

~ 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 \$16 Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

Peace, Be Still!

I was raised with three older brothers, two of whom seemed to enjoy picking at each other. Being a year apart in age, they were pretty much an even match. I remember one afternoon when the boys were doing their usual bantering, and my mom decided she'd had enough. Being a woman of little patience and large temper, she booted them both outside and locked the door. I watched as the two battling boys wrestled for what seemed like hours. I eventually lost interest in the show, but I figure Mom must have had a moment of mercy, because they did end up back inside about sunset. It wasn't how every mother would deal with two pesky teens, but it must have worked for Mom because I don't remember a repeat event.

The world is currently watching a “wrestling match” between two of the most high-profile men in the world. Not only is the Trump/Musk feud *not* a good look for our country. It's annoying...and embarrassing. I kinda wish my mom was here and had access to them both. Maybe booting them outside to work out their own conclusion wouldn't be a bad thing.

So why the about-face of Trump's best bud? I read a long time ago that Elon Musk is on The Spectrum, specifically diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. I have some experience with Asperger's, and I wonder how much of Elon's response to his dislike of the Big Beautiful Bill is linked to his diagnosis. It might explain what seems to be an overreaction and an inappropriate response for someone in Musk's position. Asperger's has nothing to do with intelligence. So yes, he can invent rockets that go to Mars and still have a rather immature response when something doesn't go his way.

Through it all, I gotta admit, I think Trump has shown some amazing restraint...especially for Trump. Maybe he knows something we don't, and maybe he's not all that surprised.

So, is it the end of the world as we know it? I doubt it. Is it a well-crafted ploy created by Trump and Musk to manipulate the Dems into demanding to see the Epstein list? I doubt that too. The Epstein-Trump connection has been well-scrutinized and discarded a long time ago. Besides, there might be a few folks who wouldn't be too happy with a published Epstein list.

While I'd love to see our huge deficit disappear, I do trust that our President isn't stupid, and I do trust he has a plan. Maybe this bill is the best he can do at this point. Getting both the House and Senate to pass any bill that helps accomplish some of his campaign promises would most likely take some compromise. And maybe the Senate will actually make a few changes that will improve the bill and lead us to a balanced budget...eventually. One can only hope.

I do pray President Trump and Elon Musk will find some common ground, seek peace, and be buds again. There are much bigger fish to fry, and nobody needs another distraction right now. The bickering needs to stop. I can hear my mom now...“Don't make me come down there!”

“Make allowance for each other's faults and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others” (Colossians 3:13).

Susie Crosby
Prineville, OR

‘He Gets Us,’ or Does He?

Well, it is that time of year again—Pride Month. I thought this an appropriate time to address the “He Gets Us” movement that has gained traction in recent years due, primarily, to its commercials run during the Super Bowl. The ads have been viewed by millions. And they have sent a message that, on its surface, has been attractive.

The agenda of “He Gets Us,” as stated on their website, “is to move beyond the mess of our current cultural movement to a place where all of us are invited to rediscover the love story of Jesus—Christians, non-Christians, and everybody in between. All of us.”

Again, that is an attractive agenda. The problem lies, however, in that their position is deficient in what it communicates. It muddies the waters of what historic Christianity has always taught. “He Gets Us” does not remedy “the mess of our current cultural movement,” instead, it adds to the mess and confusion. Let me provide one specific example that is relevant to this particular season—Pride Month.

First, what is good about “He Gets Us”? It is right for the Christian church to pray for, love and seek the salvation of all sinners. We ought never withhold the gospel from anyone. We ought to be diligent and purposeful about reaching all—black, white, old, young, gay, straight, liberal, conservative, prostitute, president, addict, etc. That is something “He Gets Us” gets right. They are not drawing unbiblical lines with respect to who is worthy of God's forgiveness and who is not.

However, the problem with “He Gets Us” is that they do not bring the Biblical gospel. They present a Jesus that came only to serve and wash feet, but not a Jesus that came to preach repentance. It is as if you can be a Christian and yet continue in a sinful lifestyle. They seem to allow for unbiblical categories like, “gay Christian, alcoholic Christian, carnal Christian,” and the like. And this is all okay, because Jesus loves you just the way you are, so they argue. And on top of this, they encourage Christians to support this type of behavior.

There is something that needs to be said about that. None of it is Biblical. Jesus came to serve for sure, but that serving came in the form of Him offering Himself as a sacrifice for sin, to redeem sinners from their sin, not leave them in it. Christians are never categorized as a people that continue in unrepentant sin, nor are they a people that would ever encourage it.

One of the main problems within Christianity today is its ignorance with respect to what a Christian is. Christ came not only to save sinners from the wrath of God due to them for their shattering of God's Law, but He came to change them into His image. When God saves a man, He makes him a new creation. He changes their hearts (to love what He loves and hate what He

hates) and fills them with His Holy Spirit (which is constantly driving them to forsake sin and pursue godly living).

This does not mean Christians do this perfectly, but there is an upward trajectory in their being conformed to Christ. Christians abhor that which displeases God. Christians love that which God delights in—which is holy living—as Christ did.

If those within the “He Gets Us” movement truly loved and served their neighbor as Christ commanded, they would never be tolerant of lifestyles that God hates. 1 Corinthians 6:9, “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.”

God demands men agree with Him that these things are evil and will grant them entrance into hell for an eternity if they do not turn from them. That must first be understood.

