

~ 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.

Drotzmann for State Senate

With the May primary election fast approaching, we as voters have the opportunity to elect a leader who will bring fiscal responsibility and business-friendly policies to Oregon politics. That is why I am supporting Dave Drotzmann for state Senator. Everyday expenses like groceries, medication, and housing are concerns for all Oregonians. We need leaders in Salem who will hold our government accountable for every dollar that is received and spent.

During his time as Hermiston mayor, Dave has overseen investments to grow the city's economy, those investments have produced more family-wage jobs for citizens to thrive.

Dave shows up and is capable and ready to tackle tough challenges. He brings with him an attitude of working together, listening, and a genuine curiosity for those things that he would like to know more about. The region we live in, and that Dave will represent, can be a challenge given our population and the special needs that we face. Dave understands this and is willing to put in the time and energy to ensure the voices of our region are heard in Salem.

Dave and I have visited on several occasions, and I have asked some tough questions. Dave, I have decided that he is the best candidate for this position. The people in our community whom I respect and admire for their leadership and working together on challenging issues are on the list of Dave's supporters as well.

Debbie Radie Resident, Volunteer, Parent, and Business Leader in the Region for over 30 years.

"New allegations" Rebuttal

This letter is a rebuttal of Gazette-Times "New allegations emerge beyond original BOC recall petition." (Chris Sykes 3/3/24) In an attempt to justify the allegations against me the G.T. contacted BOC Commissioners David Sykes, Jeff Wenholz, Roy Drago, and previous BOC Commissioner Don Russell. According to David Sykes, "the true reason for this recall is his need for vengeance over the last recall... Do not be part of one man's personal lust for vengeance over the past." (G.T. 3/3/24)

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to these allegations after being censored from writing letters in the G.T. In addition to allegations against me a number of complaints, excuses, and allegations were made against previous BOC Commission's Jim Doherty and Melissa Lindsay.

It is unfortunate and ill-advised that the G.T. did not reach out to previous Commissioners Doherty and Lindsay or me to provide both sides of this debate/controversy raging in our county. I established a Facebook page on 1/16/24 called "Morrow County Citizens for Liberty and Justice." I have written 47 editorial posts on that page since Jan. 16 copiously and comprehensively explaining and documenting the motivation behind the recall. These posts are available to the G.T. and all citizens to review, study, debate, and/or challenge what the G.T. calls "my

true reason behind the recall effort." (G.T. 3/3/24) I organized five public debates in every city in Morrow County "trying to find a solution with our BOC." (G.T. 3/3/24)

My true reason for the recall is well documented. "We do not want to have to do another recall. We do not want to go through this again." (East Oregonian, Berit Thorson, 2/6/24) I made it crystal clear at all five Morrow County meetings my motive for these debates was "to find solutions." (G.T. 3/3/24) "If he (Stuart) learns his understanding of the situation is wrong and people are happy with the Commissioners decisions, he will not proceed with filing a petition for a recall." (E.O. Thorson, 2/6/24) Commissioner Wenholz never bothered to show up and Commissioner Drago made one and a half meetings. We conducted a vote after each meeting that documented 70% to 30% in favor of recall.

I stand behind "Commissioner Russell orchestrated the lynch mob against Doherty and Lindsay. That disgraceful manipulated recall is a main reason for this recall." This statement came from a personal response to one individual on Facebook that the G.T. chose instead of any of the 47 posts I have written regarding my well-documented motivation. I have documented why and how that recall was manipulated. If challenged I will write another post on my Facebook page and the Gazette Times. The issue here is not the manipulated recall but my motivation "for this recall." I started Morrow County Citizens for Liberty and Justice in part because justice and liberty was not served in the recall of two fine Commissioners. It is ludicrous and dishonest for Commission David Sykes to use a front page "news" story to accuse me of initiating this recall for revenge. My motives for this recall are clearly documented and it is shameful for David Sykes to express his opinion of me as news. In the future, David use an editorial opinion page like the rest of us.

I will once more succinctly state my motivation for this recall including what has been documented.

