, Nov. 6, fined \$110.

Homegrown marijuana or cannabis: Leo B. Buzzard, 53, Prairie City, fined \$200.

No big game tag: James R. Huddlestone, 21, Astoria, fined \$75.

Harassment: Thomas R. Taylor, 50, Canyon City, fined \$500.

Oregon State Police

Dec. 3: Investigated a single-vehicle noninjury rollover crash on Highway 395 near Beech Creek State Park.

Dec. 4: Received a com-

plaint about livestock on Highway 26 near Clyde Holiday State Park.

Dec. 9: Barbara A. Stanley, 63, Baker City, was cited for failure to drive within the lane after her car left Highway 26 near Dixie Summit and hit a tree.

Dec. 9: Alec A. Leach, 26, Rocklin, California, was cited for failure to drive within the lane after his car left Highway 26 near Dixie Summit and landed on its side.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 131 calls during the week of Dec. 4-10. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

• John Day Police Department

Dec. 4: Responded to a report of a noninjury crash on Main Street in John Day.

Dec. 4: Received a report of a theft on South Johnson Avenue in Prairie City.

Dec. 4: Dispatched to a harassment report in downtown John Day.

Dec. 4: Responded to a re-

port of a hit-and-run crash in downtown John Day.

Dec. 4: Dispatched to a report of a suspicious subject at a ranch on Highway 26 east of John Day.

Dec. 6: Responded to a report of fraud on North Johnson Avenue in Prairie City.

Dec. 6: Dispatched with the sheriff's office to a domestic dispute on Main Street in John Day.

Dec. 7: Steven M. Warrington, 28, John Day, was arrested in John Day on a Marion County warrant.

Dec. 7: Responded to a trailer park in John Day for a report of a suspicious subject.

Dec. 8: Dispatched to an apartment complex in Prairie City for a report of stolen gas.

Dec. 9: Received a report of Facebook hacking in John Day.

Dec. 9: Received a report of a theft on Northwest Second Avenue in John Day.

Dec. 9: Responded to Southwest Brent Drive for a report of a suspicious subject.

Dec. 10: Britt M. Wilcox, 23, John Day, was arrested on Highway 26 near Pine Creek Road and charged with violating a no-contact order.

• Grant County Sheriff's Office

Dec. 4: A suspect was arrested on North Humbolt in Canyon City and held on an Idaho warrant.

Dec. 4: Dakota C. Stout, 20, John Day, was arrested in Umatilla County on a Grant County warrant.

Dec. 5: Responded to a report of an assault and stolen cat on South Washington Street in Canyon City.

Dec. 6: Dispatched to Humbolt Elementary School for a report of criminal mischief.

Dec. 7: Responded to the John Day city shop for a report of suspicious circumstances.

Dec. 9: Received a report of a verbal dispute on Wall Creek Road in Monument.

Dec. 10: Responded to Carpenter Pond Road in John Day for a report of shots fired and pellets hitting the reporting party's roof.

• John Day ambulance

Dec. 5: Dispatched to First Street in Prairie City for a 911 call.

Dec. 5: Responded to an assisted living facility in John Day for an elderly man with pain in the right shoulder.

Dec. 5: Dispatched to

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