

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the C-T office. The C-T reserves the right to edit. The C-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. (Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$7.)

HES fifth and sixth graders speak out

[Editor's Note: Fifth and sixth grade students from Heppner Elementary School wrote letters to the editor as part of class project. The subject of the letters range from ideas for the old pool to supporting our local businesses.]

To the Editor:

I think somebody from the Fish and Wildlife Society should clean up the creek. There are tons of tires and cans in the creek. The cans and tires are making the creek dirty.

The fish are dying because of the garbage in the creek. I think everybody who really like fish should pitch in.

Everybody will appreciate those who help clean the creek, especially the people who like to fish. So pitch in.
(s) Tomas Elguezabal Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Lindsay Cutsforth and I am a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary.

I'm writing because I think the community should try to donate money to try to get a clothes store in Heppner. We have to pay lots of money for gas to go to Hermiston, Pendleton or Tri-Cities just to get clothes. This is especially bad since the gas prices are \$2.50.

It would be nice if we could get a clothes store for women, kids and men. It would even be nice if Gardener's Men's Wear would have some kids clothes and a little bit more for women.

If the community did I'm sure a lot of people would appreciate it.

(s) Lindsay Cutsforth Lexington

To the Editor:

My name is Kyle Tayloe and I'm a student from Heppner Elementary School. I think it is cool how the community of Heppner supports our school. The magazine sale and bringing box tops to school are two of the ways the citizens of Heppner support HES.

I would like it if there was a shop that would open and all the money would go to the school. It could sell little toys or just even used stuff that people give to the shop. We could have new computers, playground balls and new black top.

This would help my siblings, the school, my

teachers and also me. I hope that this could happen so Heppner would be happier.

(s) Kyle Tayloe Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Colter Raver and I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary. I am writing to say I think we should do something with the old pool.

I was thinking that we should make it into a skateboard park. Then the kids with skateboards wouldn't get bored and have to ride on the street. They would have more fun and wouldn't do stuff they're not supposed to. It would be safer for pedestrians.

I would go to the skateboard park and have fun instead of riding around town.

(s) Colter Raver Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Donald Matthews and I go to school at Heppner Elementary. I was wondering why the City shut down the bike track? Many kids think that Heppner is boring and the bike track is a fun place to be. It was a great place to ride bikes with my friends.

The bike track used to be a bunch of weeds and dirt. What was the problem with weeds, dirt and a few hills? There was even grass growing in until the City destroyed it.

If everyone on that street hates the dust, the City should water it more and maybe grow some grass. If the City doesn't build another bike track or a fun place to play in the town it will be a little bit boring.

(s) Donald Matthews Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Jessica Hughes and I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary.

I have an idea to share with you all. You know the old pool at the front of town? On my gosh, it is so old and yucky. So let's do something with it. It's just sitting there doing nothing; nobody can use it like it is anyway. So let's change it.

Here's my idea: Let's make it into something. Actually we could make it into two things. A roller-skating rink in the spring, summer and fall and in the winter it could be an ice-skating rink. We would need equipment to repave it and put ice over it, but we would gain the money back from customers.

I think it would be a good recreation addition to the town of Heppner and would look a lot cleaner and nicer than that old rusty pool. Please think about the

idea. It would look really cool and be really fun.

(s) Jessica Hughes Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Emily Thompson and I'm a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School. The magazine sale at HES was a success. It raised about \$4000 for the Tupper Outdoor School Program.

I appreciate all of the money people gave towards Tupper. I am writing because I want to encourage more people to buy magazines or at least give some donations. If we don't raise about \$4000, the kids that are coming to sixth grade can't go to Tupper.

Tupper was awesome. I'll remember it forever. I really want the younger kids to go to Tupper and have great memories too. So please, help support Tupper Outdoor School. It would be horrible if it had to go.
(s) Emily Thompson Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Ashley Wolff and I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School. I am writing to inform you about an amazing program called the Great American Bake Sale.

This year, approximately 13 million kids in the United States alone are at risk for hunger. The Great American Bake Sale helps solve this by having kids all across the country hold bake sales and send all their proceeds into Share Our Strength. Share Our Strength then turns the money into grants for non-profit organizations fighting childhood hunger in the United States. Since it was started in 1984, Share Our Strength, or SOS, has raised and distributed more than \$74 million to anti-hunger organizations here and overseas.

I think that this is a wonderful program and I am trying to start a bake sale here. If anyone would like to help please contact me. I greatly appreciate all the help I can get.
(s) Ashley Wolff Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Ian Murray and I am a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary. I have always known that we have had a great community and strong businesses.

I can always go downtown and buy a delicious apple, fresh food, our medicine and lots of other things. We need people to keep these businesses running and the gas prices are high and we don't want to drive all the way to Hermiston just to get groceries. We had a shoe store, but it closed down because not enough business. I don't want that to happen to the stores that are left.

To the people that shop here in Heppner, I hope you continue to do so and the people that don't, I hope that you think about what I said.

(s) Ian Murray Heppner

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Devin Robinson and I am fifth grader at Heppner Elementary School and I am here to say that I appreciate all the people that ate at the Colt Soup Feed.

The feed helped us pay for things like pads, helmets and footballs. Some of those things help protect us like pads and helmets. I hope that next year more people will attend the feed. Because pads get old after a while and may not protect us.

I also appreciate the people that supported us during our Colt games, helped us fight on and take the victory. I appreciate everything our community has done for Colt Football.
(s) Devin Robinson Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Brynna Rust and I'm a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School.

I'm writing today because I think that the gas price is ridiculous. It's almost up to \$3. Ahhh. So, I thought of an idea how to help.

