

PETERSON

ers League, including one term as Morrow County President; and two terms on the Port of Morrow budget committee. I also have extensive experience in education policy and budget oversight, community development, and church work at the local level in Ione. I was raised with cattle and now farm mainly wheat in the Ione area; I also oversee family farmland near Boardman.

Do you have family here? Spouse? Children?

My family operates a Century Farm south of Ione and my brothers still farm in the area. My wife, Lea Mathieu, is an educator and minister who has taught and preached in Boardman, Heppner and Ione. Our three children graduated from Ione schools and our oldest son, August, has returned after college to continue the family farming tradition with his wife Sami, who grew up on a cattle ranch near Baker City.

Why are you running for a county office?

I have volunteered with local and countywide organizations all my life, and now that my children are grown and my son is a partner on our farm, I have even more time to devote to public service. I am running for Morrow County Commissioner because my family – past and future - is rooted here and I want to see our strong individual communities cooperate for everyone's benefit. The county has seen significant growth in the past several decades and I would like to see us come together for continued sustainable growth and positive change in the future.

SWEEK

a long time but never did. I know, I'm a little older, I thought I would give it a shot.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the office you are running for in Morrow County?

Getting people to work as a team and not alone, work for the common good of Morrow County.

How would you address that challenge if you win?

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the office you are running for in Morrow County?

The biggest challenges facing us are related: We are too often divided by community and agencies to work effectively for the economic well-being of the entire county. Issues that apply to multiple communities in Morrow County include housing, internet access, infrastructure and employment opportunities. These and related issues are best addressed by the county working in cooperation with towns and agencies.

How would you address that challenge if you win?

Even though I have lived my entire life, other than college years, on farms south of Ione, I recognize the need for a vision wider than my own small community. It is imperative that we listen to, learn from and work with each other. I will address the challenge of fractured communities by listening to all sides prior to making informed decisions for the betterment of all, and by earning the trust of those I work with and for.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job?

As stated above, I have extensive experience in agriculture, policy and business development throughout the county and I have respect for all of our communities and agencies. I know the other commissioners I would work with, Melissa Lindsay and Don Russell, well enough to know that we could work together with mutual respect and for the betterment of all Morrow County.

Let the elected officials run their own departments and not micromanage everyone. Making time for running the office and still work a 10- to 12-hour day.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job?

Talk to all the people and work together and not alone for the good of Morrow County. Use some common sense.

J DOHERTY

of my first term as commissioner. In addition, I am currently the president of the Association of Oregon Counties. Past Soil and Water Conservation District Chair, Jefferson County and past Morrow County SWCD Board member.

Do you have family here? Spouse? Children?

Amazing wife of 34 years, Kelly. My son Bryce and his beautiful wife, Hannah.

Why are you running for a county office?

Four years ago I felt called to carry the message of the honest folks of the county who heretofore had no standard bearer. Whether it is the neglected agriculture and small business folks or those yearning for an even break, their message is building in strength and strengthens my resolve.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the office you are running for in Morrow County?

If a snapshot in time, it is certainly the monumental challenges of Covid-19. The healthcare implications from both contracting the virus and the devastation wrought by suppressed personal productivity. I am reluctant to otherwise denote a "biggest challenge."

K DOHERTY

experience.

I believe it is the philosophical arguments behind the laws that make you a good judge, not the experience itself. Why do we have laws? What are the benefits to society of the enforcement of laws? What is justice for all? What are the social norms of the times? There is a historical, moral and cultural basis to the law. Knowing these concepts like I do, gives me the required modes of injury and judgment needed for the adjudication of the laws.

My back ground in philosophy has taught me how to critically problem solve, sort through rhetoric to find fact, and recognize an opposing argument on merit. Judges are "the mouth piece of the law, not its source." I hold the prowess to interpret and apply the legal principals of the law, with tact, courage and prudence.

I hold a mediation certificate from Arizona Law School that embraces a dynamic sphere of specialized communication skills; neutrality, compromise and negotiation techniques that augment jurisprudence and adjudication. This captures the essences of what is needed to adjudicate small claims cases.

The Justice of the Peace in Morrow County is responsible for holding truancy court. I have 26 years of experience in the school system, in four districts in Oregon, motivating our youth. I sat on the Morrow County Community Education Committee as an elected official and understand the challenges and opportunities of the children in our community. I served as a mentor at Riverside High School. I saw what a positive impact can do for our adolescents. Judges can have that positive impact on a community as well.

Along with traffic citations, Justice Court also handles Fish and Wildlife violations and boating fines. As an avid marksman, hunter, licensed boat owner/operator and a former guide business owner I know the rules, regulations and laws that pertain to those activities.

Do you have family here? Spouse? Children?

I have been married for

How would you address that challenge if you win?