But that ought never be the last thing communicated. It was not for Paul when he wrote it, and it should not be for us. Paul continued, “And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.”

What men need most is not to have their feet washed, but their sin washed away by the blood of Christ. That happens when men turn from their lifestyles that God abhors and look to Christ alone for their only hope of being forgiven for their sins.

Jesus said in Luke 5:31-32, “It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.” Confessing as sin those things which Paul calls sin must be of first importance. Then confessing those things, as that which makes one “sick” and “unrighteous,” is step number two. Only then will anyone see their true need for a Savior.

Do you see that? Are you one of them? Jesus did not come for everyone. He did not come for the “righteous”—those who do not think their lifestyle is sinful when God says it is. He did not come for the proud who think they know better than God.

My prayer is that Christians would start loving everyone the way Jesus did. That means we must be doing what Paul instructs elsewhere, “be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. But sexual immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints...For this you know with certainty, that no one sexually immoral or impure or greedy, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God...do not participate in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead even expose them” (Eph. 5:1-11).

Eric Schonbachler
Pastor, Lexington Reformed Baptist Church
www.lexrefbc.org

Mustang players receive all-state recognition



Ava Gerry



Delaney Stefani



Isabel Payne



Maya Payne



Katie Spivey

Five Mustang Softball players have received 2A/1A All-State recognition.

Named to First Team is Ava Gerry (first base).

On Second Team are Maya Payne (pitcher), Isabel Payne (catcher) and Delaney Stefani (infield).

Receiving Honorable Mention is Katie Spivey (outfield).

The Lady Mustang softball team ended the season ranked first in the state, finishing with a 19–5 overall record and 9–3 in league play.

Heppner burn ban begins June 16

The burn ban for the City of Heppner will go into effect Monday, June 16, at 7 p.m. No open burning is allowed until further notice. Burn barrels are included in the ban.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Flag Day Ceremony - June 14 at 2pm
Elks Lodge - Come join the ceremony that tells the history of the flag

Father's Day Picnic - June 15 at 1pm
Cutsforth Park bring a salad or dessert (members and their guests)

Lodge Hours:
Wed 4pm to close with dinner at 6pm
Thurs 4pm to close (Lodge at 8pm)
Fri & Sat 4pm to close with dinner from 5pm to 8pm off the menu

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM LB-1		NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING		[] Republication	
A meeting of the Boardman Fire Rescue District will be held on June 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Boardman Fire Station, 911 Tatone St. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 as approved by the Boardman Fire Rescue District Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at Boardman Fire Station 81, 911 Tatone St. between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The budget is also posted on the district website. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is consistent with the basis of accounting used during the preceding year. Major changes, if any, and their effect on the budget, are explained below.					
County		City		Date	
Governing Body		Telephone Number			Chairperson of
Morrow		Boardman		05-19-2025	Lisa Pratt
541-481-3473					
FINANCIAL SUMMARY					
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS					
		Adopted Budget This Year 2024-2025		Approved Budget Next Year 2025-2026	
Anticipated Requirements	1. Total Personal Services.....	4,344,000.00		3,398,000.00	
	2. Total Materials and Supplies.....	756,000.00		716,317.00	
	3. Total Capital Outlay.....	330,000.00		205,000.00	
	4. Total Debt Service.....	204,105.00		204,105.00	
	5. Total Transfers.....				
	6. Total Contingencies.....	250,000.00		250,000.00	
	7. Total All Other Expenditures and Requirements.....				
	8. Total Unappropriated or Ending Fund Balance.....				
	9. Total Requirements - add lines 1 through 8.....	6,334,105.00		4,773,422.00	
Anticipated Resources	10. Total Resources Except Property Taxes.....	3,924,282.00		2,392,100.00	
	11. Total Property Taxes Required to Balance Budget.....	2,409,823.00		2,381,322.00	
	12. Total Resources - add lines 10 and 11.....	6,334,105.00		4,773,422.00	
Estimated Ad Valorem Property Taxes	13. Total Property Taxes Required to Balance Budget (line 11).....	2,409,823.00		2,381,322.00	
	14. Plus: Estimated Property Taxes Not to be Received.....				
	A. Loss Due to Constitutional Limits B. Discounts Allowed, Other Uncollected Amounts.....				
15. Total Tax Levy - add lines 13 and 14.....	2,409,823.00		2,381,322.00		
Tax Levies By Type	16. Permanent Rate Limit Levy (rate limit .7464).....	0.7464		0.7464	
	17. Local Option Levy.....	0		0	
	18. Levy for Bonded Debt or Obligations.....	0.7464		0.7464	
STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS					
Debt Outstanding		Debt Authorized, Not Incurred			
[] None		[x] As Summarized Below		[] None [] As Summarized Below	
PUBLISH BELOW ONLY IF COMPLETED					
Long-Term Debt	Estimated Debt Outstanding at the Beginning of the Budget Year	Estimated Debt Authorized, Not Incurred at the Beginning of the Budget Year			
Bonds.....	643,442.24	0.00 0.00			
Interest Bearing Warrants.....					
Other.....					
Total indebtedness.....	643,442.24	0.00 0.00			
Short-Term Debt					
This budget includes the intention to borrow in anticipation of revenue ("Short-Term Borrowing") as summarized below:					
Fund Liable	Estimated Amount	to	Estimated Interest Rate	Estimated Interest Cost	
General Fund		be Borrowed			
Published June 4, 11, 2025 affid 2c					