

**Letters**

from page 2

older people by taking them places and fixing them breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Remember, next time you see an elder maybe try to help them out.

(s) Amanda Miles

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Gordy. I'm a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary.

I want to make the world a better place by helping older people.

I would do work like wash cars, shovel sidewalks or driveways and indoor work such as vacuum, sweep, wash dishes, scrub, clean windows, even your room.

Sincerely,  
(s) Gordy Wegwerth

To the Editor:

"Bang! Bang!" That sound can be very frightening when you are a student in today's world.

I think the world would be a better place if school shootings didn't happen. Columbine and Springfield were two very tragic school shootings.

Students should be happy and go to school concentrating on their work. They should not have to think about being shot by another student, or even by a friend.

Parents also need to be aware of what their kids are doing. They need to know what they are looking up on the Internet. They also need to know when they are using guns or looking at them. The parents need to know about what kids are doing with ammunition too.

Schools also need to stress to little kids about safety of guns. Schools also need to give assemblies that have speakers talk about safety of guns and how they are dangerous.

Parents should have counseling for kids that are having troubles in school. Schools also need to know what kids are doing too, and try to help with problems.

The USA needs to come up with some laws to keep guns away from dangerous people.

Sincerely,  
(s) Kyle Carlson

To the Editor:

Don't you feel sad about the children in hospitals? Well, I've got a few ideas about how to reach out to them.

At least once a month you should try to spend time with a hurt or disabled child in their hospital room. For instance, visit the hos-

pital here in Heppner. It's called Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

You could also keep a jar of spare change in your room. When the jar is full, take it to the nearest hospital. They probably need it more than we do, because we'll probably spend it on things that will rot our minds and teeth.

Every child deserves a Merry Christmas and I've got an idea how to create this for children who probably don't get Christmas. Here is my idea. Take one of your presents to a children's hospital to make their Christmas a little better.

I hope you can try a few of my ideas for the children. We should all try to touch that certain child's heart while they're still alive.

Sincerely,  
Trisha Fortner

To the Editor:

If you are rich please be kind enough to provide solar powered vehicles for the world. It would help the world produce more and better oxygen. They also would not pollute. Please keep the world a better place please.

Sincerely,  
(s) Tony Haguewood

To the Editor:

Have you ever wanted to help the community out by baking cookies, visiting the elderly or something like that? Well, here's your chance.

I think the world would be a much better place if young people had a place to go after school. Many families have both parents working and the kids go home alone. Maybe a retired teacher or some adults would volunteer and set times to help.

Kids need a place to meet perhaps at the senior center, or someplace to do homework and prepare for upcoming tests.

Some kids could get together (with an adult or two) to play games and talk to the elderly. They could even bake a dinner for an elderly couple.

The adults could make a chart of jobs for the kids to do around town so the town could look and feel a little happier. Some things they could do are: pick up litter, rake leaves around the school or do chores for other people. They could pick up mail for the neighbors, rake leaves, or go grocery shopping for others. You could also hold the door for them when they are behind you.

I think the kids could do a coat, hat and mitten drive for people who can't afford warm clothes when the weather becomes cold.

They could also decorate the little Christmas trees around Heppner so the town could look merrier around Christmas time.

I think the kids could go to the nursing home or the senior center and adopt a grandma and/or a grandpa. They could ask them what they did for fun when they were kids or what kind of chores they had to do.

The kids could also hold a bake sale and the money that they raise could be donated to charity for the families that are less fortunate.

So now that you have some ideas, let's get to work and make the world a better place.

Sincerely,  
(s) Krystal Nairns

To the Editor:

What can we do to make this world a better place to live? Sure we can help the environment, but we can also make people feel happier.

I think the world would be a much better place if we all thought of each other. That way, we could all be happier and would see the good in everyone more easily. Here are some ways we can do that:

Donate a lot. There are thousands, perhaps millions of people in the world that don't have very much to live off of. They may have lost their belongings in natural disasters, robberies, bankruptcy, and so forth. But there is a way we can help. If we can give money, clothes, or things you would find in a garage sale, it can help those less fortunate.

