

## County Judge candidates

Ann Spicer, Heppner attorney, and Stan Mills, an Irrigon farmer, will face each other in the May 19 Democratic primary election for the six-year term as Morrow County Judge.

Winner of that race will oppose Republican incumbent Louis Carlson, in the November general election.



Louis Carlson

Incumbent Louis Carlson, 62, Heppner, has lived in Morrow County all his life. He and his wife Betty, have four grown children.

Carlson has been county judge for six years. He attended Oregon State University for two years.

Carlson is a Port of Morrow commissioner, an Oregon Wheat League state president, chairman of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Community committee, chairman of the National Association of Wheat Growers Transportation Committee and a member of the Oregon Rural Development Council. He is a member of the Valby Lutheran Church.

Carlson said he has six years of experience of dealing with all departments of county government, "excellent working relationships with legislators, and personal relationships with national delegation and an ability to create production."

"Much has been said about economic development during this political year. Almost everyone expresses ideas on what they might do if elected," commented Carlson. "The real issue on economic development is what are their past accomplishments, and what are their present accomplishments?" Since the press has asked for qualifications in this area, this candidate has listed the following:

Port of Morrow Commissioner for 12 years. As port of commissioner, assisted in developing policy and negotiated for: 1. annual revenue from the Portland

### Rudy Murgo

He received 26 out of 64 votes for judge in a recent bar poll.

"The current judge has been on the bench for nearly 25 years," Murgo said. "It's time for a change. Voters need to think about what innovative things they've seen come out. Not many."

The role of judges is changing, Murgo said, but "people are still looking to the courts for stability and security." He said Courson is the presiding judge over a system in "disarray" with "a lot of adverse publicity that is not good for the legal system or the community."

He said his blend of public service and public sector law over the last 17 years has given him the experience necessary to offer "faithful, impartial and diligent" service as a district court judge.

Murgo said Courson is "soft" on drunken drivers and people charged with drug offenses.

"My opponent has a long history of being soft on the sentencing of persons charged with offenses involving substance abuse," Murgo said. A review of sentences shows that in many cases, Courson sentenced convicted drunken drivers- those who had been through the system at least twice-to two days in jail and a fine of \$560.

"These are the people who will become the person killing themselves and others to the tune of 22,000 lives a year," Murgo said. "Yet, my opponent has ap-

General Electric Coal Fired plant; 2. developed financial package to build potato processing plant as well as effluent disposal system; 3. developed financial packages for alfalfa cubing plant; developed port dock facility for ag. products; 4. negotiated the acquisition of 2500 acres on Boeving held land, including the Boardman Airport.

"This candidate was a charter member of the Columbia Improvement District (CID) that purchased the primary irrigation system capable of delivering 140,000 gpm to 17,500 acres that are now under irrigation providing produce and jobs for Morrow County.

"This candidate spent four years on the executive committee of the Oregon Wheat Growers League. While president, was a member of the team that coordinated efforts between Oregon State University, the Mexican Government, and the Rockefeller Foundation to develop varieties Stephens Wheat. Was on Governor Trade Mission to East Asia 1984 to develop trade for wheat and specialized wood products.

Completing six years as Morrow County Judge and member of the county court: 1. secured permission, funding and completion of Paterson Ferry Interchange. Put together cooperative effort between private, county, state and federal agencies to finance project; 2. built a working port/county relationship; 3. a team member which negotiated excellent financial package for Morrow County with Tidewater Barge Company for Finley Buttes Landfill; 3. arranged for South Morrow garbage transfer station completion; 4. assisted team effort in third phase of Willow Creek Forest Highway to Cutsforth Park; 5. developed four-year working road plan for Morrow County; 6. advocate for Senior Citizens; 7. vice chair of Community Action Program East Central Oregon (CAPECO) dedicated to low income and handicapped; 8. vice chairman, Oregon Rural Development Council, linking federal, state and corporate resources to Rural Oregon; 9. advocate on county court for County Medical Board to administer health care fairly to all citizens; 10. responsible for policy of no growth tax levies."

