

The easy way to turn leftover turkey into a hearty chowder

By Chris Sykes

Looking for an easy way to use up your Thanksgiving leftovers? Try turkey corn chowder! A few years ago, my wife Rachel discovered an amazing turkey corn chowder recipe that takes care of that mountain of leftover turkey after Thanksgiving. It's perfect for a family dinner, feeding hungry kids and teenagers, or warming up on a cold day. Personally, I pair it with a Hawaiian sweet roll slathered in butter.

Both of my kids, Waylon and Sophie, used to love this turkey chowder before they became excruciatingly picky eaters. Even now, it's still a family favorite for Rachel and me. Rachel usually makes a big pot and freezes some for later. While it's hard to beat the fresh-off-the-stove flavor, the thawed version still hits the spot and makes for a quick, delicious meal.

Ingredients

3 cups turkey, diced
2 large potatoes, peeled and diced into 1/2" chunks
3 celery stalks, sliced
2 carrots, peeled and

sliced
1 large onion, chopped
1/4 cup butter
2 tsp garlic salt
1 tsp thyme
1 tsp pepper
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
2 (15 oz) cans of whole kernel corn, drained
4 cups chicken broth
2 cups heavy cream

Instructions

In a large Dutch oven or cooking pot, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the celery, carrots, and onions. Cook until the vegetables are softened, about 10 minutes. In a small bowl, whisk together the flour, garlic salt, pepper, and thyme. Add the mixture to the pan, stirring to coat the vegetables. Cook for 2-3 minutes. Gradually pour in the chicken broth and heavy cream, stirring constantly. Add the diced potatoes. Bring the mixture to a boil and cook for approximately 15 minutes, or until the potatoes are tender. Stir in the turkey and corn, and cook until heated through. Remove from heat and serve warm.

Community Bond Advisory Committee seeks feedback on bond draft recommendations

(Morrow County) – Morrow County School District's Community Bond Advisory Committee (CBAC) wants to hear from the community about the Bond Draft Recommendations for the district.

The CBAC is comprised of 19 community members from Boardman, Irrigon, Heppner and Lexington who are volunteering to guide this process. The members are: Zac Acock, Doris Brosnan, Luis Campos, Andrew Cemore, Dave Cooley, Pamela Cutsforth, Jose Duenas, Frances Glenn, Torrie Griggs, Brett Harrison, Jan Huddleston, Karla Jimenez, Angela Jones, Tia McNamee, Sue Oliver, Brandi Orem, Madison Rosenbalm, George Shimer and Gina Wilson.

The CBAC met for nine months to develop these recommendations. Comprehensive reviews of all MCSDD schools and facilities were conducted

by certified assessors from the Oregon Department of Education. CBAC members reviewed these facility assessments, toured buildings with school principals, reviewed bond financial options and prioritized projects. The facility assessments indicate that several MCSDD schools need to be replaced and other schools need important remodels or upgrades, including safety and security improvements. All of the facility reports can be viewed at: <https://www.morrow.k12.or.us/omcsdd/page/facility-assessment>

Taxpayers in the Morrow County School District are not currently paying for a school district bond nor levy. The last general obligation bond was passed in 2001 and expired in 2021. The last operating levy (which was not for facility construction or upgrades) passed in 2012 and expired in 2016.

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Catholic Men meeting and memorial mass.

The men of St Patrick's Catholic Church of Heppner and St William's of Ione have scheduled a dinner meeting and memorial Mass for deceased members

on Tuesday, December 3rd. Mass will begin at 6:00 PM at the Church in Heppner, followed by dinner and meeting in the Parish Hall.

Heppner Public Works decorates main street for the holidays



Kosta Terzis from the Heppner Public Works dept. -Photo by Cindi Doherty

The Heppner Public Works Department is making strides to spread holiday cheer throughout the community by decorating Main Street with festive decorations. This year, the department has chosen to adorn each lamp post with miniature Christmas trees crafted from garland, bringing a classic and joyful aesthetic to the area.

MC GIS Analyst Showcases Innovative Uses of Drone Technology

-Continued from PAGE ONE with a drone flight over the gravel pile, during which high-resolution aerial images are captured from multiple angles. A pre-programmed flight path ensures consistent and accurate coverage of the entire area. Once the images are collected, they are uploaded to photogrammetry software. This software processes the images, stitching them together to create a detailed 3D model of the gravel pile. The model includes calculated elevations and generates an accurate surface representation of the pile.

