

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. The GT 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 \$10.

Recall not handled properly

To the editor:
First let me introduce myself. I am Lexington councilmember, Bill Beard. I've been on the Lexington town council off and on for a number of years. Recently I've had a city employee of whom I was a supervisor bring a recall against me on charges that I single handedly brought on the city closure in July. I didn't know I had that much power. It was actually brought on by the current mayor disregarding all previous protocol.

He is also claiming, and I quote, "He has caused a hostile workplace if he argues with him or doesn't do what he wants, legal or otherwise." Let me translate this. If I threaten to write him up for blatantly lying to me or not doing his job this is a hostile work environment. I'm sorry. I thought this was a supervisor's job to make sure things are done properly. Also legal or otherwise means something he doesn't want to do. I would like an explanation of anything illegal I have asked him to do. The current mayor has informed him and the council that he shouldn't need a supervisor. So he obviously wants anyone who can give orders out of the way. He also told a town citizen not to over his head to the council members because they can't do anything. Really? Last time I checked they are legally still his boss. Has all that changed? Looks like a serious case of ego here.

I believe in my heart that the town of Lexington has more good people who can see through the temper tantrum of a disgruntled city employee who has a vendetta over doing his job and wants anyone out of the way who may give him orders or hurt his fragile ego. Secondly, we have the handling of the recall paperwork and the way they went about informing me. The rules are that you have five days to respond to a recall

from the date of the letter in order to have your response on the ballot. I have to give them credit when it comes to corrupt, it was handled in true Kate Brown form. The letter was dated Thursday, August 28, day #1; postmarked Friday, 29, day #2. You can't get mail Saturday, Sunday or Monday (Labor Day), day #5. So when I picked up the letter Tuesday at somewhere around 4 p.m., my time for a response had expired. Very well played, kudos to the team for hamstringing me. Not only this but the charges to respond to were not included with the letter. It was just a letter stating I had a recall against me and five days to respond. It wasn't even signed by anyone (weird).

As to what I was supposed to respond to I didn't know, so Wednesday morning I asked what the charges were. It took them another day after that to respond with only a partial cover of what was going on. This has been a valuable lesson on working the system and corruption.

I would like very much to point out the problems all started with the new mayor and her Kate Brown speech on having a transparent city government (transparent as mud at this time). This mayor has caused more division and fighting among everyone involved and refuses to work with the town council and firmly believes that all the power sits with the mayor and the council is merely a thorn in her side and only there to agree with her.

So I ask the citizens of Lexington, as a councilmember and a neighbor, when you vote please think about honesty and the corrupt tactics used in this recall. I am very concerned for the future of Lexington and its good citizens.

Sincerely,
Bill Beard
Lexington councilmember

A View from the Green

Golfers hold cross country event

Willow Creek Country Club Men's Play hosted 25 golfers at their playday on Sept. 15 for a cross country event.

Dallas Harsin finished first in net with a score of 69 and Charlie Ferguson was second with 73. A tie for third was between Jeff Cutsforth and Gary Prophet with 75.

Greg Grant took first in gross with 75, Matt Bergstrom second with 79 and John McCabe was third

with 89. A fourth-place tie with a score of 90 went to Josh Coiner and Kelly Fox.

Dave Gunderson got KP on number one, Greg Grant on number eight and another on number 17.

This event was the last for the 2019 season. The award for participation and performance, the Buck Cup, was awarded to Charlie Ferguson. David Creswick was second and Gene Orwick was third.

Over the Tee Cup

Eighteen Willow Creek Country Club ladies played in their weekly playday on September 10 under cloudy and wet skies.

Low gross of the field went to Nancy Prophet. Low net winners were Karen Haguewood and Bunnie Lindsay. Least putts of the field went to Betty Burns.

Flight A low gross was Karen Thompson. Eva Kilkenny had least putts and Karen Thompson had the long drive.

Flight B low gross winner was Pat Edmundson and Tiffany Clement got low net. Pat Dougherty got the least putts and Karen Haguewood got long drive.

Sharon Harrison and Bev Steagall took low gross on flight C. Low net went to Betty Carter and Kris Lindner. Least putts went to Lorrene Montgomery and Sharon Harrison made the longest drive.