Stan Mills, an Irrigon farmer, has been an Irrigon resident for the past 14 years. He graduated from school and attended college in Idaho. While a resident there, he was a member of the school

board budgeting committee, a volunteer fireman and was active with the little league program. Mills is currently serving his second four-year term as an Irrigon city council member. He has been active with community events such as the Irrigon Watermelon Festival and the annual July 4th fireworks. "Water issues for the growing north end industry as well as adequate services for the North-end population growth are key issues," Mills said. He added that he knows many people in the area and is familiar with their needs. Mills said that since he has cut back on his farming enterprise, he would have time to serve as a commissioner.

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### Annetta L. Spicer

Annetta L. Spicer, 41, Heppner, has lived in Morrow County 15 years. She and her husband William J. Kuhn, have two children 13 and eight.

Spicer has been an attorney for 15 years and has a doctor of jurisprudence degree from Lewis and Clark Law School in 1977 and a bachelor of science degree from Portland State University in 1972. She has a private practice in Heppner with her husband, Also an attorney.

She was Morrow County District Attorney from 1980-1982. Spicer is a member of the Soroptimist club, the Heppner Economic Development Corp., Heppner Vision 2000, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce and is a 4-H leader.

She has also been active on attorney volunteer committees on ethics and is the chair of the continuing legal education committee.

"I have gained an understanding of the current issues facing local government through representation of cities and the Morrow County School District," said Spicer.

"Measure 5 has devastated budgets of the Morrow County cities," she said. "The Morrow County Judge must assume a leadership role in developing a partnership with Morrow County's cities to alleviate Measure 5 problems. The current judge has offered no assistance or leadership for Morrow County's cities."

"The county judge must become active in economic development, both to provide jobs and replace the revenue lost under Measure 5. There are monies available to help with economic development if the county has a plan," she added. "As judge, I would develop an economic development plan."

"The county must do long range departmental planning particularly in the road and medical departments. Longer range planning on roads is necessary so repairs are made routinely to reduce the costs of rebuilding. The hospital and medical centers need planning to keep and improve the services offered. The county judge must build an adequate communication bridge with the medical board to better assist the board and the various Morrow County communities to meet future medical needs."

"My legal background makes me better qualified to handle juvenile court matters."

"The county judge needs to take an active role in environmental issues to protect our resource based economy. The ranch and timber industries need the county judge to take a viable, active leadership role in dealing with state and federal agencies," concluded Spicer.

## Morrow County Commissioners race

Two Republicans, John Prag and Ed Glenn, both Boardman, will vie May 19 for a spot in the November general election for a four-year term as Morrow County Commissioner.

In November the Republican primary winner will face the democratic candidate Don McElligott and incumbent Gerry Peck, Independent, if he files for the position. McElligott is unopposed in the primaries. Because Peck is an independent he doesn't have to file for the position until June.



John Prag

Prag has been a realtor and agri-business man for more than 30 years. He is self employed.

Prag received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Oregon. Prag is the chairperson for the Morrow County School Budget Committee and is a city of Boardman Planning Commissioner.

He is past president of the local Board of Realtors; director of State Realtor Association; past president and chairman of the Boardman Chamber of Commerce; past chairman of Oregon Business Week for Morrow County and Morrow County chairman of Oregonians in Action, a private property rights land use group. He has been a full time volunteer for East Central Association of Counties Community Development special projects and was instrumental in the transfer of items county development programs to the greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation. He has served as GEODC director and loan committee member for several years and is currently serving as an officer of this regional non-profit organization.

Prag lists paying for needed government services under the restrictions imposed by Measure 5;

Maintaining and increasing the viability of our local communities in the mid to late 1990s and beyond. Obtain fair share of regional government services; and

Erosion of private property rights from state imposed LCDC Planning, DEQ and Department of Water Resource Restrictions and Preservationists organizations bent on destroying historic multiple use of our forests, grazing land and rivers as the major issues facing him as commissioner.

"I believe economics can be found in the operation of government with minimal layoffs, reductions of service or increase in an individual's taxes," said Prag. "Modern management techniques can be applied to government as readily as they are applied to industry. We need to seek out and apply these techniques to our Morrow County situations."

"Local government must make the efforts to find the better ways to accomplish the needed investment in infrastructure (roads, schools, parks, libraries, hospitals, medical services and senior services) to attract new industry and give us jobs for unemployed citizens," he added. "These efforts start with increased attention to business and economic-community development. Locate regional service facilities in Morrow County to even out delivery of services and provide stable government jobs to county."

