

# The Blue Mountain EAGLE

Grant County's newspaper since 1868



**Wright's three titles help Grant Union girls to second-place state track finish**  
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Kaylee Wright of Grant Union clears the bar to win the 2A girls high jump Saturday at the OSAA state track and field meet in Eugene.

EO Media Group/Kathy Aney

CLASS OF  
**2018**  
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**CONGRATS TO GRANT UNION AND HOME-SCHOOL GRADUATES!**

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## District opts not to arm teachers

School board agrees now is not the time

By Richard Hanners  
Blue Mountain Eagle

The idea of arming teachers was put to rest after the Grant School District 3 school board reached consensus May 16 that now was not the best time to make that policy change and it was better to pursue other options.

Chairwoman Chris Cronin recognized the numerous steps taken by the administration since she sat on the board, including installing cameras and new locks, and she said she appreciated all the public input on improving school safety from many diverse sources.

"This is clearly a subject this community is interested in," she said.

Cronin noted the strong feelings on both sides and said the idea had come before the board three times already.

"We've been listening," she said.



Chris Cronin

Now was not the time to change policy to allow teachers to be armed, Cronin said. The district would face "significant costs," and teachers were already "stretched thin" and facing scheduling difficulties. She noted that no school staff told her they wanted to be armed.

The district's proposed budget includes funding for a school resource officer, and opportunities for partnerships with law enforcement, more training and building improvements had come out of the discussion, Cronin said.

Board Vice Chairman Zach Williams, who had brought up the idea of arming school teachers or staff during the board's March 21 meeting, following the Feb. 14 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, in Parkland, Florida, said he agreed with Cronin.

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Contributed photo

Pete Baucum was 18 when he attended Army basic training at Fort Lewis, Washington, in 1942 during World War II.

## REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

Memorial Day service planned Monday in Prairie City

By Richard Hanners  
Blue Mountain Eagle

For many Americans, Memorial Day is a day to remember those who died in war. But it's also a time to honor those who served and have passed on even if they were not a casualty in battle.

While Americans have visited cemeteries since their country's founding to honor those who died in war, an official day of remembrance is a more recent creation. Decoration Day was established in 1868 in part to honor the 600,000 soldiers who died on both sides in the Civil War.

A century later, Congress officially approved the name "Memorial Day" and moved its date from May 30 to the last Monday in May. This year it falls on May 28.

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The Eagle/Richard Hanners

**Barbara Howell Reynolds, who was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Prairie City, is buried next to her husband, Vernon, an Army veteran, in the Prairie City Cemetery.**

## Voters overturn Grant County marijuana ban

Myers wins close bid for re-election as county judge

Blue Mountain Eagle

Marijuana businesses will soon be legal in Grant County.

An initiative to repeal the county's ban on marijuana businesses secured

53 percent of the votes, according to the final unofficial election results released May 15 by Grant County Clerk Brenda Percy.

Of 3,179 votes counted, 1,687 voted to allow marijuana-related businesses that the state considers legal with 1,492 votes against it.

Incumbent County Judge Scott



Myers won a close bid for re-election against County Commissioner Jim Hamsher. Myers won 1,653-to-1,584 for another term.

In the race to fill County Commissioner Boyd Britton's seat, Sam Palmer and Gordon Larson will move on to the November ballot. Palmer received 42 percent of the vote, 1,394, and Larson received

34 percent, 1,133, according to early results. Archie Osburn received 504 votes, Tanner Elliott received 183, Dave Rose received 40 and Richie Colbeth received 39.

Incumbent Justice of the Peace Kathy Stinnett has secured re-election with 76.6 percent of the vote against challenger Harold Preston, who received 23 percent.

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**Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May. The holiday commemorates all men and women who have died in military service for the United States. We thank them for their service to our country.**

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