

~ 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.

Peace

Seems I've spent much of my life trying not to tick someone off. It's exhaustingespecially when it's someone close. Is "peace at any price" worth it? Nope, hardly ever. There comes a point when you realize the one you're trying to appease will always be mad. If not about one thing.... then another. Sometimes, they're just mad because you exist. I wish I had known that years ago. Things might have ended differently.

Israel has had people mad at them forever. Why? Because they have the audacity to exist. Apparently, that really bothers their neighbors. So, there's Iran, who has been good at getting others to do their fighting for them. Then there's all their proxies that said "Cool, put me in coach". I think they might have a few regrets as of late. Also makes me look a little suspiciously at the pagers and radios we pack around at work.

Why is peace so dang hard? Why can't we just live and let live? Because we're humans with a propensity to sin. We want what we want and we want it now, whether it's power or pizza. Even if it's not our battle, we're quick to pick a side. Sometimes, fighting is necessary and right, depending on who and what you defend. But it would behoove us to know exactly what we're fighting for. Finding the truth on a subject isn't easy these days.

There are powers involved that we don't see working against us. The Bible says, "We are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against

mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12. The evidence is overwhelming. Just watch the news for minutes. Crime is up, decency is rare, lies are the norm, and Jew bashing is a favorite pastime. Not good.

Does God have a side? Yes, He does. We would do well to stand on His side. Seems like Christians have had a hard time figuring this out lately. Satan is wreaking havoc, meanwhile.... we're busy dressing for church and singing hymns. Battles are uncomfortable and messy, and they hurt. But we are to stand up for what's right, protect the innocent and SPEAK UP! God says He won't abandon us. He will be with us in our battles, when we ask.

So why is everyone mad at Israel? Ignore the propaganda. They DO have a right to defend themselves? It's kinda strange when you think about it. How can a country the size of New Jersey cause such a stir? Aren't there bigger countries to pick on? Being God's chosen people tends to make you a target. But God's not about to let someone annihilate His people. Many have tried, without success. Next, look for Iran, Russia, and Turkey to join up and try to destroy them. Will they succeed? Nope. Don't mess with God's people.

So where can we find real peace? Put simply, follow Jesus and trust Him with the results. And remember who wins.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

By Susie Crosby, Prineville, Or.

Community Bond Advisory Committee continues district pre-bond work

(Morrow County) – With the new school year in full swing, Morrow County School District (MCS D) teachers, staff, and students are back at work. The district's Community Bond Advisory Committee (CBAC) is also working on next steps in the pre-bond process.

In January 2024, MCS D and its Board of Directors formed the CBAC. Composed of 21 community members from Boardman, Heppner, Irrigon, and Lexington, the committee's purpose is to consider various options for submitting a potential capital construction bond to voters in May 2025. The committee meets monthly and started their work by reviewing facility needs identified in MCS D's facilities assessment.

In October, the CBAC will create draft recommendations for proposed bond projects. Those recommendations will be presented to the MCS D Board of Directors, followed by a two-month period for community feedback.

"The important work of the CBAC in reviewing district facility needs and

deciding on potential bond projects at our schools is on track," said Matt Combe, Superintendent.

In the next few weeks, several CBAC members will be profiled on the district website and Facebook page.

The Morrow County School District Board of Directors has adopted the following goals as part of the pre-bond process:

1. Ensure all buildings are structurally safe.
2. Extend the life of our buildings for future generations of students.
3. Be the Eastern Oregon leader for CTE and STEAM programs.
4. Create inspiring educational environments that are unique to Morrow County.

For more information about the district bond, please visit the Bond Updates page at this link: www.morrow.k12.or.us/page/community-bond-advisory-committee.

If you have questions about the process or would like further information, please contact the school district at 541-676-5705.

Citizens voice concerns to MCHD board

-Continued from PAGE ONE three of those years.

"Emily Roberts is the best CEO I've ever worked for," she said in response to criticism leveled against Roberts. Rhea said she has worked for eight to 10 health district CEOs and that she has learned to trust Roberts's decisions.

"I have found her to be completely trustworthy," she said.

Andrea Fletcher said she understood the frustration expressed in the room.

"We want to support local healthcare services and have them be exceptional," she said, but added that it is the public's responsibility to inform itself.

Fletcher said she has spent a quarter of a century working for rural and underserved communities.

"Our health district is not so dissimilar to thousands in similar situations," she said. "There is not just the health district dealing with this issue."

Claudia Hughes finished up the public comment period with a call to everyone to lay aside their egos.

"We can't keep fighting over every little thing in this community. We need our hospital and businesses," said Hughes. "Meet in the middle. Stop fighting!"

Each speaker was given three minutes, and the board stopped the comment period after the maximum public comment period of half an hour, saying anyone who didn't get a chance to speak could submit their questions or comments in writing.

Chamber and HCF hosting events at new location next week

Heppner, OR – October 1, 2024 – On Thursday, October 10th, The Heppner Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Heppner Community Foundation, Business Oregon and Re-inventing Rural, is hosting a free evening Business Social at the new Innovation Hub on Willow Street. This newly renovated space will be the new host of chamber luncheons and socials, as well as available for private and public rental. The chamber invites entrepreneurs, small business owners, and all other local business leaders to attend this event. Attendees can expect keynote presentation, "Getting Real in Rural: Energizing Small Business Entrepreneurship" by Brad Attig, CEO at Foundry Collective and happy hour refreshments from local vendors.

On Friday, October 11th, there will be free workshops and one-on-one assistance available for small business owners, entrepreneurs or individuals

that want to explore a new business idea. The day includes in-person sessions on how to finance a small business idea, a lunch and learn about marketing your business, and how to create a successful business plan. More information on these workshops and how to register can be found at: <https://heppnerchamber.com/our-events/resource/>.

Additionally, the Chamber will be hosting its quarterly luncheon on Thursday, October 10th from 12-1pm at its new location and invites the community to attend. RSVPs are required for this event, and lunch is catered by Tacos Hometown for \$15 each. Chamber luncheons are a great way to learn about what is going on in your community.

For more information on the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, visit www.heppnerchamber.com. For more information on the Heppner Community Foundation, visit www.hcfcgives.org.



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Discover your dream home with this charming, well-cared-for classic traditional house. 4 bedroom 1 bath | 2314 sqft home featuring brand-new carpet with original wood floors beneath and beautiful woodwork throughout, this home blends timeless elegance with modern updates. The remodeled kitchen exudes a cozy, down-home feel, boasting quartz countertops and updated appliances with gas range. Enjoy outdoor living with a BBQ on the back deck or relax on the inviting front porch on a quiet street. The two-car garage doubles as a shop for all your projects, and there is ample garden space. Additional features include RV space forced air heat, central air cooling. Located close to downtown Heppner, this home also offers a remodeled full basement with a living area and a bonus room. MLS#: 24205860
220 W Center St. Heppner.



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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

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