1) Boardman control of the Morrow County ASA ambulance system will cause continued turmoil and endanger citizen welfare and empower Boardman to pull out of MVHD tax Levey. 2) BOC 85% Amazon tax abatements will only enrich the Boardman agenda (CREZ, Port of Morrow, BRFD, Boardman City Council) and provide no property tax relief and rob tax funds from our aging schools and city/county resources. 3) The BOC decision to DONATE 2500 acres of the most valuable industrial land in Oregon (worth over a billion dollars at \$500,000 per acre) to the Port of Morrow is grounds for recall. 4) The BOC debacle of the Circuit Courthouse (only rodeo site or Boardman) is 100% on Commissioners. 5) The fate of Pioneer Memorial Hospital, south-end clinics, Hospice, and Home Health are all in jeopardy because of the Boardman agenda of the BOC. 6) Much more:

In conclusion, Chris Sykes and his staff have provided fair and balanced coverage of this raging

battle for liberty and justice for Morrow County: until now. Heppner and Morrow County need the Gazette-Times, just like they need Pioneer Memorial, all health clinics, dependable ambulance service, fair distribution of CDA property, tax abatements that benefit all of Morrow County not just the Boardman (CREZ, BRFD, Boardman city). Our present BOC do not serve or listen to the citizens of Morrow County and they are putting the welfare of our very way of life (Hospital, clinics, ambulance, County Seat, property tax) in jeopardy. The people deserve a vote to retain a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

Stuart Dick, Irrigon, Or

Drotzmann for Oregon Senate

I support Dave Drotzmann for Oregon Senate District 29. I first met Dave when we served together on the Hermiston School District Board of Directors, more than 20 years ago. Since then, I have seen his commitment to our Eastern Oregon values through his leadership as Mayor of Hermiston, his involvement, commitment, and leadership within the League of Oregon Cities and in many other capacities like supporting high school sports, raising funds for the local football/track stadium, or helping to raise funding to build the new Funland Playground. He not only understands the importance of our natural resources to the economy, stability, and livability of our region, but also sees the value of our food, fiber, and energy to support our state and country. He also supports the rights of gun ownership, believes government should be held accountable for every dollar spent, and He is Prolife as well, which is important to me.

During these past 20 years I have seen a man with the passion to serve. He is thoughtful, creative, honest, and hardworking. He thinks out of the box, is collaborative, and a very good problem solver, all characteristics sorely needed in Salem these days. He will be a strong voice for eastern Oregon, and he will represent Eastern Oregon exceptionally well. For those and many other reasons please join me in voting for Dave Drotzmann for Senate District 29

Philip Hamm, Hermiston, Oregon.

Going for the jugular

I am an EMT and quilter. Not to brag, but I'd say I'm pretty good with a needle. So, when the opportunity presented itself to start an IV on my beloved Rosie Cow, my response was "sure, can't be that hard".

One thing that didn't enter my mind immediately was the fact that my patient would not share the same opinion. Apparently, my golden reputation with a needle had not reached her yet. But she was in need of immediate medical attention which included an IV, and a couple shots. But let me go back just a bit.

Rosie is normally a very healthy specimen. But that was before the unexpected April event; the one that was not supposed to happen for another 4 months.

Ok, let me go back just a little bit further.... back to November of last year. That was the month Rosie had spent in the company of a very attractive, very available Long Horn of the opposite sex. They seemed to "get along", so to speak, and it was estimated a new calf would arrive sometime in August.

So, I was a bit perplexed when one day in late April, I glanced out the window and" What the heck? Where did THAT calf come from? And why is Rosie so fond of it?" Rosie didn't seem perplexed at all and was obviously adoring and continuously licking the new addition to the pasture.

Now I'll admit that I'm no mathematician, but I happen to know that the usual gestation of a cow is NOT five months. Hmm.... something fishy here. And while I'm not one that enjoys airing someone else's dirty laundry, the conclusion I came to involved one milk cow and a certain bull calf that shared the same pasture.... and the same blood lines.

Ok so I MAY have taken a little too long to wean said bull calf, but you know how time flies and how noisy weaning can be, and Rosie was so attached.

