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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**

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Editor's note: following are letters to the editor submitted by students in Jannie Allen's fifth/sixth-grade classes at Heppner Elementary School.

To the Editor:

I think we should get everyone in our community to give five or more dollars to the poor. It will make the world a better place.

We could even send our town doctor to places where people need help. He or she could help them because a lot of poor people have diseases. Doctors could also help all of the sick children. That would be a really good thing to do for the poor and diseased.

Sincerely,
(s) Matt Kenny

To the Editor:

I am writing to you about how to make the world a better place. My idea may be an old one but it is still a good one: picking up litter.

It we all just stopped throwing garbage on the ground and started picking up some of it that arrogant people throw on the ground, the world could be just a little bit better than it is today.

The city could sponsor a clean-up day, where everybody goes and picks up litter in the town. We could also form groups and walk around and pick it once a week.

Heppner surely is a good place to live, but we could make it a lot better.

Sincerely,
(s) Roy Proctor

To the Editor:

My name is Rory Kilkenny and I would like to make the world a better place by picking up litter. I think we could by having a meeting once a week to pick up litter. My next idea is that we could make a bin for garbage that cannot be recycled and my last idea is to go door to door asking for their trash so that we could recycle it.

Sincerely,
(s) Rory Kilkenny

To the Editor:

Wow. Look at all this garbage. Good thing there's a way we can recycle it and still get money. We can give half to the Neighborhood Center and the other half to the local schools. By doing this, we can help the environment, schools and neighborhoods.

I think the world would be a better place if everybody helped pick up garbage, collect pop cans and recycle them.

Maybe if we convince the principal we can adopt a child from the Neighborhood Center. If we do this we would be helping a child by getting him or her a better education. They could get a good job.

Let's go make this world a better place.

Sincerely,
(s) Peter Geer

To the Editor:

Hi. My name is Samantha Burkenbine. I'm in sixth grade. I go to Heppner Elementary School. I'm writing to you about a problem that's going around in Heppner. Helping old people.

When kids go by on their bikes and old people are walking by, they don't care. They just run right into them and knock them down.

People don't care about other people. Especially old people. That's why I want people to help out. Get together in a group and do something nice for some old people in their neighborhood. Please.

Sincerely,
(s) Samantha Burkenbine

To the Editor:

Do you want to be involved, have fun and help the community? Whether you are a grown-up or child, it doesn't matter. All we need are a few people that are willing to volunteer some of their time to organize activities for kids.

I think the world would be a much better place if there were more activities to keep kids out of alcohol and drugs. We need to make these young people feel important and needed.

I think great places to hold these events would be gyms, classrooms, the senior center and maybe the park. If you are retired, get Fridays off or just want to help out, that would be great.

One activity that I have in mind is maybe going to the senior center to do homework. Then volunteers could help kids study for tests, do weekend homework, or any subject. All we need are people that can help on a certain subject.

I think having clubs for activities such as 4-H, community service, cooking and helping elders would be a great success. 4-H clubs could work on projects year round and then enter them in the fair. Community service groups could go around and pick up trash, clean up ball fields and just cleaning things up to make them look better.

There could be a cooking group that would get together and make food and then give it to people that are old, lonely or can't cook. Another idea for a club could be one on crafts. When everybody finishes a project there could be a craft show. At craft shows, people could sell their projects and donate the money to charity. One group could help the elderly. Each child could pick an elderly person and help them every Friday when the club met. They could help them by getting their mail, raking leaves, gathering their groceries and other small chores.

Another activity would be to go to the nursing home and visit the people. A group of people could go up once a week. I'm sure whoever you visit will be very glad to see you. It's probably not very often they get visitors. If you go up there you could sing a favorite song, play your instrument, read stories or just visit with them.

I'm positive that if you tried helping others you would see how much they'd appreciate it. It also would make you feel good about yourself. Being involved and helping organize activities for kids is a great way to help make the world a better place. I'm ready, are you?

Sincerely,
(s) Laurie Murray

To the Editor:

My name is Caleb Maben. I attend the fifth grade at Heppner Elementary School. Here are the reasons why I think you should recycle:

- R - Reduce Waste
- E - Eliminate Trash
- C - Campaign against litter
- Y - You'll live longer
- C - Clear Air
- L - Littering is bad
- E - Existence for Mankind

Sincerely,
(s) Caleb Maben

To the Editor:

We need more trees.

I insist you encourage people to plant more trees. Trees produce cleaner air and we need it. People are cutting down trees and that means dirtier air. Planting a tree on Earth Day would help a lot. You could be really creative and make

a mini-greenhouse.

Sincerely,
(s) Aaron Allstott

To the Editor:

I think the world would be a much better place if there was not so much air pollution. If people would not drive so many cars and walk or ride a bike, the world would be a better place.

So please, please stop polluting. You will be surprised how much better the world would be.

Sincerely,
(s) Cody Ford

To the Editor:

When I get older, I might need some help and I hope some young person will help me. If we all put some effort towards helping the elderly, it would be a much better world.