Maybe people can start walking more. I think people should start walking if they live in town. Or people could ride bikes. I saw a person who drove to the store when he lived right by it. I mean right by it. On the news recently, there has been a report that people spend more time in their cars than exercising. And that's one reason they've been overweight.

Here's another point. When people are driving in cars they just wave. I mean that's fine, but if you ride your bike, or walk, you can say hi and talk for a while. It would make the City of Heppner friendlier too. So park that car, save money and get in shape.
(s) Brynna Rust Echo

To the Editor:

My name is Jordan Hatfield and I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School. I'm writing to you today because I appreciate what the city did at that old vacant lot, which is now Heritage Plaza.

As you all know, I still go to the elementary school and I have to walk through the Plaza every day. It is nice to walk or ride through it. Plus, it is nice not to get chewed out for getting mud on the carpets at home and at school.

I'm also writing about the road to school. Quaid Street is the road I ride on. It think it would be easier for the kids walking on that street to put a better sidewalk in or a bike lane for the people riding bikes. It would help the drivers too. It will help the drivers because they won't have to stress out about the kids walking.
(s) Jordan Hatfield Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Araceli Zavala and I'm a sixth

grader at Heppner Elementary.

I have an idea that involves the Heppner Public Library. See the public library is really a cool place to be, but a lot of people don't seem to realize that. There you can do a lot of fun things like getting on the Internet and searching websites, watching and listening to music videos on the Internet and you can also learn a lot of things there. My point is that I hope people will take this into consideration and go to the library more often. Instead of just sitting at home watching TV, you can come to the library.

I hope people will do what I suggest and go to the library more often.

(s) Araceli Zavala Heppner

To the Editor:

My name is Brent Eckman and I'm a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School. I want to say that I appreciate all the donations for Diabetes Walk For the Cure. This walk is held each fall to raise money to fight this disease. You don't know how much I appreciate it.

When I was first diagnosed, I really wasn't thinking about finding a cure. But later on, I realized that I wanted to help find a cure because I didn't want kids to go through what I had to go through.

I hope next year that even more people will donate. To the ones who donated last year, I really appreciate your support.
(s) Brent Eckman Lexington

To the Editor:

My name is Joe Armato and I'm in the fifth grade at Heppner Elementary School.

Something happened a while ago, it was made by volunteers and now it has been torn down. Some of you may wonder what it is, well, it's the bike park. I used it every once and a while, but normally in the summer. Now that it is turning summer again, I wanted to use it and then a friend told me it was torn down.

Two days ago, I wanted to ride on it and then I remembered it was torn down. So, the city should either let kids have bikes on Main Street, so that we can ride around in other places or build another bike park.
(s) Joe Armato Heppner

To the Editor:

Hello, my name is Erin Price and I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School. I am pleased to say that I enjoy that Heppner looks so great. Downtown Heppner looks wonderful and so does the new Heritage Park. But there is one thing that I would wish the City would do next... the old swimming pool.

I am not sure what the Heppner workers are working on since Heritage Park is finally finished. I heard it would be a skating park, which is a good idea since the bike trail was flattened.

I want to remind everyone that I appreciate all the hard work on Heppner. It's the best looking town in Oregon.
(s) Erin Price Heppner

To the Editor:

I love the way Heppner supports

everything. We are a strong small town that holds together. I've noticed that Heppner has supported anything from someone's new idea to the 2A baseball championship.

Take last year for instance, there were more people from Heppner that attended the Grid Kids football championship than there were from Hermiston. Or how almost every sports fan in Heppner goes to the regular season games. Or the new Heritage Park, it was probably someone's idea that we supported.

But we can't forget the volunteers that make it happen. That's why I would like to suggest some kind of day that would honor the volunteers of Heppner. Because without them Heppner would never be the way it is.

(s) Justin Gutierrez Heppner

To the Editor:

I would like to congratulate the City of Heppner and all the groups that made Heritage Plaza happen. They took an icky lot and made it into a really neat park. The equipment from the Ag Museum shows the history of our area.

This shows that when people decide to work together, things can happen. Heppner has a lot of city pride and I'm proud to live in a place where people are proud of their town.

(s) Kellee Jones Heppner

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Matt Hams and I'm currently going to Heppner Elementary School. I wrote this letter to talk to you about the creek.

The creek is very dirty, people treat it like a trash can. There are lots of things that could hurt somebody and it is almost summer, so lots of kids are going to be down there fishing and rafting.

So, I think we should get some volunteers to clean up the creek and make it safe for kids and fish.

(s) Matt Hams Heppner

To the Editor:

Sometimes I get bored in the middle of the summer so I have made a list of 10 things to do this summer:

- 1) Play basketball.
- 2) Go swimming.
- 3) Have a paint ball war.
- 4) Go bike riding.
- 5) Play baseball.
- 6) Play football.
- 7) Play with your friends.
- 8) Work for senior citizens (Call 676-5927).
- 9) Play with your dog.
- 10) Last but definitely not least, read a book.

Hope you don't get bored.

(s) Kyle Vanderwalker Heppner


To the Editor:

Lately, I have noticed that people are driving too fast in Heppner while kids are outside playing near the road. I think that the drivers need to watch how fast they are going.

The drivers also need to see how fast they should go on streets that are close to the schools. If they don't stop going so fast, one of these days a kid is going to get ran over.

(s) Hollie Whatley Heppner

continued page 5



BURNING BAN

Effective June 25, 2004, the Fire Chief of the City of Heppner is imposing a **CLOSED SEASON** for open burning based on local fire safety concerns. **This burning ban is for the City of Heppner.** A reminder that open burning also includes a "burn barrel." The closed season will remain in effect until further notice this fall as per ORS 478.960.

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