

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote Lindsay for Morrow County Judge

We are writing this letter in support of Melissa Lindsay for Morrow County Judge. Melissa is the right choice for this position; she has a lot of passion and energy for making good things happen in Morrow County and will do a great job in working with the other commissioners to represent the county well.

We have known Melissa personally for years, she comes from a family of Long-time Morrow County residents and wants to do her part in helping Morrow County continue to grow. Melissa is someone that you can count on to help get things done. We have worked with her on a professional capacity as well, whether it was when she helped us to get a loan for our home or working on committees, clubs or coordinating events.

Please join us in voting for Melissa Lindsay for Morrow County Judge.

JIM AND BECKY KINDLE
HEPPNER

Stanfield not losing identity with new fire district formation

I have been a volunteer firefighter for 43 years and on the board of directors for 36 years in Stanfield. I can tell you that the forming of the Umatilla County Fire District #1 is not a takeover of the Stanfield Fire District by Hermiston Fire and Emergency Services. The idea to join both departments together was started in conversation by the chiefs of both departments. HFES will not be able

to continue to provide the area with the level of service that has come to be expected and Stanfield's number of volunteers is slowly dwindling to all-time lows.

With the reformation the new district would have a new tax base that would allow for the growth of the department to keep up with the growth of the area. This would be done by hiring new personnel that would start Station 2 (Diagonal Road) with a 24/7 response crew. This would make quicker response time on the east, north, and southeast parts (Stanfield area) and relieve the in-town responses to manageable numbers. Without it HFES continues to see record number of calls and in some instances sees a delay in response because of multiple calls at one time.

With a yes vote on the reformation, supplementing the low number of volunteers in Stanfield would be huge for fire response in our areas. The same time we get dispatched for a fire, so would on-duty crews from the Hermiston area. Most of the time when we get a call there might only be one or two of us in district to respond and having all these resources tied together as one would enhance that greatly. The only other option if you don't agree with this is come on down and become a volunteer on your local fire departments — even Hermiston could use more volunteers.

As far as people thinking we are losing "our" fire department, that is simply not true. We will still have a 4th of July celebration and all the other things the fire department does in the public and

will have more help doing it. The Stanfield equipment is going to remain in the Stanfield station with a different name (Umatilla County Fire District #1), serving the Stanfield area, or something to that effect.

Please vote yes on all ballot measures associated with this reformation and increase the value of our local emergency services.

ELDON MARCUM, ASSISTANT CHIEF AND BOARD VICE CHAIRMAN, STANFIELD FIRE DISTRICT BOARD

Support new fire district

We have been residents of the Hermiston area since 1975. Over the years I've not only seen the excellent work and dedication of the local emergency services but have been the recipient of their response and emergency care in both fire and medical situations.

They are asking voters to allow them to form a new fire district that will allow them to increase their tax rate a total of 55 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. As the cost of doing business rises this increase in revenue is necessary to keep up with personnel and equipment needs. The facts are available on the website at www.hermistonfire.org.

The new district will help meet future equipment costs and add needed personnel to staff the station on Diagonal Road 24-hours a day. To make this happen we must vote to dissolve the existing fire district and to form and fund the new district, Umatilla County Fire District #1. I'm voting YES on both and asking you to do the same.

BRYAN & LOU ANN WOLFE
HERMISTON

What's the perfect gift for the woman that gave you life?

What will you be giving your mom for Mother's Day? Or, if you are the mother of one or more adult sons, what do you hope to receive for Mother's Day?

I am looking for gift ideas I can borrow — or steal.

Gift giving is not one of my better attributes. I never know what to give for gifts for birthdays and holidays, especially for Mother's Day.

How do you choose a thoughtful, meaningful symbol of affection for someone you care greatly about?

I had a girlfriend once who was good at choosing gifts. I know the mechanics of how she did it. She would pick up hints, even when I wasn't trying to hint at anything. We were just talking, and she would make note of things and file them away for later use.

I have never mastered that skill. I need overt hints, direction on what sort of thing a friend or family member would like as a gift.

But the best gifts aren't necessarily found in "gift stores" or the seasonal promotional aisles at local or chain stores.

Maybe I just don't pay enough attention to those little moments in conversations where people share things about their likes and their interests. Or maybe my mental filing system is just a mangled mess.

Whatever the case, when gift-giving time comes along, I never seem to be able to come up with ideas for appropriate, let alone great, gifts.

Besides, just how does an adult son go about choosing a gift that says: "Thanks for all the sacrifices you made over my lifetime, and for all the things you continue to do for me?"

Like looking in on my cat while I am out of town on business for a few days.

I feel ill-equipped to show my love and appreciation. Perhaps that is not uncommon. But I have reached an age where increasingly more of my peers have lost a parent and do not have their mother or father to celebrate with this Mother's Day and Father's Day. And it seems I should do a better job of trying.

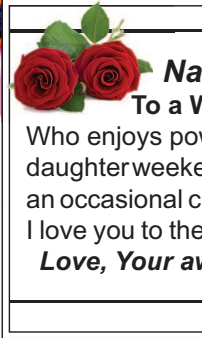
Happy Mother's Day, to my mom, to my daughter's mom, to the mother of my daughter's mother. Happy Mother's Day to my aunts, to my daughter's aunts. Happiest of Mother's Days to all of the women who give so selflessly to their children and are so deserving of the most precious jewels. May you know the love that we, your fallible children, struggle to show and share, not just on Mother's Day but every day.

Gary L. West is editor of the *Hermiston Herald* and *Hermiston editor for the East Oregonian*. Reach him at gwest@hermistonherald.com or follow him on Twitter @GaryLWest or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/journalist.gwest.




Gary L. West
SHADES OF GRAY

I Love You Mom!



Nancy Storms
To a Wonderful Mom!
Who enjoys power shopping, the mother/daughter weekends (need to do more), and an occasional cup of tea to talk about stuff. I love you to the moon & back plus infinity.
Love, Your awesome daughter Dana




Many years ago on this date you became a mother. How fitting it is I get to thank you for that - and the years since - on Mother's Day!
I love you,
Your Daughter



Happy Mother's Day Grandma.
Thank you for all you do!
Love Gracie and Parker



Happy Mother's Day Nana
Love you- Brad, Marcy & Family



Pat Smart
Mom to the world you might just be one person, but to me you are the world.
Happy Mother's Day Love Kelly



Yvonne Bunker
To my dearest Mom! You have been my best friend, my confident and my Mom.
I love you very much! -Carrie



To the best mom out there...
We love you always! From all your kiddos!



To a special Mom on a special day!
Love you!

Faye Hamman
Wishing you a very special Mother's Day, may your day be filled with happiness!
Love Ric



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Mother's Day Special 11-2 pm Sunday May 8th
Choice of grilled salmon or prime rib, salad bar, baby red mashed potatoes, green beans & dessert
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