

Letter to the Editor

Sixth graders express opinions

(Editor's note: the following letters to the editor were written by students in the Heppner Elementary sixth grade class).

To the Editor:
I'm writing about Measure 18. I don't think that is right. The only way you can hunt bears and cougars is with dogs. I was going to take my kids hunting someday, now I can't unless we do something about it.

It is much easier to hunt with dogs and safer, too. It is more exciting and gives your dog lots of exercise and builds the dog's muscles.

I hope this will change your mind about Measure 18.

Sincerely,
(s) Rob Nichols

To the Editor:
I would like to take an opportunity to tell the community I appreciate their support for the Morrow County schools and its students. The R & W has done a lot with R & W certificates for reading books. The donors for honor cards and parents club money raisers have done a lot. Also to the colt basketball and baseball coaches for taking time out of their lives to coach. I most recently would like to say I appreciate everyone that voted yes on the bond levies, one for the school and one for the swimming pool.

Thanks Heppner,
(s) Krista Adams

To the Editor:
I am writing to you because I am very concerned about teen driving. There are lots of teens driving with their seat belts off or have been drinking.

They are playing their radio too loud and could get in an accident or could get hurt real bad. Because their radios are up too loud they couldn't hear car horns and could be hit. So if you are going to drive keep your radio down, go the speed limit and drive safely.

Concerned kid,
(s) Matt Looney

To the Editor:

The county is making raises to the county employees when the schools are slowly dying. Below are some examples of what kind of raises are made in this county: Sr. communications officer, old salary 22,200, new salary 32,826, amount raised 10,626, 47.86 percent increase; public health director old 29,592, new 40,640.28, raised 11,048.28, 37.34 percent; county counsel old 33,780, new 45,552, raised 11,772, 34.85 percent; museum director old 18,216, new 24,363, raised 6,147, 33.75 percent.

This is only about a quarter of all the people that got raises. I think we should start looking toward our schools and kids. Because the kids and schools are the ones who really need help. The passage of the bond issue helps the schools, but it is not enough.

Sincerely,
Brandon Young

To the Editor:

I'm writing to voice my opinion on the community support in Heppner. All of the kids that are in sixth and seventh grade are excited for the pool and school bond issue. I'm writing mostly to say I'm glad that the community helped with the funds and voted on the levies.

There have been several meetings about the levies and other issues. You are urged to go to the meetings too, they're not just for kids.

But remember, our future depends on you.

Sincerely,
(s) Beth Baker

To the Editor:

I'm writing to complain about all the dogs barking at night. I wish people would keep their dogs quiet so people can sleep. Also I want to ask them to keep their dogs in their yards.

Sincerely,
(s) Marissa McCabe

To the Editor:

My name is Chris. In school Mrs. Allen is having us write letters to the editor and I'm going to write about sports.

I think we should have sports because it gives us something fun to do after school, and it's what makes kids want to go to school. I understand we might not have all the sports but even a couple would help.

We have the opportunity to keep sports in the Morrow County schools. Vote yes in September for the Park and Recreation District.

Sincerely,
(s) Chris Peck

To the Editor:

I'm glad that the people voted yes on the pool. We needed the pool so the kids can go swimming. The People for the Pool committee that raised the money worked hard. I want to go swimming too. It is fun to have a swimming pool back again. I like to go swimming again.

(s) Cory Breeding

To the Editor:

Now that the bond issues passed, let's focus on the Park and Recreation District.

Sports and other activities are a big part of education in Morrow County. Without them it's like having a car without a motor.

If there aren't any sports, what will kids do? They might drink and they'll be driving around a lot more, but to sum it up, just getting in trouble.

Now let's look at the bright side. If this passes and there are sports and other activities the kids will have a reason to keep their grades up. Sports teaches teamwork and it gives kids something to do. Also the basics of a sport and sportsmanship.

What does it balance out to? I encourage you to vote yes in September.

Sincerely,
(s) Blake Knowles

To the Editor:

First of all I would like to tell everyone I was happy for the yes vote on the bond issue. Now I want you to vote yes on another issue. The Unified Park and Recreation District.

This issue will fund many after school trips, clubs and sports teams. Some of these include drama, year book, FFA, rally squad, dance team, drill team and all school sports teams. If this issue fails we would have to fund these things a different way. But it would be nearly impossible to do so since we are such a small community. Kids love having these activities and they teach things you can't learn from a text book.

So when you pick up your ballot in September vote yes on the Unified Recreation District.

Take pride in your community. We're not just your kids, we're your future.

Sincerely,
(s) Lindsey H. Ward

To the Editor:

I would like to tell the coaches who were in Colt and little league that I'm glad you coach. These people don't get paid.

