

John Day City Council race ends in a tie

Blue Mountain Eagle

The race between Heather Rookstool and Chris Labhart for the last John Day City Council seat continues.

Grant County Clerk Brenda Percy conducted a hand count on Nov. 16, and the result remained a tie.

Percy said John Day City Manager Nick Green is the election officer. Green said he contacted the city's legal counsel to determine their procedures for breaking the tie by deciding "by lot" as Oregon statutes dictate.

Early next week, both candidates will be notified how the city plans to proceed, Green said.

"I expect we will make the call at the Dec. 8 city council meeting since it's the only one we have next month," Green said. "I just want to make sure we're documenting our procedures appropriately so that it isn't challenged, so I'm waiting to hear back from (legal counsel) on how to proceed."



Heather Rookstool



Chris Labhart

OBITUARIES

James 'Jim' Moulton

James "Jim" Moulton, 82, a former longtime resident of Seneca and Canyon City, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020, at his current residence in Emmett, Idaho. A graveside memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at St. Andrews Catholic Cemetery in Canyon City. Pastor Levi Manitsas of Cornerstone Christian Fellowship will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To offer online condolences, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.

More grant funding opportunities open up for businesses in Grant County

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

More help is available for Grant County's small businesses that are still reeling from the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stephanie LeQuieu, Grant County rural venture catalyst with Oregon RAIN, said the Grant County Small Business Stabilization Project is open, and businesses can receive \$2,500. Applications are available at communitylendingworks.org.

LeQuieu said a fifth round of funding from Business Oregon opened up on Monday to Eastern Oregon-based businesses. This round of funding, she said, is for businesses that received federal funding, including Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act small business loans and Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

Businesses with up to 100 employees are able to apply if they were either forced to shut down by state order or can demonstrate a 25% drop in gross revenue in a given month between March and August of 2020, compared to the same month 2019.



Eagle file photo

Stephanie LeQuieu, Grant County rural venture catalyst with Oregon RAIN, during a session of Grant County Court last month.

More information is available at oregon4biz.com/Coronavirus-Information/ESBA.

Grant County Economic Development Director Tory Stinnett said farmers impacted by the pandemic can apply for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program with the U.S. Department of Agriculture until Dec. 11 at farmers.gov/cfap.

Stinnett said small businesses and child care providers can request free personal protective equipment and other supplies at supplyconnector.org/states/oregon/free-ppe.

County Commissioner and Prairie City Mayor Jim Hamsner said Community LendingWorks, Grant County and Prairie City are offering \$25,000 in emergency grant funding to Prairie City businesses.

Eligible businesses must have been either forced to close due to the pandemic or experienced at least a 25% reduction in revenue in any month between March 2020 to August 2020, compared to the same month in 2019; have 25 or fewer employees at the end of 2019; and be located within the city limits of Prairie City.

Prairie City is also offering residents relief help with utility expenses related to COVID-19.

Humbolt, Grant Union distance learning extended another week

Blue Mountain Eagle

It will be at least another week of distance learning for many Grant County students.

Grant School District Superintendent Bret Uptmor said Humbolt Ele-

mentary School and Grant Union Junior-Senior High School will remain on comprehensive distance learning until at least Dec. 7.

Uptmor said the district will reevaluate COVID-19 test positivity rates on Dec. 3 to determine whether

on-site instruction will be allowed the week of Dec. 7.

He said the county continues to have a high positivity rate.

Seneca Elementary School will continue with on-site teaching, he said.

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Last Week's Temps

Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	59/47
Wednesday	51/40
Thursday	46/31
Friday	46/26
Saturday	46/24
Sunday	46/28
Monday	39/30

24/7 FORECAST
AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY
162.500 MHZ

WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF NOV. 25 - DEC. 1

Day	Forecast	High	Low
Wednesday	Chance of rain/snow	43	29
Thursday	Partly sunny	44	23
Friday	Sunny	47	23
Saturday	Mostly sunny	47	23
Sunday	Mostly sunny	47	25
Monday	Partly sunny	45	17
Tuesday	Sunny	47	23