Sincerely,
(s) Riley Wight

To the Editor:

I have noticed that most towns don't have very many trees. One town was by the highway and they had no trees. It was a dirty place. They should plant some beautiful trees. Then when the cars pollute the air the trees will help clean the air. Make the world a better place. Plant a tree, please.

Sincerely,
(s) Heather Yocum

To the Editor:

I want, in the town of Heppner, plastic recycling.

Heppner needs plastic recycling because when the people use a product made of plastic they have to throw it away, and that adds to our garbage a lot.

If we get a plastic recycling bin, Heppner will be a better place.

Sincerely,
(s) Quinn Peck

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Kody Lovgren and I am a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary.

I'm going to tell you about water pollution. Water pollution is very bad.

If it gets too much out of hand, our water will be unsafe. We need pollution to stop because every living thing in the water will start to die, get cut, get sick and the babies would be deformed.

Now when people swim with all the junk in the water, they might get cut, sick, or wire might get tangled around someone and drown them.

So, if you like our water, help stop pollution, or these things will happen.

Sincerely,
(s) Kody Lovgren

To the Editor:

I have some ideas about how to make the world a better place.

I think if we wouldn't use cars so much we could really make a difference with the air pollution in the world.

Cars produce one-half of the world's air pollution and use up one-third of the world's gas. Cars are the main producers of air pollution.

Instead of using a car, for short trips, use a bike, skateboard, rollerblades or just walk.

Another thing that makes air pollution is people that burn trash. If you burn trash don't burn plastic. Plastic smoke is highly toxic. Instead of burning plastic, recycle it.

In my opinion air pollution is the worst form of pollution. There's so much air pollution in the world that it's made a hole in the ozone layer which protects us from the sun's ultraviolet rays that can cause cancer.

So, if you want to make the world a better place...don't drive so much.

Sincerely,
(s) Drew Prindle

To the Editor:

In Heppner, our town has a lot of litter. We have pop bottles, cigarette butts, candy bar wrappers, paper, etc. When you walk around town it is a mess.

I think the world would be much better if everybody wouldn't litter. I will tell you some ways people should try not to litter.

People shouldn't throw garbage out of car windows. They should wait until a garbage bag comes available to put the garbage in, or they could put a garbage bag in their cars.

When you have a cigarette, instead of stomping on it and leaving it there, you should stomp on it and make sure it is out then put it in the garbage can.

Here are some ways I can help control litter: I'll go around town hanging posters telling the townspeople that littering is bad for our environment.

Having a day that my friends and I will get litter bags and clean up Heppner is one of my ideas. Getting people involved to clean the town is very important.

My friends and I will send letters to the city council telling them how messy our town is and the need to clean it up. We should also ask the city council to put more garbage cans around.

Sincerely,
(s) Sarah Hickerson

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Ashley Dima and I want you to know how careless the people are today.

Most people today don't care about the people who don't have homes and food...what about them?

I know you're probably saying they ruined their own lives, but some of them are born on the street and never had a chance.

I am especially talking about the children and babies that are living on the streets. I mean, think about it...would you like to grow up on the street? Better yet, would you like to see one of your own children growing up on the streets?

In the United States today there are thousands of young children eating out of garbage cans and sleeping in boxes.

We need to start food drives, give away toys, gather blankets and sleeping bags, and gather clothes for the homeless. Volunteers could even travel to Portland and help in a soup kitchen for a day.

We could just help shelter the homeless by donating money and time.

Well, that's what I think everybody should do to help make the world a better place.

Sincerely,
(s) Ashley Dima

To the Editor:

My name is Regi Seitz. I am a fifth grade student at Heppner Elementary.

I think the world would be a better place if people donated clothes.

When was the last time you went to the mall or went shopping? Did you ever think of the people who can't go shopping?

Now let's think...what could we do to make the world a better place? One thing is to make a goal, such as, "I will donate at least two t-shirts a month." It could be anything. Another thing is to take any old clothes and donate them to the Neighborhood Center.

So the next time you get ready to throw something out, stop and think about what you are doing. I mean, think about it...there are millions of things you could do to make the world a better place. This is just one that's important to me.

Sincerely,
(s) Regi Seitz

To the Editor:

My name is Jackie Meyer. I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary. I think cigarette butts on the ground are disgusting. One way that we could maybe help is put some garbage cans by places where there are usually a lot of people. That way we can make our world look better and cleaner.

Sincerely,
(s) Jackie Meyer

To the Editor:

I think the world would be a better place if people didn't pollute. Pollution often is from smoke out of wood stoves. Maybe people should get gas stoves.

Pollution is also from litter. Litter is throwing things on the ground and in the ocean, rivers and lakes. People should recycle to help cut down on litter.

Pollution is bad for the earth and everything on it. Pollution can kill a lot of animals and plants. The people of the earth need to care for the plants and animals by controlling pollution.

Maybe we should stop polluting the earth. When you see garbage pick it up and put it in the

garbage can.

(s) Veronica Wilhelm

To the Editor:

My name is Chelsey Foster. I'm 10 and in fifth grade. I think the world would be a better place if everybody donated. A lot I see people with clothes too small or too big. I just want people to donate to those in need. It could be clothes, toys or money.