The businesses who sponsored the honor cards, we appreciate the rewards they have given us.

Also, I'm glad the Parents' Club raised money for going to Tupper.

Sincerely,
(s) Justin Wood

To the Editor:

I'm glad the community participates in Colt basketball and the businesses participate in the honor card students certificates. We all appreciate it. The Parents' club also raised lots of money so the sixth graders can go to Tupper and have field trips. I hope lots more of this happens in the years to come.

Sincerely,
(s) Danielle McDowell

To the Editor:

As a person in a wheelchair I think that Heppner should fix all of its sidewalks because they are dangerous and difficult for physically challenged people to use.

One reason is physically handicapped people can't get on the sidewalks very easily or get across the streets because the ramps down the curbs are not well-placed and there aren't enough of them. Many people have to take the shortest distance across because they tire easily or in my case, I have to go around the curbs at car ramps which can be very dangerous.

Another reason is the sidewalks are too bumpy. A person could trip and hurt themselves or a wheelchair could flip over on bumps like the one on Main Street at the Willow Creek bridge or the bump by the motel.

A third reason is there needs to be sidewalks on every street in town. You know it's dangerous to walk or drive a wheelchair on the edge of the road with fast moving traffic.

Independence is important, isn't it? Therefore, the city should make every effort to make the sidewalks more handicap accessible.

(s) Eric Rollis

To the Editor:

I'm here to talk to you about measure 18. Measure 18 was a bill that was passed into law by the animal rights and conservation groups to not allow bear and cougar to be hunted with dogs or use food and scraps for bait. My dad and I love going hunting with dogs, it was life to us and it's not fair to take that away.

In California the animal rights groups put the same bill on the ballot and it passed. So far there have been cougars killing two innocent people. There have also been cougar spottings (too many to count), all over California.

As I end this letter I am just going to say: people might not like certain kinds of hunting but we are all hunters. If we don't want all hunting to go then we all need to stick together until the end.

Sincerely,
(s) Scott VanWinkle

To the Editor:

I would like to tell the Colt basketball coaches I appreciate their time they donate for us to have fun.

John McCabe and Ron Brisbois led the Trojans through a great year. They helped us win the championship this year. Good job coaches.

Sincerely,
(s) David Piper

To the Editor:

Our community needs to take more responsibility and pride in the town of Heppner. I think it would be a good idea to have a cleanup day. Maybe we could have some volunteers on certain days when people aren't so busy and have some time on their hands.

We need places cleaned up like by the dam, down by the creeks and at the parks. So let's take some pride and make Heppner a cleaner, more pleasant place to be.

Sincerely,
(s) Roxanne Miller

To the Editor:

I live in Lexington and I think people should keep their dogs tied up or quiet. Mainly at night dogs bark and when they do it keeps me awake. Dog owners should keep their dogs tied up because they come and leave their dung in other people's yards. So all of you people out there please keep your dogs tied up or on your property.

Sincerely yours,
(s) Joe Papineau

To the Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to the Parents' Club for all of their support raising money for our sixth grade classes so they could go to Tupper. If it wasn't for you we would not have a lot of extra things around school.

Sincerely,
(s) Shad Hisler

To the Editors:

I have a complaint about our dog leash law. I myself am not a dog lover. For quite a while a few dogs have been roaming the streets of Heppner. I don't understand why we have a leash law when it is not enforced. I don't like any dogs roaming without its owner. We need to enforce this law.

Sincerely,
(s) Jeff DeBo

To the Editor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to say I was glad Deputy Myren was our DARE teacher. He taught us information about drugs. He said not to use them and he also spent time with us and took off work to come to class.

Sincerely,
(s) Kyle McDaniel

To the Editor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to say I was glad Deputy Myren was our DARE teacher. He taught us information about drugs. He said not to use them and he also spent time with us and took off work to come to class.

Sincerely,
(s) Jeanette Brantley

To the Editor:

I'd like to give Mrs. Geneva Matthews a pat on the back for getting together the Heppner and Lone school bands for the St. Patrick's Day parade. I am one of her students and I think we sounded pretty good. She helped us by putting in her time and taught us how to march and play the music. I think we sounded great. I appreciate the opportunity to participate in Heppner's music program and parade.

Sincerely,
(s) Mandy Sneddon

To the Editor:

I would like to tell all of the people in Morrow County I appreciate them for voting yes for the swimming pool. It's nice to know that everyone cares about the kids so much.

It's important to have a pool to keep kids busy with something positive rather than getting into trouble.

I'm looking forward to playing football next year. This won't be possible without the help of the voters who will have the chance to vote for the Park and Recreation District. This election will be in September. Be sure to vote yes for the kids in Morrow County.

Sincerely,
(s) Mathew Baker

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