

~ 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 \$15. Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

To my Morrow County communities

I am writing to encourage you to vote yes on Measure 25-97, to renew the Morrow County Health District operating levy and help ensure long-term essential health services are available locally for all people who live in Morrow County. Because this election cycle doesn't involve statewide or national candidates/issues, you may dismiss the importance of voting, but in fact, this election will have a significant impact on our family, friends, and communities. A yes vote will renew the five-year local option tax, with a tax rate the same as it was 15 years ago when it was initiated (\$.39/\$1,000 assessed property value) to support home health and hospice, emergency services, hospital and support services, extended care nursing, senior living solutions, preventive care, education, complementary and community benefit services, and rural health clinics, just to name a few. The Health District was created by individuals who had the incredible foresight to safeguard essential services when hundreds of communities were losing access to health services throughout our nation. The MCHD co-exists with other care providers and community partners to ensure a safety net of health services is available to all of us throughout the county, but most importantly, our most vulnerable populations - older adults, military veterans, people with disabilities or chronic health conditions, people of color and people with lower-incomes. Morrow County looks similar to 27 other rural and frontier communities in Oregon which created health districts - 17 located east of the Cascades. This is not coincidental - the need for the existence of special districts is greatest in rural areas. This resource model is not dissimilar to the way we finance any program that supports much of the public good - federal in-

terstate highways, public safety, state and county roads, public education, fire protection, water resource management, or Medicare and Social Security. Revenue is collected and pooled to ensure the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

I feel extremely fortunate to have access to local health care and I chose to use and support local services to guarantee they are available when illness or injury arises for anyone in our county. Please show your support with a yes vote. Ballots must be mailed or deposited in local drop boxes by November 7, 2023.

Andrea Fletcher
Lexington, OR

Vote Yes on Measure 25-97

I am writing this letter to urge Morrow County residents to Vote Yes on Measure 25-97. The continuation of funding of services should be of the utmost importance to all residents of Morrow County, regardless of geography.

In the past several years, there has been concern about some of our communities becoming a "Food Desert." I think citizens should be concerned about the possibility of our county becoming a "Health Desert," if funding for the Morrow County Health District is removed. We live in a rural county where many residents have limited options. MCHD provides services to our schools, communities, and home-bound individuals. They also provide employment for over 200 individuals, each earning livable wages.

An important fact with this measure is that it is not a new tax or even an increase in the existing tax. This measure ensures funding for the next five years at the present rate. Morrow County has the lowest tax rates in our region, at times less than half of neighboring health districts. For example, we pay less than 47% of what residents in the Blue Mountain Health District pay.

There has been a lot of rhetoric regarding MCHD over the past several years, and it has increased recently. I do not think that anything in its current state is perfect. There is room for improvement. However, eliminating the funding source would have a detrimental effect on all of our communities. We need to avoid emotion leading us to a slippery slope where we lose many services (if not all.)

I ask you to vote "Yes on Measure 25-97."

Sincerely,
John Doherty
Heppner, OR

How to Be Queen

If I had a mind to be Queen of Planet Earth... there would be a few things, I'd have to set in place first. It's kind of like getting all the ingredients together before you bake a cake. And just in case you'd like to try your hand at ruling the planet... here is my "recipe" book, "Ten Steps to Becoming Queen".

Establish credibility. This might require some work. It includes trashing, ridiculing, and demeaning anyone who disagrees with you. Help from the news media is really your best bet here.

Create fear. People are way easier to control when they're afraid. Climate Change is an awesome tool and super effective, but you might want to bring back COVID, just in case. Once again, look to the news media for help with this.

Create dependence: This is very important. Dependence = control. Start with a lot of hand-outs. Make them feel it's well-deserved. Promoting a victim mentality will help facilitate this.

Get rid of God: But denying His existence isn't enough. You really need to aim at anything He has established as truth. In fact, make truth negotiable. "My truth, your truth" catchphrase is a fantastic tool.

Create vulnerability. This is easy when people are convinced of two

things: a) The Queen will protect them. b) Defending themselves makes them just as bad as the one trying to harm them...preferably worse. Any masculine behavior of biological males (desire to protect themselves or their families) should be dismissed and disparaged as Toxic Masculinity and/ or Far Right Terrorism.

Establish human value criteria. Each subject's value is solely based on their contribution to your kingdom. To make this more palatable, "Pro-lifers" need to be painted as radical religious nuts who are dangerous to their neighbors. Both abortions and euthanasia need to be seen as compassionate "solutions".

Create a new morality. Anything God-related (Ten Commandments, the Bible) should be ousted. Recycling, the correct use of pronouns, all forms of the alphabet people, and/or sexual perversion... This is the new norm and needs to be totally acceptable.

Find lots of useful idiots. You can never have too many of these. You can easily find these folks in the news media business. Also... Look in Congress. There is a plethora of them there.

While you are establishing your kingdom, place one of these useful idiots in "power". Make sure he knows how to read a teleprompter. The ability to manage stairs is helpful but not a necessity. It's imperative that he has mastered the following step (10).

Learn how to lie believably. This may be the most important ingredient. It really makes all the other ingredients easier to work with. It's basically considered "leavening". Once you've got this down... just have fun with it. See how absurd you can be with your "stories". You'll find people will believe anything if they think it's the cool thing. It's hilarious.