Sincerely,
(s) Chelsey Lee Foster
P.S. Please donate.

To the Editor:

I think the world would be a better place if we help the elderly, helping them or making them feel better. You can send them a letter to make them feel better. If you have a neighbor or friend that is old you should help them because they could break their hip.

Sincerely,
(s) Sloan Keithley

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Mikel Britt and I am attending school at Heppner Elementary.

I think the world would be a much better place if people would stop littering and start recycling.

When people throw garbage on the highway it looks awful. It also makes the air smell horrible. If everybody would make sure they throw their garbage away in a garbage can we wouldn't have to worry about horrible smells and awful sights. So please don't litter and start recycling.

Sincerely,
(s) Mikel Britt

To the Editor:

My problem is there is too much trash in the town of Heppner. I think there should be more garbage crews to pick up all of the garbage around Heppner. So please help decrease the garbage around Heppner, thank you.

Sincerely,
J.C. Sherritt

To the Editor:

I think the world would be a better place if we all try to help the elderly and poor somehow.

You can go visit a senior center and ask if you could run errands for the elderly. You could fix up old toys and give them to the poor. All kids have toys they don't play with, and the poor kids would love to have them. So let's all pitch in and help our elderly and poor.

Sincerely,
(s) Lynan Bingham

To the Editor:

I think the world would be a much better place if schools would invent a program called ESP (Extra Special People). ESP would be about a group of kids picking up litter. It would also be about helping people who can barely help themselves.

The group ESP would do fund raisers for children who are homeless, poor, orphans, or sick children. The money would help them get food, shelter and clothing.

ESP would also help neighborhood people, whether to get their mail or even help them with chores around the house or yard.

Donating toys would be something else for ESP. I know that orphans or children who are poor would not care if their toys had a scratch or if their books had a rip. They would be happy with almost anything.

It would be great if people invented ESP.

Sincerely,
(s) Brenda Victorio

To the Editor:

Swimming, fishing and waterskiing are lots of fun, but if the water is polluted the fun is gone. I have some ideas to save the water. I want to tell people to keep the water clean.

Here are some of my ideas for water pollution: when you go boating, check the gas and oil tanks, keep fishing lines off the ground and make sure you don't leave your fish hooks on the ground. Don't leave fish that you catch on the ground because it will stink, but it will also make good fertilizer.

Sincerely,
(s) Nathan Kennedy

To the Editor:

Hi my name is Justin Delveaux and I am in fifth grade. I have some ideas to make the world a better place. My ideas is

to make the environment better.

I think if we burn down the trees, there won't be trees for the environment. The water has too much junk in it to let the fish live longer.

If you see litter you should pick it up and throw it in the trash. If you keep on littering, the world will be a mess.

We should have a day where every person in Heppner plants trees on hillsides. Some people would pick up garbage around Heppner.

This is a good community and together we can make it even better.

Sincerely,
(s) Justin Delveaux

To the Editor:

I think the world would be a much better place if we all did something nice for a sad or lonely person. You could send a card or write a letter to someone that is sad. You could also go over to someone's house that's lonely and talk to them and maybe read a story to them.

Another thing that would be nice that you could do for a sad or lonely person would be to just be their friend. You could also do things for them like raking the leaves, shoveling snow and other things like that. If they are old or have trouble doing those things they will appreciate the help.

So the next time you look in the obituary and see someone that has lost a loved one, maybe you could send them a card or go visit them.

(s) Colton Helfrecht

To the Editor:

Hi, I'm Stephanie Burkenbine and a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School.

I've been seeing a problem all over town...at the senior center, the school, the stores, and other places around Heppner. When I go in those places, I see people go by elderly and ill and never try to help them. I wish I could change that.

If everyone stops what they're doing and does something nice for an elderly or ill person, this world would be a much better place.

I really hope that this letter gets in the paper so people can see it. They just might change their minds.

Sincerely,
(s) Stephanie Burkenbine

To the Editor:

I'm concerned about recycling. I wrote a story about recycling and here are some of my ideas: put up signs, ask people to recycle and pick up garbage and recycle it.

I would really like for people to recycle and make the world a cleaner place.

Sincerely,
(s) Robbie Smith

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Brendan McElligott and I have a request, please don't litter, and if you see litter please pick it up. Here are some other things that would help:

- 1) Have a group go around your community and pick up garbage.
- 2) Collect donations for the needy.
- 3) Go get pop cans and recycle them, and with the money you get give it to charity.
- 4) Have a canned food drive.
- 5) Get old clothes and give it to the needy.

Thank you for reading this, I appreciate it a lot.

Sincerely,
(s) Brendan McElligott

To the Editor:

Old people are really nice but not very many people take the time to find out. So let's give them a chance.

I think the world would be a much better place if people would help elders. For instance elders don't get very much company especially if they don't live near family.

Another thing you should do that would be nice is join them on holidays. Maybe you could include them in some of the other family traditions you might have.

Raking their leaves would be really nice or holding the door open for them as they are walking out of the grocery store. You could also ask the elderly if you could get their mail for them.

My aunt goes around and helps

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