

Candidates' Forum

"Whisker Bill's" restaurant and bar for the past two years. He graduated from Caldwell Senior High School at Caldwell, Idaho. Marren has been involved with Operation Graduation, which is a golf tournament which raises funds for the Riverside High School's drug and alcohol free graduation party. He has also worked with Boardman Police Chief Greg Sayles on a community watch program for Boardman. "I'm not going to pretend that I know everything about Morrow County," says Marren. "Basically, I want to make decisions to decide what is best for Morrow County."

"Definitely as the whole county. The county has to operate as an entire unit, rather than as bits and pieces of the whole."

"By promoting business in the north end of the county and promoting industry in north county. The more industry we bring into the county as a whole will increase the tax base, which will help the county operate."

"I don't think all the channels have been exhausted to fund a means to come up with a solution that will satisfy the needs of all concerned. I believe in Morrow County, but I'm not anybody's puppet. Those who think I am should try pulling my strings."

"I want to work with the other commissioners to find ways to maintain the quality of life down here (in south Morrow County). Explore all possibilities."

"Consolidate some of these different entities into one office area, if possible and get them together so they have to work together. As far as accountability to the public, the elected or appointed officials have to make themselves accessible. People have to get involved in voting their opinions."

"With many county services we're very well covered in the north end of the county, but in many we're not. This can be rectified by letting the entire county know the problems that each community has, by opening up lines of communication so that everyone is aware of what's going on everywhere. The past is the past. Looking toward the future of Morrow County, rather than dwelling on the past, we can open those lines and get on with keeping Morrow County a wonderful place to live."

"I don't believe Morrow County would be better served by home rule. There may be some problems with the current charter, but that doesn't mean you have to scrap the whole thing and start from scratch."

"I believe at large (county commissioner election). I would make it easier to represent the entire county rather than individual areas. "Issues that are out there to-

day, most likely won't be there come January when I would take office if elected."

"It's a matter of getting everyone together, making them look at the county as a whole, rather than looking at it as an individual person or communities."

"I care about Morrow County. I choose to live here. I could have lived anywhere I wanted to. I hope Morrow County chooses me."



John Wenholtz, 54, Irrigon, has lived in Morrow County 23 years. He and his wife, Jeanette, a homemaker and retired registered nurse, have two grown children, Jeff and Jennifer. He has been self-employed for 25 years and is the owner of Irrigon Motors. Wenholtz graduated from Madison High School in Portland and attended Portland State University. Wenholtz has been a member of the Morrow County School District local advisory board. He has been involved in Little League and Babe Ruth baseball programs and is a member of the Irrigon Chamber of Commerce.

"My job will be to serve all of the people of Morrow County equally and to try to ensure that we have a smooth running and efficient county government," says Wenholtz.

"As I have often stated, all of the commissioners have to represent the county as a whole."

"Historically, the south end has helped finance the needs of the north end. Now the reverse is starting to happen. Beyond the money issues, one end can't survive without the support of the other, and this county won't survive if we stay separated. But, I do not see the county commissioner's jobs to be economic development. Bringing economic development is better left to the Port of Morrow, the local Chambers of Commerce, and private interests. The role of the county commissioners is to ensure that these developments contribute to the welfare of the county in a positive way."

"We have an elected medical board to solve those problems. However, when an issue ends up with the county commissioners for a decision, we will have to study all of the evidence available and try to

make an intelligent choice for the best interests of all."

"I think the departments as a whole are trying to be accountable. In a case where one department isn't, we can influence some positive changes with strong leadership on our part through some budget decisions if necessary."

"I don't like this North-South type of question. It only adds fuel to a situation that doesn't need to be. For starters, Measure 5 put a limit on revenues, and the money just isn't going to be there to meet the "wants" of everyone in the county. The commissioners will have to work hard and study each situation to be as fair as possible in meeting everyone's needs and not just the needs of a special group, individual or squeaky wheel and that doesn't matter where in the county it is."

"I think that there is some anger between some factions in the county, but I also think that most residents of Morrow County can, do, and will continue to work together for a better county. Representation from a wider geographical area in the county will come about as a result of this election, and this should help broaden the informational base from which the commissioners make their decisions. This broader base for information for decisions is important for a healthy county."

"Home rule has some good points, but it was voted down by a majority of the residents. That tells me that the people of Morrow County feel that the system we have today can continue to work as long as we have strong commissioners selected from throughout the county."

"This is a question with no easy answer. I feel that it is best for a county-wide election so that the commissioners are responsible to the county as a whole. However, with the population growth there is a danger that some areas of the county may end up with no local representation. That isn't good either, because we need a broad base of information in order to make sound decisions. I don't have the magic ball to give me the solution to this problem at this time."

"The major challenge is to continue to provide quality services throughout the county without an increase in taxes."

"I have no axe to grind, no changes to make."

"There are two real good reasons to elect me. First, I am not obligated to any person or group. I will make my decisions based on the best information I can get and on what I feel is best for the needs of the county. Secondly, I want us to have a positive, successful county government, and I have both the time and energy that it takes to ensure that we have one."