To determine the gravel volume, the 3D model is analyzed by comparing the pile's surface area to a predefined base level, such as the ground or a storage platform. This comparison allows the software to calculate the volume with a high degree of accuracy.

The advantages of this method are significant. It is faster and safer than manual measurements, eliminating the need for workers to physically climb or measure the pile. Additionally, it provides highly accurate results, often with a margin of error as small as 1-2%. By leveraging drone technology, companies save

time, reduce labor costs, and improve the accuracy of their measurements, making this an indispensable tool for modern operations.

The Expanding Role of Drones

Drones, or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), are transforming operations across public and private sectors. Equipped with advanced cameras, sensors, and software, they are proving to be versatile and efficient tools.

In the **private sector**, drones are widely adopted in industries such as agriculture, construction, real estate, and logistics. Farmers use drones for precision agriculture to monitor crop health, detect irrigation issues, and optimize resource application. Construction companies utilize drones for site surveys and 3D mapping, while real estate professionals rely on drones for aerial imaging to market properties. Logistics firms deploy drones for package delivery and warehouse inventory management. This rapid adoption has spurred growth in the commercial drone market, which is projected to surpass **\$58 billion by 2030**.

In the **public sector**, drones play a critical role

in areas such as public safety, disaster response, and environmental monitoring. Agencies like FEMA and NOAA use drones for mapping disaster zones and assessing climate impacts. Law enforcement utilizes drones for search-and-rescue missions and crowd monitoring. City planning departments and environmental agencies deploy drones to study land use, monitor pollution, and conduct wildlife surveys.

Drones in Morrow County

In Morrow County, drones are proving to be indispensable tools. Beyond rock pit surveys, the county's drone program supports a variety of tasks: Mapping the town of Lexington for planning purposes.

Assisting the Weed Department in identifying areas for weed control.

Supporting the Sheriff's Office in search-and-rescue missions.

Conducting extensive land-use and planning surveys for infrastructure management.

These applications illustrate how drones can save time, reduce costs, and enhance safety, making them valuable assets for government operations.

The Broader Impact of Drone Technology

Drones are reshaping industries and government operations by providing innovative solutions to complex challenges. In agriculture, they optimize resource use and monitor livestock. In construction, they ensure safety and improve project efficiency. In public safety, they assist in disaster response and law enforcement. As technology evolves, drones continue to expand their capabilities, offering endless possibilities for adaptation.

By streamlining operations, reducing costs, and improving data accuracy, drones are paving the way for a more efficient and innovative future. Whether in Morrow County or on a global scale, their transformative impact is undeniable, bridging the gap between traditional practices and modern technological advancements.

Heppner Daycare celebrates Thanksgiving

Heppner Daycare recently organized a Thanksgiving celebration at the Gillam & Bisbee building, aimed at building and strengthening community bonds among families and members. The event featured an assortment of traditional Thanksgiving foods, providing attendees a chance to savor a festive meal surrounded by family and friends. This gathering was more than just a dinner; it offered an essential opportunity for families to spend quality time together, exchange stories of gratitude, and make memorable moments. Through such events, Heppner Daycare continues to em-



Heppner Daycare students with their families, at the Gillam & Bisbee building. -Photo by Jessica Britt

phasize its dedication to nurturing a supportive and interconnected community environment.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAY 5:00 P.M.

Oregon Department of Forestry Wildfire Risk Map Released for Morrow County Property Owners

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has published its updated Wildfire Risk Map, categorizing properties as low, moderate, or high wildfire risk. Morrow County property owners are encouraged to visit the link below and review their property's classification.

Those who believe their risk level is incorrect have 60 days from the release of the final map to file an appeal. Appeals must include supporting documentation, such as evidence of fire mitigation or property changes.

Visit the ODF Wildfire Risk Map Portal to review classifications and find more information about the appeals process at the link below.

For more information, contact the Morrow County Planning Department: Stephen Wreccics, GIS Analyst at 541.922.4624

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/Pages/wildfire-hazard.aspx>