Back to the IV and my needed medical skills. All was going well until one morning when I noticed Rosie was lying in a kind of awkwardly uncomfortable position. Further investigation and a quick call to the vet and she was diagnosed with Hypocalcemia, ("Milk Fever" to the lay person).

After a prompt visit from the vet and the proper medical treatment, she was back on her feet in no time. That was the first encounter with this malady (this year). Twenty-four hours later, she was back to the weird position, and I was back on the phone.

The vet was out of town, but he had left me with an extra bottle of meds, calcium, and IV tubing...just in case. He kindly explained the process over the phone...." Just give her the whole bottle in the jugular. It's the size of a garden hose....can't miss it."

Ok. I can do this. With a few MacGyver moves and a rope, I had her head turned around exposing what I had hoped was the jugular. "Siri, show me a cow jugular" just to make sure. Got it.

Needle in, hose line attached, fluid flowing nicely. Made a quick call back to Dan the Vet.

"Hey, how long does it take to give the whole bottle?"

"About 20-25 min. You wanna give it pretty slow.... or it can stop their heart."

Oh....so half the bottle in 5 minutes might be a little fast? Oops. How ya doin' Rosie? Did you know there is no "drip system" in the cow IV world? It's all dependent on how high you hold the bottle and gravity. Very scientific.

Well, Rosie made it through. But to hear her tell the story, she was at death's door because I tried to kill her with a needle and a rope. Ungrateful cow.

As far as the inbreeding (or "linebreeding" depending on whether you're buying or selling) the calf has all four legs, is as cute as any calf that's blessed my pasture and can find all but one teat. With fresh milk in the fridge, who can ask for more than that.

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

Drotzmann dedicated and committed

I support Dave Drotzmann for Senate District 29. His dedication and commitment to addressing critical issues make him the clear choice. Dave, as a small business owner, comprehends the challenges our local businesses face and is dedicated to providing necessary support for their success. His plans will foster economic growth and job creation in our district.

Dave is invested in addressing our community's housing crisis, recognizing the need for affordable housing options to ensure safe and stable housing for all.

Dave prioritizes accountability in government spending, emphasizing fiscal responsibility. He vows to ensure taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and transparently, holding state government accountable at every turn. Dave prioritizes public safety, supporting law enforcement and implementing proactive policies to enhance neighborhood safety. His dedication promises better and safer communities.

Dave also recognizes

the urgency of addressing homelessness and addiction. He understands that these issues require a multifaceted approach, including access to treatment and support services, as well as initiatives to prevent homelessness.

Dave advocates for education, prioritizing school improvement and ensuring students have necessary resources. He views education investment as crucial for our future and pledges to prioritize initiatives enhancing educational quality in our district. Dave staunchly defends conservative values like the Second Amendment and protecting innocent life. He pledges relentless efforts to uphold these principles, strengthening our community's foundation.

Dave Drotzmann's dedication and comprehensive understanding of our community's issues make him the clear choice for Senate District 29. I urge you to vote Dave Drotzmann for Senate District 29.

Heather Baumgartner, Boardman, OR

FISHERMAN'S NIGHT
Thursday, April 18th

Oyster and Catfish Dinner
starting at 6 PM
Lodge at 8 pm

Lots of Raffle Items!
Members & Guests Only



HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

BIRTHRIGHT

Birthright of Morrow County is seeking monthly donors to support our work here in Heppner! We are a non-profit that offers confidential support to anyone who is pregnant or thinks she may be pregnant. If you are able to donate \$10, \$20, or more per month, please let us know! We also accept one time donations as well. For more info, call 541-676-0530. Thank you!



UFC 300
MAIN CARD 10p ET

PRELIMS 8p ET

EARLY PRELIMS 6p ET

APR 13 SAT ON PAY-PER-VIEW

Join us Saturday, April 15 for the **UFC 300 Main Event of the Year**. This will be a pay-per-view event free for all members and their guests. Doors open at 4:00 pm and preliminary fights at 5:00 pm



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