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's office in Heppner reports dispatching the following business during the past several weeks:

April 29: Morrow County deputy arrested Frederick Frank Chappelle, 30, for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Chappelle was cited and released to appear in court;

April 30: Morrow County deputy assisted an Irrigon resident with a civil matter;

Morrow County deputy responded to Stokes Senior Center for a report of vandalism;

Morrow County deputy began a theft investigation from a boat at Irrigon Marina;

Morrow County Sheriff's of-

fice dispatched the Condon ambulance to Two Boys Market for an adult female with an illness. The patient was transported to Bend;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to Oregon Waste Management for an adult male with an illness. No transport was made;

Morrow County deputy responded to Columbia Junior High School in Irrigon for an animal complaint;

Morrow County deputy arrested Shaun Hisler, 18, of Heppner for Criminal Mischief I, and Dan Sample, 18, of Heppner for Criminal Mischief II. Both were cited and released with a court date;

Morrow County deputy responded to Irrigon for a criminal trespass complaint;

Morrow County deputy responded to the A.C. Houghton baseball field in Boardman to start an investigation of a hit and run;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon Marina for a report of a suspicious vehicle;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Mitchell ambulance to a residence on High Street for a male subject with an unknown illness. The patient was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville.

May 1: Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for an unfounded juvenile call;

Morrow County deputy began an investigation of a reported theft in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County deputy arrested Christopher Autry, 25, of Irrigon, for Assault IV (Domestic). Autry was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail.

May 2: Morrow County deputy began an investigation of a reported prowler at a residence near the fish hatchery at Irrigon;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil ambulance to Haven House. One resident with an injury was transported to Bend;

Morrow County deputy began an investigation of a reported barking dog in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy arrested John Earl LaGrow, 25, of Irrigon, on a Umatilla County Sheriff's office warrant for Failure to Appear. LaGrow was transported and lodged at the Umatilla County Jail.

May 3: Morrow County deputy responded to the West Glen addition in Boardman for a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area and Criminal Mischief;

Morrow County deputy responded for a report of suspicious circumstances in Boardman;

Morrow County deputy responded to Potlatch Farm for a suspicious vehicle.

May 4: Morrow County deputy responded to a loud music complaint in the Boardman area;

Morrow County deputy responded to a disturbance in the Boardman area;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of a suspicious vehicle;

Morrow County deputy assisted a citizen with a traffic problem;

Morrow County deputy responded to an animal problem in the Boardman area;

Morrow County deputy responded to Nevada Street, Irrigon, for a family disturbance;

Morrow County deputy took a report on a civil problem in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County deputy arrested Anthony Richards, 31, for Failure to Pay Fine/Menacing. Richards was lodged at the

Umatilla County Jail.

May 5: Morrow County deputy responded to Wilson Road, Boardman, for a single vehicle accident. One male patient was transported to Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston;

Morrow County deputy assisted the Boardman Police Dept. with a theft investigation in Boardman;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to a residence on Columbia Boulevard, Boardman, for an adult female with an illness. The patient was transported to Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a family disturbance;

Morrow County deputy responded to 4th Street West in Irrigon for a report of a suspicious vehicle.

May 6: Morrow County deputy recovered a stolen vehicle in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy responded to a grass fire at Estregard Estates;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a family disturbance;

Morrow County deputy responded to Division Street in Irrigon for a report of loose horses;

Morrow County deputy assisted a citizen on I-84 by calling a tow truck;

Morrow County deputy responded to a Boardman residence for a report of prank phone calls.

Morrow County deputy arrested Aubrey Ray Williams, 36, of Boardman, for Theft III. Williams was cited and released.

May 7: Morrow County deputy responded to the Lexington area for a suspicious vehicle;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to Boardman Foods for a female with an illness. The patient was transported to Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston;

Morrow County deputy assisted the Heppner Police Dept. with a driving complaint.

May 8: Morrow County deputy began a theft investigation from Boardman Foods;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Lexington area for a civil problem;

Morrow County deputy responded to Nomad in Boardman for an unwanted subject;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Condon ambulance to the Clinic for a transport to MCMC with a patient from an earlier rollover.

May 9: Morrow County sheriff assisted the Boardman police with a domestic problem;

Morrow County deputy began an investigation of a violation of a restraining order in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy assisted a Boardman resident with a vehicle lock-out;

Morrow County deputy responded to Washington Street, Irrigon, for a report of a juvenile disturbance.

May 10: Morrow County deputy assisted a citizen on I-84/730 junction.

May 11: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil ambulance to a residence on A Street, Fossil, for an adult male with an illness;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Dodge City Motel to assist the Boardman Police Dept. with a suspicious person;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil Emergency Medical Technicians to a residence on B Street for a female with an injury;

Morrow County deputy responded to Bakes in Irrigon for a report of someone on the roof;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of a party by the river;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area for a report of a suspicious vehicle on Potlatch property.

May 12: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to the St. Patrick Senior Center for an adult female with an injury;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for an erratic driving complaint;

Morrow County deputy began an investigation of harassment from an Irrigon resident;

Morrow County deputy responded to a careless driving complaint on I-84 eastbound;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for an animal complaint;

Morrow County deputies responded to the West Glen area in Boardman for a disturbance;

Morrow County deputy recovered a stolen vehicle in the West Glen area in Boardman;

Morrow County deputy took a careless driving complaint from a subject in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil Emergency Medical Technicians to a residence on Main Street in Fossil, for a female with an illness. The patient was transported to the Madras Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance and Fire Dept. for a motor vehicle accident on I-84 milepost 141 eastbound. No injuries occurred and no transport was made.

May 13: Morrow County deputy responded to I-84 for a reported intoxicated driver. The deputy was unable to locate the driver;

Morrow County deputy removed an object off the freeway that was a traffic hazard.

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