Golden Rule: If everybody treated everyone else with respect, people will think of themselves as better people and will learn to like others as well. That means no hitting, spitting, or bullying of any nature.

Just help out: When you see someone who needs help in any way, help them. I mean, wouldn't you like to be helped? Of course you would. Everyone would.

So let's get going and make this a better world.

Sincerely,  
(s) Michael D. Merrill

To the Editor:

Older people are just as good as younger people so let's all, old and young, work together to make this world a better place for everyone.

I think the world would be a much better place if we helped elderly people. I'm sure we could all learn something new from doing that. We'd probably learn things that you never took the time

to think about.

Elderly people don't always feel good about themselves or others so we should help them feel differently. People could visit them and ask them to teach new things such as how to sew or secrets about fishing. This can be one of the most important things you could do to help older people feel good. We all want to be needed for ourselves. Elders can help you a lot, also.

Another way to help the elderly is to do errands or chores for them. Getting their mail, buying their groceries, taking care of their yard or even washing their car would be a big help to them. We may think that these would be of little help but they're very important also. Older people might walk several blocks in freezing weather just to get their mail and they might only get one or two things, but it is still very important to them.

You can make elderly people feel happy just by making homemade crafts or gifts for them. Older people love homemade stuff. Find out what the person likes to do and make a craft basket full of some of the things that have to do with that activity.

Treat your elders the way you would want to be treated, in a good and loving way.

Sincerely,  
(s) Brienne Jones

To the Editor:

Older people have a lot to offer us and we have a lot to offer them. So let's help each other.

I think the world would be a much better place if people would care for the elders more than some people do today.

Being nice to the old people is greatly appreciated by them. I would love to help them out either by raking leaves or mowing lawns. I know it would mean a lot to the elders.

I think it would be very nice if other people would visit older people. Maybe if people did this the elderly might teach things to us. And this would make the elders feel greatly appreciated.

Do you ever feel you are leaving somebody out at a Thanksgiving dinner? Well, if you have maybe you could think about inviting an elderly person. If you did this you would probably be feeling like a hero. Even if somebody else didn't think so.

Are you somebody who loves to make things for other people? Well, if you are you may try to think about making baskets. On holidays you could make baskets for the elderly.

If you think this is a wonderful way to help make the world a better place I hope you consider telling other people about this and helping out.

Sincerely,  
(s) Heather Rill

**Jepsen family honored with OWGL stewardship award**

The Oregon Wheat Growers League (OWGL) has presented its first Environmental Stewardship Award to Morrow County farmers Bill and Nancy Jepsen.

The Jepsens farm 18 miles west of Heppner on 3,000 mostly leased acres that are officially classified as highly erodible.

Erosion has been contained through a new program of direct-seeded spring crops. The erosion control measures build on a foundation established by Bill's father, Bob, starting 30 years ago with a system of terraces, grass waterways and trashy fallow.

The award highlighted the opening day of the OWGL's 73rd annual convention, recently held in Portland.

New practices begun by Bill Jepsen have been aided by the USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program, under a five year program of no-till and alternate crop testing. Yellow mustard

so far has been the best fit for the farm, Jepsen said.

He has also tried durum wheats, Dark Northern Spring wheat, spring canola, flax, garbanzo beans and lentils.

Spring barley yields have exceeded those the farm produced in previous years with conventional tillage.

Jepsen also works with Monsanto and Morrow County Grain Growers in a five year study of sustainability with crop rotations and chemical fallow experiments.

"This is still an experiment," Jepsen said, but he's pleased by the results so far.

The Environmental Stewardship Award is a new program offered by OWGL, replacing the Conservation Farm of the Year program. The conservation program was started by OWGL over 50 years ago to recognize outstanding conservation farmers.

**Chamber Chatter**

By Claudia Hughes, Executive Director

It takes many ingredients to make the Willow Creek Valley what it is and these came together last Thursday night when citizens enjoyed Heppner's 20-entry light parade. Coming the longest distance were two entries from the Oregon National Guard. Their participation each year is appreciated. There were some magnificent entries. I'm told that the parade far surpassed the light parade of two much larger neighboring communities. The glitch was a malfunctioning speaker system, which needs to be replaced before the next parade. Congratulations to the winning entries.