We have secured a rapid test kit and an impossible-to-procure additional ventilator in the plan should this pestilence not quickly pass. I pray that it shall. I would like to revisit my desire for a health all in policy that I advocated for in my first term. I have joined Commissioner Lindsay in an aggressive plan to assist small business folks in maintaining some hope for the future. As far as, "biggest challenge," I hold that we need a holistic approach as everything is intimately connected.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job?

I have a record that reflects accomplishments and no fear of fighting back against the establishment when it breaches our trust. As I write this, I have registered no donors. Don't get me wrong I won't necessarily turn away assistance, I just worry that asking for funds is asking for trouble. Some special interest group or people with an agenda will prop up a candidate and "own" his or her vote. I work for you, all of you and pledge to pour my heart and soul into the effort.

ARMATO

for more than four years for the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, giving me an understanding of various county-wide issues.

Do you have family here? Spouse? Children?

I do have a significant amount of family here: my mother, my grandparents, aunts, an uncle and several cousins. I am not married and have no children.

Why are you running for a county office?

I am running for county office out of a duty to serve. I want to have a long lasting and positive impact on the county I call home and I want to give back to the people who have given, and continue to give, so much to their communities. I want to help shape the future of our county and to do this there is a need for collaboration and teamwork across departments and other entities. I know I have the ability and drive to facilitate and achieve these goals.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the office you are running for in Morrow County?

The county faces many

challenges, chief among them is housing. A shortage of housing impacts growth and economic development. It prevents many young families from moving back to our communities and impacts hiring practices for multiple businesses and special districts that serve those same communities. Part of our housing shortage challenge is a lack of buildable lands and infrastructure and the county has the ability to assist these communities in supporting housing growth.

How would you address that challenge if you win?

I will address the challenge by finding ways to improve infrastructure in the communities, such as assisting with improving community sewer and water systems and helping to develop buildable lands through the utilization of incoming funds. I would also work with The Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development for rezoning and ask for their assistance in the re-evaluation of our floodplain restrictions.

CRAWFORD

communities and I consider this to be valuable experience that will help me do the best job I can do.

Do you have family here? Spouse? Children?

My spouse is Stacey Jessen, we have been together for 15 years, and he works for Jay Coil Fabrication as a welder. All of our children grew up in Ione/Heppner area, graduated from Ione High School and their jobs have taken them out of this area.

Why are you running for a county office?

I am running for a county office because I want to continue to serve Morrow County residents. I am invested and committed

to the success of our collection methods.

How would you address that challenge if you win?

There are many great options available to us. Oregon statutes allow justice courts to assign judgments to the Department of Revenue. It is administered through the refund offset program. When a citizen receives a refund, the debt will be deducted and returned to the county. There is a small fee of 10 percent, however, Senate Bill 55 allows for the collection of fees associated with that debt. Additionally, a third-party collection system can be implemented simultaneously that would allow for credit bureau reporting as well.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job?

Civic life is important to communities. I believe there is value in public service. We are living in a time of vast political rhetoric; people want confidence in our local public institutions. I have been an active member of this community for over 20 years, I know and love Morrow County. My trust, integrity, character and reputation are backed by an educational background in law. Judgment needs to be inclusive of the entire human experience, but exclusive of bias and prejudice. I am the only candidate that is not trained solely in enforcement. I do not have former colleagues who will sit across the bench and bear witness to the public. I will be fair, impartial and faithful to the position.

ted to our community and would consider this to be an honor. I do not want to be a bystander; I want to help make lives better.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the office you are running for in Morrow County?

Making sure that fines do not balance the budget and should be used only to deter criminals.

How would you address that challenge if you win?

I would tailor the fines to a person's ability to pay (such as small payments), community service, and/or use another available discipline if the person does not have the ability to pay. I will educate people about the rules they broke and make them aware of the changes that could have occurred so that they can be aware and not recidivist. Researching ways to help people with this problem is something I plan to do if I am elected.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job?

My education in Criminal Justice is current and I have worked in the legal system for 14 years. I have 16 years of background knowledge in the county including but not limited to budgeting, county court minutes, property and land laws, knowledge of Oregon Revised Statutes and working with jury pulls. I will learn, listen and I care.

CAPECO – Is Here to Help

CAPECO is still working to help those in our community with their energy bills. We are working from our home offices to assist you. We can still process your energy application through the mail, email, fax and phone.

CAPECO strives to deflect some of your energy costs for income eligible residents of Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, and Wheeler counties by delivering the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LI-HEAP) and the Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP). Income eligible households may receive a one-time payment, which is paid to the utility vendor. Eligibility is based on the household total gross income for the last 30 days. For example, a household of four with income at or below \$4,163.92 will qualify for assistance.

The stimulus payments from the CARES Act, which can be up to \$1,200 per person or \$500 per child, are not counted as income.

The LIHEAP/OEAP program is open to the general public. Anyone wishing to apply, please call 541-276-1926 or 1-800-752-1139 for Pendleton office, or 541-289-7755 or 1-800-214-4776 for the Hermiston office.

You can also reach us on the CAPECO website www.capeco-works.org

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