Longest putt winner was Kris Lindner.

Heppner youth experience Umatilla National Forest through employment

As part of a long-standing tradition, the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon (CAPECO), in partnership with the Heppner Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest, employed five Morrow County youth to complete important project work on the National Forest this summer.

This program is possible through a grant from the Oregon Youth Conservation Corp (OYCC). This grant allows CAPECO to hire a small group of young adults (ages 16-21) during the summer months to assist with a variety of tasks on the Heppner Ranger District over a six-week period. This summer four young adults and one crew lead were hired for the group.

OYCC is a program designed to emulate the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) of the 1930s, which was started by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as part of his New Deal in

1933. The CCC hired unmarried men, ages 18-25 that had difficulty finding jobs during the Great Depression into conservation and development jobs on the nation's public lands. OYCC shares a similar mission in empowering youth by providing outdoor work and stewardship experiences throughout Oregon.

OYCC crew members spend their summer learning about career development, natural resources, multiple uses on the Forest, and real job opportunities within the Forest Service. As part of CAPECO's mission the program is designed to also provide youth the skills needed to succeed in their communities and as part of the workforce in the future. The crew lead assesses the youth on 10 transferable soft skills, such as problem solving and attendance.

"These are skills that are crucial for youth to have as they move into the

Pathfinder Club registration open

Pathfinders are a worldwide club of young people sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, though young people of any religious persuasion, or none at all, are welcome and encouraged to join the club. The local club is the Oregon Trail Pathfinders and is sponsored by the Heppner SDA Church for children who are 10 years and older.

Pathfinders offer a wide range of activities including, but not limited to:

-Camping and camping/survival skills.

-Grade appropriate leadership training.

-Activities promoting community pride and involvement through outreach activities such as helping in downtown soup kitchens, collecting food for the disadvantaged, cleaning

and maintaining city and county parks, visiting and encouraging the elderly and many more.

-Interactive training in a variety of recreational, artistic, nature, conservation, vocational and outreach areas, with awards (honors) given for successful completion of the interactive training modules.

-Personal care and encouragement by a caring staff member.

Those who are interested and would like to see what it is like or have any questions are invited to come to the club registration nights, Monday, Sept. 16 and Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. at the Heppner SDA Church, 560 Minor Street, Heppner. For additional information call Cynthia at 541-561-9132.

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season for our Trophy Corner. Stop by to have your picture taken, drop off photos, mail them to PO Box 337 in Heppner, email them to editor@rapidsolve.net or text cell phone photos to 541-980-6674.



Freshman conferences scheduled

Heppner High School will be conducting freshman conferences on Wednesday, September 25. The conferences will focus on the partnership between HHS staff, parents and students. Conferences will begin at 6 p.m., with parents attending with their child.

"This conference format of meeting with each parent at the beginning of their high school journey has proven to be very effective. We strive to have great working relationships with all parties to create the best possible outcomes for our students to succeed," stated Matt Combe, HHS Principal.

For additional information contact Heppner High School.

Ione Library board to meet

The monthly meeting of the Ione Library District's Board of Directors will be held Monday, September 23 at 6 p.m. at the Ione Public Library, 385 W. Second Street.

A safety committee meeting will be held after the regular board meeting. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend both meetings.

REVERSING DIABETES SEMINAR

6 WEEK WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 2 - NOVEMBER 6
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 6:00 PM
HEPPNER SDA CHURCH
WORKBOOKS ARE \$45 PER PERSON/\$60 COUPLE
CALL TO REGISTER (541) 561-9132

1/2 OFF WORKBOOKS WITH THIS COUPON

BURN BAN LIFTED

THE BURNING BAN HAS BEEN LIFTED FOR THE CITY OF HEPPNER

Burn Permits purchased before September 16th 2019 are no longer valid

HEPPNER ELKS 358
"WHERE FRIENDS MEET"
541-676-9181 142 N MAIN ST

HUNTER'S NIGHT
Thursday, September 26th
Beef Ribs
Cole Slaw
Garlic Bread

Drawings for prizes
Dinner at 6:30pm
Members Only