

# A View from the Hill

By Doris Brosnan

October ended with enjoyable Halloween activities at Willow Creek Terrace. With appropriate door decorations and the carved pumpkins the residents had created, they awaited and then greeted the brave trick-or-treaters who ventured up to the hill community. Numbers of little ghosts, goblins, princesses, heroes and others were higher this year, and the residents who sat by their apartment doors with treats were delighted with the parade of revelers.

With that holiday that is geared toward the young-at-heart behind them, the residents turned their thoughts toward Thanksgiving. They have now been working on the painting of Thanksgiving-themed wall signs. A festive day to look forward to, as well as the traditional feast they will enjoy.

As the community discusses reasons for giving thanks, they always think of their neighbors nearby. So, the kitchen staff is preparing for the "Tie One On" activity enjoyed each November, this year on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Each neighbor receives a loaf of the Terrace bread with a note thanking them for being such good neighbors.

Of course, the residents and staff will be thankful when some new employees join their ranks, hopefully in time for these two months of holiday festivities. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact the Terrace at 541-676-0004 or to come by with their questions.

Everyone is glad the "Welcome" mat is serving a purpose: On Monday, they welcomed Sandi Hanna, a long-time Heppner resident who has recently returned to join the community. And they expect to welcome another familiar face this week. As some wise person probably said in the distant past, "There's always room for one more," which seems to hold true at the Terrace. One more apartment is presently available. Interested persons can inquire by calling or coming by.

An added bonus this month is that Flossie Watkins will close out the month of November with her birthday celebration on the 30<sup>th</sup>, to which all her neighbors will be invited.

As the weather changes to chilly, the Community on the Hill can stay toasty while still socializing at the various in-house activities and games, and they seem to view this fact as a definite bonus to life at the Terrace.

## How MCSD decides about closures

-Continued from PAGE ONE

weather, the district consistently checks for updates to help determine school delay/closure decisions.

-Oregon Department of Transportation—the district has regular communication with ODOT to receive specific road updates. These start as early as 3 a.m. and provide specifics regarding the state roads.

-County Road Department—MCSD is contact with the county road department to get updates before 5 a.m. to decide about full-day cancellations and before 8 a.m. for potential cancellations after a three-hour delay. They provide specifics on county roads, which can vary by geographical location.

"What we have discovered over the past couple of years is that there is a vast difference in a 2-Hour Delay and a 3-Hour Delay," the website states. "The 3-Hour Delay is a tremendous benefit, allowing us to assess the situation and make decisions after there is more daylight, with the

## BEO announces dividend for 2022

"I am pleased to announce that the board of directors of BEO Bancorp has voted to declare a one dollar per share dividend for 2022. The dividend will be paid to shareholders of record as of December 9, 2022; payable on or before December 15, 2022," said President and CEO Jeff Bailey.

According to Board Chairman Brad Anderson, "BEO Bancorp has paid a dividend 36 of the past 37 years. Dividends reflect the financial stability and profitability of the bank. We are very happy to be able to provide this dividend to our

## Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace Glen Diehl has released the following report:

-Jacob B. Roy, 40, of Heppner was cited for Violating the Basic Rule and fined \$165.

-Michael D. Lynch, 64, of Heppner was cited for Dog as a Public Nuisance and fined \$265.

-Chris A. Jackson, 34, of Heppner was cited for Dog as a Public Nuisance and fined \$265.

-Continued from PAGE THREE

these qualities every single day, and as Morrow County's commissioner she has done more of the same. To me these qualities are the reason she was elected to serve in the first place. Since day one as commissioner, I have seen firsthand her overwhelming dedication to the county. Now that doesn't mean she always made the decision that pleased everyone—in some cases, the opposite. But that dedication to the county and her voters meant she had to weigh many elements and make the hard decisions. Through those hard decisions and instances where she faced backlash, one thing has stayed the same. The county has always come first and will continue to come first given the opportunity to serve out the remainder of the term.

My mother has done nothing but serve the county to the best of her ability and a recall of this nature sets a bad precedent that's damaging to the future of this county. As Melissa's son and one of her biggest supporters, I ask that we as a county let our original vote stand and show up in support at the upcoming vote.