Well, that's about it. I hope this helps if you ever have the desire to be Queen of your planet.
By Susie Crosby

Mustang Volleyball

-Continued from PAGE ONE



Ava Gerry #10 sets the ball for a Mustang spike. - Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti

Maya Payne: 6 kills, 16 assists, 3 digs. Hallee Hisler: 5 kills, 13 digs, 1 ace, 4 blocks. Morgan Cutsforth: 6 kills, 17 digs, 2 aces. Katie Spivey: 14 digs. Avree Lathrop: 1 ace, 1 block.

Heppner vs. Stanfield: Lost, 1-3. 22-25, 14-25, 25-18, 23-25. Stats: Ava Gerry: 16 kills, 17 assists,

15 digs, 2 aces, 2 blocks. Maya Payne: 10 kills, 17 assists, 11 digs, 2 blocks. Hallee Hisler: 9 kills, 14 digs, 3 blocks. Morgan Cutsforth: 6 kills, 20 digs, 1 block. Katie Spivey: 29 digs, 1 ace. Olivia Ogden: 7 digs. Avree Lathrop: 1 dig, 1 block, 1 ace.

Veterans Celebration Day at Heppner High School Nov. 9th

Please join us at Heppner High School Gym on November 9th, 2023, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. as we celebrate Veterans Day. We extend a special invitation to all servicemen, veterans, and their spouses to join us for this occasion. Following the celebration, lunch will be provided.

We also encourage the

public to attend and join us in honoring our brave servicemen and veterans. Let's come together as a community to show our gratitude and appreciation for their sacrifices.

We look forward to seeing you at Heppner High School Gym on November 9th, 2023, for this meaningful event.

Boardman Planning Commission Vacancy to be filed Nov. 7th

The city of Boardman has two vacancies on the Planning Commission. The City is seeking interested parties that live within the Boardman City limits or, for one of the positions, in the 97818 Zip Code. With one term ending December 31st, 2024, and the other ending December 31st, 2025.

The position will be appointed in a City Council meeting on November 7th, 2023 with the first Plan-

ning Commissions meeting scheduled for November 15th, 2023. The Planning Commission is made up of seven members appointed by the City Council and is a permanent advisory board to the council on matters related to planning and development. More information on the Planning Commission can be found at <http://www.cityofboardman.com/pc/page/planningcommission>.

FBLA Pie Sale Available until Nov. 8th

Once again, the Heppner High School FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) is starting their annual pie sale. Pie forms are now available and will continue until November 8th. If you would like to place an order, call Heppner High School and ask for Mrs. Collins or you can have a FBLA member bring you a form. They

will be selling Lemon Ice Box, Berry, Apple, Cherry, Pumpkin, and Peach for \$22 each and an Oreo pie for \$15. All the pies except for Pumpkin will be frozen. The Pumpkin Pies will be baked the morning of Monday, November 20th. All the pies will be delivered November 20th - 21st just in time to be put on your table for Thanksgiving!

Co.Starters Four Night Business Bootcamp in November

CO.STARTERS Bootcamp is a four-part plan for bringing your business to life. You'll work collaboratively with peers to strategize, problem-solve, and apply business basics to your idea or venture. It is facilitated by Brad Attig with Foundry Collective and Reinventing Rural. This workshop spans four evenings in November, not including the week of Thanksgiving (1st, 8th, 15th, and 29th) from 5p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Gilliam and Bisbee building. You

must be committed and attendance at all four of the sessions is necessary. Drinks and light snacks will be provided. There is no cost to attend, but seats are limited, so you need to register in advance. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/BootcampHeppner> This workshop is funded by a generous grant from Hepper Community Foundation, Reinventing Rural, and technical assistance funds allocated to rural communities by the Oregon Legislature through Business Oregon.

WWW.HEPPNER.NET
SUBMIT NEWS, ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
SEND US PHOTOS
START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION

PROTECT

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.

FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty
A \$795 Value!

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(877) 557-1912

GENERAC

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

SUBMIT NEWS, ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SEND US PHOTOS
START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION

BIRTHRIGHT

Birthright of Morrow County will be having a 3-year anniversary dinner with a speaker on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 5:00 pm. The dinner will be held at St. Patrick's Parish Hall. The meal will be homemade lasagna, salad, garlic bread, brownies and ice cream. Tickets are \$20.00 per person or \$35.00 a couple. If you have questions or would like to purchase tickets, please call us at 541-676-0530. You can purchase tickets in advance or pay at the door. Please come out and support us!

BUCKNUM'S TAVERN
146 N Main Street
Heppner
541-676-5274

Lunch & Dinner Menu

Specials 10/26 - 11/1

Thursday - PB&J Stuffed cinnamon French toast, sausage, and breakfast bar \$9
Friday - Turkey BLT on sourdough with cheese curds \$9
Saturday - soup is chicken dumpling
Live Music starting around 8pm
Prizes for best costumes
Monday - 1/4lb patty melt with baked beans \$9
Tuesday - Captains Seafood platter and a cup of clam chowder \$11
Tuesday night 6-9pm \$2 hard shell taos
 Wednesday Tuna Casserole, roll, an green beans \$9 or \$7 for seniors