

~ 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.

Just be nice

If you'd like to learn the true condition of the human heart, here's a little experiment for you. Get on your favorite social media site and post something simple.... like maybe a question about your goat. You can even post a pic of her bum and ask why it doesn't look right. OH my.... the vitriol that ensues. One would think you posted a picture of your I LOVE TRUMP T-shirt. "Some people just shouldn't own goats" and "Everybody knows that's not a normal goat bum". While I haven't been brave enough to try this experiment myself, I've been unfortunate enough to witness a fellow goat-owner experience this.... then crawl back in the FB corner and lick her wounds.

Thank you social media for giving the mean girls (and boys.... let's be fair and gender-sensitive) a safe platform on which to spew. They know they can pick on anyone and walk away (from their computer or phone) unscathed, and without a well-deserved black eye.

So, what happened? Have our kind hearts really changed that much or have our tainted hearts just succumbed to temptation. The no-consequences for bad behavior opportunity (unless, of course, you are thrown in FB jail for defending Trump or unborn babies) is just too much to resist.

I read a lot of political stuff. And yes, there are times I'd like to create a few black eyes myself, or maybe just slap someone a couple times until they come to their senses. And I know I may be accused of being less than gracious in my political expression,

but I do try to refrain from personal attacks. Pointing out hypocrisy, lies, and just plain evil is something that needs to be done. We need to stand up for what's right and sometimes, evil needs to be mocked....it helps to get the point across. But not everyone likes being corrected, and, if you're a Christian, expressing your opinion is considered "judging" and you will most likely be slapped with everyone's favorite "don't judge" Bible verse.

Is it possible to express our opinions without being rude? Yes. I used to tell my kids..."There's a nice way to say that." Can we do this without offending someone? It depends on the audience. It helps to remember that the ease with which someone is offended does not identify our motives or define "hate speech". Folks usually have no problem hearing that Jesus loves them. But mention hell and all of a sudden, you're a hatemonger. People might not appreciate you warning them about the cliff they're headed for, until they're at the bottom.

While I will continue to express my opinions (and may do a little mocking in the process) I promise, if I am ever given the opportunity to meet Biden, I will kindly and gently direct him back to the White House and help him up the stairs. And if I ever meet Kamala, I promise to kindly direct her to a slow boat to China....where she belongs.

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

By Susie Crosby, Prineville, OR.

Silent auction to benefit local family at Lexington Harvest Festival Sept.21st

On September 21st in conjunction with the Harvest Festival in Lexington there will be a silent auction held at the Rebekah Hall at 135 Main Street with proceeds going to Challis Buck and her family. For those of you that don't know her, she is the cook at Broken Spoke and her husband is the maintenance person for the city of Lexington. They have two children, a first grader and a freshman. He

will be missing work due to going back and forth to Portland. She was injured in a car accident and was flown to Portland. The auction will be held from 10am-3pm. If you or someone you know would like to donate something to the auction please contact by phone or text to either LaRae Kindle at 541-310-9499 or Kirsten Espinola at 541-377-0002. All donations are appreciated.

WCCC Sunday Men's Play

Thirteen participated in the men's play on Sunday August 25th, at Willow Creek Country Club. Results are as follows: Net- 1st Rick Johnston 57, 2nd Roger Ehrmantraut 59. 3rd Tom Shear 60. Gross- 1st Dennis Peck 67, 2nd-3rd Tie Dallas Harsin, David Allstott 73.

There is no play on September 1. September

7th and 8th will be the men's club championship. On Saturday play will be starting at 4:00 pm, and Sunday at 8:00 am. Players must participate on both days to be eligible for the championship. You can still play only one day and have an opportunity for day prizes. Lunch will be provided following Sunday play.

HHA to meet Sept. 10th

The next meeting of the Heppner Housing Authority for the Heppner Senior Center will be Tues., Sept. 10, at 4:00 p.m. in the St. Patrick's Senior Center dining room.

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Suicide prevention awareness dinner and auction Sep. 7th

September is National Suicide Prevention Month – a time to remember the lives lost to suicide, acknowledge the millions more who have experienced suicidal thoughts, and the many individuals, families and communities that have been impacted by suicide. It's also a time to raise awareness about suicide prevention and share messages of hope. During September, and throughout the year, we can care about suicide prevention; connect to community, culture, data, and research; and collaborate with others to address this public health problem that has impacted millions of Americans. Join us for a dinner and silent auction to support one another, to raise awareness and to raise funds for those impacted by suicide. This dinner will be hosted by Dan & Diana Sharp in memory of Dan's son Shelton Sharp, held on Saturday, September 7th from 6-9pm @ the Gilliam Bisbee Building. Dinner provided by Taste of the South BBQ Truck, Silent Auction items donated by area businesses, individuals, and churches. If you would like to donate an item you can contact committee members, Cyde Estes, Dan & Diana Sharp, Donita Counsell, Katie Fuller and George Nairns. Guest Speakers will share information about awareness, education and support opportunities. Childcare will be provided by Heppner High School Cheerleaders at Hopeful Saint Ministry. Kids of all ages are welcome (adults will be present to assist) \$10 for a single child, \$25 for a family. For question contact Coach Caroline Robinson or Nichole High. We will also have a 'Memory' Tree, with hearts to decorate in memory of someone lost to suicide / mental illness. Hang it on the tree for the evening

and take it home with you. There will be brochures and handouts with information about how you can reach out for help or how you can be in action to help others. Your mental health matters. Mental health is just as important as physical health. Good mental health helps you cope with stress and can improve your quality of life. Get tips and resources from NIMH to help take care of your mental health. <https://go.nih.gov/1VtK7eA> #shareNIMH

Let's Talk About Suicide Prevention Help raise awareness about suicide prevention by sharing informational materials based on the latest research. Everyone can play a role to help save lives. Share science. Share hope. <https://go.nih.gov/FZQbJN0> #shareNIMH.

