

## OPINION

### VOICE of the CHIEFTAIN

# Eckstein's superhero efforts should be applauded

He was almost instantly dubbed by some in the city of Joseph as a superhero.

While Brock Eckstein more than likely won't be donning a red cape anytime soon, his efforts — and the speed of them — to get the city back on track are ones to be applauded.

On Thursday, May 27, Eckstein will unveil the individual or individuals responsible for the harassment that has been alleged — actions that led to the resignation of former city Administrator Larry Braden and put Parks Supervisor Dennis Welch on the sideline for about two months. Actions that have landed the Joseph City Council on the front page of this publication almost weekly for more than a month. He and city attorney Wyatt Baum also will propose punishments for those accused.

Truth always comes out. Sometimes it is a long, drawn out, arduous process.

Sometimes, like this, it is a lot faster.

That Eckstein was able to find enough evidence in relatively short order — he was hired as the city's interim administrator not even three weeks ago — is stunning. It makes one wonder if the evidence was right under the noses of those looking all along.

Or if they weren't looking all that hard.

Eckstein, in his position, cannot force any charged individuals to resign, though that is a punishment he can recommend that the council choose.

And it is the action we have said repeatedly should be made, and we repeat that refrain here.

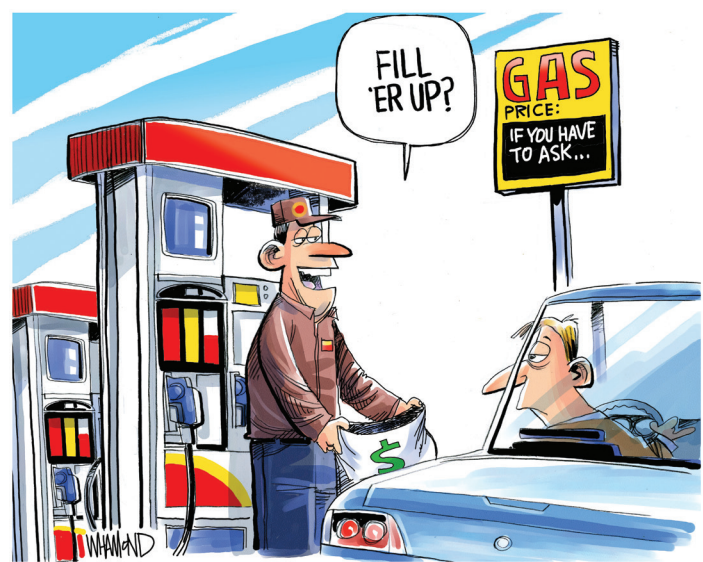
If the evidence presented is, indeed, enough to peg this allegation on any person or people beyond a reasonable doubt, the correct thing for those individuals is for them to, indeed, step down from their post.

In order for there to be healing in the city, whoever has been the cause of the discord needs to step away.

Our hope is that this brief, but rough chapter in the history of the Joseph City Council can be put to bed. This has been a messy past couple of months in the town.

Perhaps, finally, the cloud that has lingered can be lifted.

DARKON  
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN  
CAGIE CARTOONS  
5/15/21



## LETTERS to the EDITOR

### A different course of action for vaccines

It seems lately that our government is indecisive as to how to best administer the oversupply of COVID-19 vaccine resource nationwide due to individuals refusing the procedure. Distribution to populations in India, where the pandemic is out of control, is a good plan.

My solution, accompanied by lifting economic embargoes of food, fuel and medicines to our adversaries, specifically Iran, North Korea and Cuba, is to provide this surplus of COVID vaccine to these nations, using U.S. military medical personnel, amongst others, to administer them, and without preconditions.

My Christian faith demands this course of action: "Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath for it is written, 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink...'" Do not

overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:19-21)

Perhaps our politicians could learn a thing or two: kindly words of advice spoken by the ancient Hebrews and Christians (and Muslims likewise) before continuing hellbent on a reckless arms race, where our military spending as percentage of our national treasure, is now the highest, "in the history of the universe" (Mario Cuomo). They might be pleasantly surprised by the results.

John Walker  
Enterprise

### Signs point to the nearness of Christ's return

May 6 was the National Day of Prayer. Not one church or preacher held any kind of service that I know of in the county. How sad is that?

The Bible predicts that there will be more crime (Matthew 24:12), a breakdown of the family unit (2 Timothy 3:2-

3), apathy toward spirituality and scoffing as the end draws near (2 Peter 3:3-4). All of these conditions will take place just before the return of Christ.

Will there be more pestilence? If the Bible is correct, and we, of course, believe it is, then the answer is yes. Jesus knew that wars, famines, earthquakes and pestilence would exist more frequently in the end times. He wanted to warn us that these are signs of the end and of the nearness of His return.

Roger Weishoff  
Enterprise

### I'll have only muskets when the government does

To Evelyn Swart, I will agree to your position in your letter in the May 12 issue of the *Wallowa County Chieftain* as soon as the government, state and federal, also only have muskets.

Kurt Swinburnson  
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