**LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Feb. 20, 2017**

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**Ater: It’s time for Democrats to put hatred behind them**

To the Editor:

Seldom do I feel strongly enough about a subject to write a letter to the editor, this time for fear of the nasty repercussions it could cause.

The same feeling kept me from placing a Donald Trump sign in my yard before the election. After what has occurred since, I feel it was the right decision. I have never seen so much hate leveled toward a single person, the President of the United States, and those who hoped for a new beginning for our country.

There has never been a president elected who had the total approval of the electorate. However, we can respect the office even if we don’t agree with the person. Those of us who did not support President Obama believed he deserved respect and a chance to be heard. We did not support his socialist tendencies, and those ideas have been rejected by the voters in this election. That has been the American way.

After eight years of Obama’s leadership we are a very divided nation as seen in the destructive demonstrations and violence that has occurred on our college campuses and across our country. It makes me wonder what the term “freedom of speech” means to these students and professors.

It is time for the Democrats to put their hatred behind them and put the well-being of our nation above their petty disagreements. It’s time for the Democrat obstructionists to begin working for our country instead of insisting on furthering their own agenda that, by the way, has been rejected by the voters.

Ed Ater

*La Grande*

**Trochlell: It’s not too late to save Hunt Hall**

To the Editor:

Many Eastern Oregon University alumni and community members may not know that Hunt Hall is about to be demolished. Unfortunately, this historic building is no longer safe for use without expensive upgrades. When this happens, we will be left with the loss of a legacy and the loss of an opportunity as well as cultural beauty on our campus and in our community.

As a resident of La Grande and employee of Eastern Oregon University, I hope there are folks who want to help preserve Hunt Hall. I know this is possible because my alma mater, Antioch College, encountered similar problems with aging dorms sitting unused due to the need for expensive upgrades.

My fellow alumni and current students at the time helped save the building, built in 1853, by doing all of the gutting of the building and helping to raise the funds for restoration. A second dilapidated dorm at Antioch is now considered the second-oldest building in the world to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

It would add so much to our campus not just to upgrade an unusable building but make it into something special.

The original section of Hunt, originally named Dorian Hall, was the third building built on campus in 1939. The next section was added in 1947 in honor of the Wilson Price Hunt group, and the third section was added in 1960. In 2004, asbestos abatement was completed, new carpet was laid and electric heaters were installed.

Eastern has already invested in preserving Hunt Hall. Let’s continue that tradition. Consider restoring Hunt and preserving a legacy as we approach our 100-year anniversary celebration.

Cathy Trochlell

*La Grande*