

The Trinity Journal: January 21, 2026
Letter to the Editor, Scott White Lewiston

Town opposes rehab house

Your article “Community concerned over addiction treatment home” did a massive disservice to the people of Trinity Center. Longtime residents I spoke with said they had never seen the IOOF Hall so full. My estimate is that one-third to one-half of the Trinity Center community was there.

Attendees were almost completely united in concern over the proposal. I attended hundreds of meetings throughout my career in the seven counties of Northeast California — I never saw as large a portion of a community in attendance at a meeting, let alone being almost in unanimous agreement!

In regard to the matter of need and placement of a facility, no one in the room suggested that Trinity Center has a need or is a good choice. Further, none of the attendees who expressed concerns suggested that drug and alcohol addiction treatment is not important, merely that Trinity Center is not appropriate.

My estimate of the share of the article devoted to various interests in attendance is: 50% county representatives, 25% applicant and 25% community. Over half the time spent on community was given to the three attendees who were neutral. It is a tragedy that an applicant who was in-town, but lacking courage to attend the meeting, got as much space as the community itself.

If the reporter had bothered to check the applicant’s assertions before printing them, he would have known that they were dubious at best. In addition to the several speakers living near the proposed facility who spoke against it at the meeting, I have personally spoken with several residents in close proximity of the site, none of whom support it, or even see the need for it in Trinity Center.

As to why the applicant has not heard of complaints until recently, it is likely due to the fact that almost no one had heard of the proposal until the last week or two. This complaint about lack of notice was noted numerous times by the people attending the meeting.

As our primary local news media, The Trinity Journal must do better.