



## Letters to the Editor, March 1

### **A bad solution**

The Daily Tidings on Wednesday, Feb. 14 reported that the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission has finally agreed to a solution to the Senior Center fiasco they started over seven months ago.

Prior to August of last year, our Senior Center was operating perfectly under the management of Chris Dodson and her staff. Then, she was “laid off”, really fired. From that day on, the APRC had created a situation they have been trying to wiggle out of with more mismanagement.

At first it was just a bunch of lame excuses. Then, they formed the ad hoc committee to come up with solutions that they agreed with, or the solutions would not be accepted by the APRC. Now the park commissioners have agreed on this new final plan.

Their solution: Take a great running Senior Center that was operating with 1.25 full time staff at a cost of \$151,000 annually, find 2.75 full time inexperienced people and increase the budget to \$268,374 annually. That 77.7 percent budget increase costs Ashland taxpayers \$117,374 more annually for a lesser quality of management.

If this is a sample of the APRC’s kind of management, I’m glad the Support Our Seniors group has started the recall of the three Commissioners involved. I know how I am going to vote.

Earl Haveman

Ashland