Jacob Lindsay  
Lexington, OR

## Doherty and Lindsay have done the right thing

To the Editor:

First of all, I'd like to thank commissioners Jim Doherty and Melissa Lindsay for doing their jobs. It's why we voted for them in the first place. I'd like to address Carol Mitchell and Ann Spicer-Kuhn for starting a petition to get these two recalled. They did this because the commissioners were responsible for firing the former county administrator, Darrell Green, because he didn't do his job. The commissioners did the right thing, getting rid of him. As previous Gazette articles have shown, Darrell Green was forewarned numerous times to change his actions and he intentionally didn't. This is all publicly recorded. Now, the county is looking at a \$750,000 lawsuit from someone that didn't do his job and was rightly fired. It doesn't make any sense. Of course, we have already paid his wife, who also didn't do her job correctly. In the private sector, if you don't do your job, you don't get paid. Maybe the county/governmental sector ought to follow the same suit quickly.

I would also like to point out that Commissioner Lindsay has done more for the community than the two women who led the recall petition have ever done. As a matter of fact, I've never seen these two do anything at the community-level outside of this recall, which is costing the county between \$15,000-\$20,000.

Commissioner Lindsay has brought a multitude of funds to the county and specifically to Heppner. I would have wished that prominent recall figures, who gathered pages of signatures for the recall, understood the profound impact that Commissioner Lindsay has had in Heppner before letting personal and self-interested bias cloud his judgment. We are now recalling the two commissioners who are not implicated in a larger ethics investigation. It seems that the recall

group mentioned above—Ann and Coral are pawns who are either blindly or intentionally distracting Morrow County citizens from the larger issue of other elected officials' corruption.

Vote no on the recall. Support commissioners Melissa Lindsay and Jim Doherty on a job well done. It just makes sense.

Jay Coil  
Heppner, OR

## Russell will gain from recall

No one has more to gain from this county commissioner recall than Commissioner Don Russell. Russell is chair of the Columbia River Enterprise Zone (CREZ 2) which determines who receives the \$10,000,000 yearly tax abatement from Amazon. CREZ 3 is in the process of establishing the new tax abatement for the six new Amazons coming to Morrow County. The CREZ 3 board, all from Boardman (two from the Port, two from the city of Boardman, and two from the county commissioners) have without precedent stalled all negotiation with Amazon until Missy Lindsay is either recalled or off the board of commissioners Jan. 1, 2023. This is unacceptable.

Commissioners Lindsay and Doherty have publicly stated they will require a better deal from Amazon, which includes bonding, something Umatilla County has already been granted, largely because of Lindsay's uncompromising stand for Morrow County. Lindsay and Doherty have also confronted Russell over continual conflict of interest decisions votes he makes for the benefit of himself (CEO of Windwave for instance, that continues to contract all Amazon fiber optics) and those that benefit from his political power.

This is the reason Russell orchestrated the recall frenzy. If Doherty and Lindsay are recalled, Russell will control Morrow County. His buddy Darrel Green will get a massive settlement at taxpayer expense. Boardman Fire Chief Hughes will get the Ambulance Transport License that he has publicly refused to apply for through the required Established Documented Need. Amazon will get another sweetheart deal and county taxpayers will be stuck with the bill. Why go through the proper channels when Hughes can use his public position to convince the public lives will be lost without this license? Hughes and those that support his agenda will ruin the funding for the Morrow County ambulance service, putting all Morrow County in jeopardy of ambulance service. Make your voice heard. Our way of life and liberty is at stake.

Stuart Dick  
Irrigon, OR

## Focus on the good Lindsay has done

There are many quality traits to describe Melissa Lindsay, but one that sticks out foremost at this time is integrity. Melissa has lived by this standard her entire life, built on family roots. She gives more than 100 percent in doing what is right for our county and communities. She is one of the hardest-working people we know, who dedicates countless hours as a public servant and as a community

volunteer making sure the citizens of Morrow County have the best quality of life to live and work in. Melissa educates herself and asks deep questions to get to the core of

the issue. Some of these questions may not set well with others, but that's why she is elected—to ask the hard questions. We respect that as part of her duties.

We should be focusing on all the good she has brought to the table. For us, one that stands out is how she cares for local small businesses and their successes. She was instrumental in putting together a partnership with Tillamook for business grants for those effected by COVID. This is what she does; she hears the needs and finds solutions. We appreciate her hard work at accomplishing what's best for the citizens of Morrow County. We believe both Melissa and Jim Doherty have been completely transparent in disproving the allegations of this recall.

Please join us today in voting no on the recall.

Mark and Jan Hudleston  
Heppner, OR

## Vote no on recall

To the Editor:

The letters (to the editor) are indicative of the support of Jim Doherty and Melissa Lindsay. They've worked hard and deserve better than what they've got.

Missy has lived here her whole life. She follows through with what she says she's going to do.

I'm voting "no" on the recall.

Kelly Boyer  
Lexington, OR

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