And more sprinklings of this and that. The Chamber of Commerce will again sponsor the residential and business lighting contest. There will be a first and second prize given for best outdoor lighting; first and second prize for best indoor, as viewed from outside; the best festive business lighting display; and the Best Street in Town. Judging will take place Sunday evening, Dec. 19. Deck the halls.

Add some flavoring. It's time to recognize citizen, educator, business, youth, man and woman of the year. The forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce. Deadline is Dec. 17. It will take but a minute and then there will be no reason to say, "Why didn't I nominate..." These are the people helping others behind the scenes, working on events that you and your family enjoy, giving to others not for themselves but for the joy it brings, doing for their neighbors or young people, not for recognition but because they believe. 'Tis the season.

Toss in some fun. Town and Country is Thursday, Jan. 13. We need photos through the years depicting Heppner and the surrounding area: agriculture, school, buildings, changes, people, humorous, etc. Label them and bring them by the chamber office. You will be treated to 100 years of music, history and humor during a "Night To Remember."

All added together gives one and all the opportunity to "feast" on the opportunities of living in a small rural community, to celebrate and to count our blessings.

**Winners drawn in punch card contest**

Winners in this week's punch card contest were: Virginia Wilkinson a \$25 gift certificate to the Morrow County Grain Growers; Jay Keithley a \$25 gift certificate to Central Market; Karen Woodward to Les Schwab; and Marcy Miller a \$25 gift certificate to the Shoe Box.

There will be more winners drawn next week, so be sure to get your punch cards entered.

**Heppner businesses to be open Sundays**

Murray Drugs, Gardner's Men's Wear, Peterson's Jewelers, The Shoe Box and Coast to Coast will all be open the next two Sundays for Christmas shopping. The stores will be open from 12 noon until 4 p.m.

**Northwest Big Game, Inc.**  
*Record Book for Idaho Big Game*  
*Record Book for Oregon Big Game*  
*Record Book for Washington Big Game*

**ATTENTION HUNTERS!**  
 Coming to the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner, THIS WEEKEND, December 10th-12th:  
**TOUR OF THE NORTHWEST'S BIG GAME ANIMALS**  
*Some of the features in this year's display are:*  
 The Widest Mule Deer ever taken in Oregon, a whopping 46"!  
 The Largest Rocky Mountain Elk ever taken in Oregon  
 "Taft" the Bull from Wallowa Lake measuring 411 0/8 B.C.  
 The Montana State Record Non-Typical Mule Deer  
 Both the Oregon & Washington State Record Non-Typical Whitetail Deer  
 The Oregon State Record Typical Whitetail Deer  
 The World Record Columbia Whitetail Deer  
 Five of Oregon's Largest Non-Typical Mule Deer

**DO NOT MISS THIS SPECTACULAR DISPLAY!**  
**ADMISSION: \$3.00 Adults • Children 0-12 FREE**  
**THE DISPLAY WILL BE OPEN:**  
 Friday, December 10 - 3 p.m.- 8 p.m.  
 Saturday, December 11 - 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
 Sunday, December 12 - 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Don't forget to bring in your horns, heads or antlers to be measured free of charge by Boone and Crockett and Pope and Young official measurers. There is also a new Youth Division for hunters 12-17.

Also available at the show will be the newly released 2nd Edition of the *Record Book for Oregon's Big Game Animals*. It features over 3300 listings and over 400 photographs of Oregon's largest trophies.

**MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE SHOW!**

**FAX PAPER**  
 Gazette-Times • 676-9228

**Holidays... It's That Time of Year**

Open Sunday, Dec. 12th & 19th 12-4 p.m.  
 We will be serving refreshments: cookies, punch and coffee

Peterson's Jewellers  
 Heppner 676-9200

We have punch cards & are participating in Christmas Cash