"Local government needs to become more involved in and make more use of, local planning to protect our private property rights, county government needs to join with realtors, cattle operators, irrigators and land use groups such as Oregonians in Action to help defend these rights and to see that the government pays for property right takings by government action whether in its own right or through bowing down to extreme preservationist activities."



Ed Glenn

Ed Glenn, republican, 51, Boardman, has lived in Morrow County 18 years. He and his wife, Frances, have two children, 21 and 18.

Glenn has been publisher of the Columbia Valley Chronicle weekly newspaper for the past three years.

He received a doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of Oregon in 1971 and a bachelor of science degree from the University of Oregon in 1969.

Glenn has been a member of the Morrow/Umatilla Regional Strategies committee, chairman of the Morrow/Umatilla Employment Training Council, a member of the LaGrande School Board, president of the Boardman Chamber of Commerce and secretary of the Columbia River Walleye Circuit.

"Everyone who has read my writings knows exactly where I stand on the important issues around the county because I face those issues head on," said Glenn. "I represent an alternative to the politicians who waffle on the issues, dodge the hard problems and fade out when tough decisions have to be made. As your representative, I will gather the facts, consider the consequences, seek your advice and then take a position that is clear and precise and then well known."

"You'll never have to guess where I stand on the important issues that affect you, either before or after the fact," added Glenn. "Like everyone, though, I make mistakes once in a while. When I do, I have the courage to admit it, and step forward to try to correct it."

"Morrow County is at an important cross roads with Measure 5 making it very hard for our cities to continue the level of community service they have provided in the past. Parks, libraries, police and fire protection are all in jeopardy. I think the county must become more active in this area, or these important parts of life in the county will suffer."

"Other services like roads, medical service and county government itself, require a new look. We must meet the need for those services, wherever in the county it arises, without waste, petty jealousies or political favor."

"Harmony throughout the county is essential. A balanced representation of the whole county is important to that harmony. With support across the county, I can best continue the 40-year tradition of broad representation on the county court."

"I'd appreciate the opportunity," concluded Glenn.

John Prag (R), 57, Boardman, has lived in the county for approximately 20 years. He is married to Lynn Logan and has two grown sons and an 11 year old daughter.



Don McElligott

Donald McElligott, 73, is the democratic candidate seeking the position of County Commissioner. He and his wife Eunice live in Ione and have 11 grown children and 11 grandchildren.

McElligott has been a rancher for 46 years and has a degree in business administration from the University of Portland. He has been a member of the Ione School Board, the Morrow County School Board, chairman of the Ione Rural Fire District Board and secretary-treasurer for the Ione Rural Fire District. He is a former Morrow County Judge.

A long-time head of the Long Creek Cattlemen's Association, McElligott has experience in government, three years experience on the executive commission of Oregon Cattlemen's Association, five years on the executive committee of JPTA Consortium (27 counties), organizer of Counties Computer Group.

"During the next four years we will see the real fallout from Measure 5," commented McElligott. "Increasingly state programs will be pushed down to the counties and the tough decisions will have to be made about which to abandon and which to try to cover and how to finance them."

"The county is also the last bulwark between the citizen and over-reaching federal bureaucratic regulation," he said.

## Justice of the Peace contenders

Ted Sampson, Irrigon will oppose incumbent Charlotte Gray for the Morrow County Justice of the Peace position. Gray has been elected twice since she was appointed 13 years ago.



Charlotte S. Gray

Incumbent Charlotte S. Gray, 51, Heppner, has lived in Morrow County 16 years. She is married to David Gray and has two grown sons.

Gray has been Justice of the Peace for 13½ years. She was court clerk for the city of The Dalles from 1971 to 1976.

Gray is secretary of the Justice of the Peace Association and is a member of the special courts advisory committee. She holds a certificate of completion of a non-attorney general jurisdiction course at the National Judicial College.

"The only promise I can make is to continue to be fair and to continue to do my very best for Morrow County," commented Gray.

### Ted Sampson

Ted Sampson, 46, Irrigon, has been a life-long resident of Morrow/Umatilla Counties. He has a 17 year old son and a grown

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