Need to Talk People can call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org for themselves or if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support. No matter where you live in the United States, you can reach a trained crisis counselor who can help. <https://go.nih.gov/hoMF6tt> #shareNIMH.

5 Action Steps to Help Someone Having Thoughts of Suicide If you think someone might be considering suicide, be the one to help them by taking these 5 steps: Ask. Be There. Help Keep Them Safe. Help Them Connect. Follow Up. Learn more at: <https://go.nih.gov/ZpZ0h0J> #shareNIMH

Dan & Diana have a strong desire to raise awareness and support in presentation of suicide and to provide support to families and friends who have been impacted. Mark your calendars and join in the action on Saturday, September 7, 2024, from 6-9pm at the Gilliam Bisbee Building in Heppner.

WCCC Ladies play day results

There were 6 players in the ladies' gameplay at the Willow Creek Country Club on August 27th. The weather was windy with an overcast. The results are as follows; Low Gross of the field was Virginia Grant. The low Net field was Kris Linder and Tiffany Clement. Least putts of the field was Sharon Harrison.

Flight A, low gross was Karen Thompson, flight B was Karen Griffith-Smith. Long Drive Flight A, Virginia Grant, flight B was Kris Linder. Upcoming announcements include, September Tee-Time is 9am. Ladies funday is September 24th/ fall meeting scramble play + hosted lunch.

ODFW responds to record fire season with flexible hunting options

Salem, OR – The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has announced measures to assist hunters affected by this year's record-breaking fire season, which has significantly impacted wildlife habitats and hunting areas across the state. As wildfires continue to burn through several key hunting units, ODFW is working to ensure hunters have a quality experience or the opportunity to delay their hunts if their chosen areas are severely impacted.

ODFW's announcement comes as hunters prepare for the start of archery deer and elk seasons on August 31, with many expressing concern over whether they will be able to use tags that may have taken years to draw.

"We understand that many hunters have been looking forward to this season for a long time," said ODFW in a statement. "We are committed to making decisions about reinstating points or offering tag refunds as soon as we have enough information. However, this is a balancing act. We need to ensure that any decisions we make are well-informed and not premature."

ODFW is closely monitoring the situation with active fires and associated land closures, working in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and other public land managers. The agency is considering several factors in its decision-making process, including the proportion of the hunt area affected by fire, the accessibility of the land, the timing

of reopening, and the severity of the fire's impact on big game.

Currently, the most impacted units are Silvies, Ochoco, and Heppner, where significant closures have occurred. ODFW has already reached out to hunters in these units to offer point reinstatement and tag refunds. However, the agency cautions that decisions on other hunts might not be made until closer to or even after the season begins, depending on how the fire situation evolves.

ODFW is urging hunters to ensure they have a valid email address registered in the state's licensing system, as email will be the primary method for communication regarding point reinstatements and refunds. Hunters are also reminded that choosing not to hunt due to fire activity without first receiving confirmation from ODFW does not automatically qualify them for a point reinstatement. Additionally, once a hunter begins using their tag, they become ineligible for a reinstatement.

"As we approach the start of the hunting season, we ask for hunters' patience and flexibility," the statement continued. "We are hopeful that conditions will improve, and areas will reopen in time for a successful season."

For those whose hunts are imminent and who have not received communication from ODFW regarding closures, the department advises contacting their offices directly at (503) 947-6301 or via email at ODFW.WildlifeInfo@odfw.oregon.gov.

Participants of the FCMGT

-Continued from PAGE ONE this year, for the late Steve Marlatt. The First-place team members were Rick Johnston, Scott Johnston, and Dale Holland. Members of the teams tying for

Second place are Bailey Haguewood, Brian Roth, CJ Kindle, Jim Kindle, then Jim Swanson, Stuart Bance, Kristin Smalley, and Mark Smalley.

LADIES NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 5TH AT 6:00 PM
Barbecue chicken, baked beans, green salad, roll and angel food cake
Prepared by Regi Lazinka
Lodge 8:00 PM
 **HEPPNER ELKS 358**
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

SYKES REAL ESTATE
177 N. Main
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Heppner, OR 97836
Chris@sykesrealestate.net
Broker
Chris Sykes
541-215-2274




\$145,000
350 S Gilmore St, Heppner
For Sale: Charming bungalow with 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, nestled in a tranquil neighborhood. Spacious backyard ideal for memorable family gatherings. Recent renovations include upgraded floors, kitchen improvements, fresh paint. Home has a mini split for efficient heating and cooling. Conveniently situated near Hagar Park, just a short stroll away from downtown, the hospital, and the elementary school. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity. MLS#: 24241555

SYKES REAL ESTATE
177 N Main St.
Heppner, Or 97836
O: 541-676-9228
E: sykeschris@hotmail.com
Broker
Chris Sykes
541-215-2274


\$380,000
New Listing
Discover this stunning 1,700 sq. ft. ranch-style home with 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, perfect for families. Recently updated (2019-2024), it features a bright, open floor plan, paint, water heater, kitchen flooring, countertops, and appliances. Energy-efficient with a new heat pump, AC, insulation, and wood stove. Enjoy refinished wood floors, updated electrical system, Trex deck, and repaved driveway, newer roof. The private lot offers beautiful views and is close to the hospital and elementary school. Contact us for more details! MLS#: 24589246
605 Pioneer Dr Heppner