

Close to Home — Mary Ann Cerullo

Last Sunday, Dec. 13, we lit the pink candle, the candle of joy for Advent.

During Advent, our family has a holly or Christmas greens wreath as the dining table centerpiece. Placed in the wreath are four tall candles. Three of them are purple and one is pink, with each candle representing the one of the four Sundays in Advent.

On the first Sunday of Advent, four weeks before Christmas, we light the first purple candle and continue to light it every evening at dinner time during the week.

As one of us lights the purple candle, he says, "As I enkindle this candle, enkindle the hearts of thy people."

The response is, "So they may renew the face of the earth." Last Sunday was the third Sunday in Advent. All month long we have been preparing ourselves for the birth of Jesus

by doing penance. But this week is the week of joy. It is now that we can look forward to His birthday with gladness and rejoicing.

Advent is a time of preparation and of waiting for the birth, as most of us know, but that isn't all. There is another purpose for Advent that many people overlook.

Perhaps it would be wise for us to someday, before December 25, sit down with a dictionary and look up the word "advent."

What does it mean? Literally it means "the coming." In other words, it is a time for us to prepare and wait in eager anticipation for the Coming of Christ, when He will be with us again, not just during Christmas, but on that awesome day when He will return to us to take us home.

Santa's Workshop — A G-T holiday feature

(Editor's note: Beginning Thanksgiving week and continuing through the December 24 issue, the G-T will publish Santa's Workshop as a special holiday feature for our readers. Each week a G-T staff member will give instructions to make a Christmas ornament or craft. Some projects will be primarily for children, others are for children and adults.

From us to you, Happy Holidays.

Senior Citizen News

Area senior citizens will be treated to a special Christmas dinner on Wednesday, December 23, 12 noon at the Morrow Co. Fairgrounds in Heppner.

The menu will include turkey and dressing, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, hot rolls, relish plate and pie.

Christmas carols will be sung with music provided by Ola Mae Groshens, who will play the piano and Ella Mae Green, who will play the guitar. Darlene Arrington will lead the singing of carols said a spokesperson.

Santa will also be on hand for a visit at this meal, said a spokesperson.

Sgt. Gonty receives degree

Staff Sgt. Charles D. Gonty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gonty of Heppner has been awarded an associate degree in applied science by the Community College of the Air Force for studies completed in criminal justice.

The world-wide college, headquartered at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., awards associate degrees to enlisted airmen for programs combining technical education received in the Air Force with general education provided by civilian institutions.

Gonty is a security specialist at Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., with the 89th Missile Security Squadron.

Gonty is a 1974 graduate of Heppner High School.

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Personalized Christmas tree ornament from Betty Wight, graphic arts

The idea of making a personalized Christmas tree ornament came from my husband Bob's family. The tradition was started so that each family member would have his own special tree ornament.

Materials needed: styrofoam ball, rickrack, enough felt to cut out the name to be used, scissors, small straight pins and various shaped sequins.

Instructions:

1. Cut a piece of rickrack to fit from the top of the ball to the bottom of the ball, so that it runs down only one side of the ornament.
2. Pin the rick rack in place.
3. Cut another piece of rick rack and fold it in half, pinning the ends together in the center of the ball to form a hanger.
4. Cut the selected name out of the piece of felt.
5. Pin the letters of the name onto the ball.
6. Decorate the letters of the name with sequins.
7. Pin the remaining sequins on the ball to finish decorating it.
8. Hang the ornament on the tree.

These Christmas tree ornaments are simple to make, are unbreakable and are pretty too.

Three Heppner students receive honors at OSU

Junior honors have been conferred on 309 students at Oregon State University this fall, including three from this area.

The traditional honor is sponsored by the OSU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, national scholastic honor society. It is conferred on students who have completed their first two

years of university work with grade point averages of at least B plus and who rank in the upper five percent of their school scholastically.

Those receiving honors from Heppner include Scott W. McEwen - science, Joseph A. McDonald - business and William E. Kenny - education.

PHASE ONE

Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline COMPLETED & OPERATING



Top Left. Tractor teamwork in Spokane County.

Left. Lowering welded sections into the ditch.

Center. Crossing Palouse country.

Right. Submerging pipe in the Spokane River last summer.

Once the digging started, it didn't take long.

In less than a year, 160-miles of 42-inch steel pipe was laid underground over hill and dale, through solid rock, under highways and across river bottoms.

A \$176-million project — completed on time and under budget.

Phase I of the Western Leg, Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System is now operational.

The 42" pipeline buried along the right-of-way of an existing 36" pipeline allows 240-million more cubic feet per day of natural gas to be delivered from Canada to California. It is the first step toward the completion of a 4,800-mile system linking vast Alaskan and Canadian energy resources to the lower 48 states.

On the local level, the system means added cash flow. Counties and communities along the pipeline will soon receive additional operating tax revenues for civic services . . . including schools.

Pacific Gas Transmission Company, with operating headquarters in Spokane, is proud of this positive and productive move toward energy independence. We've been operating and maintaining an existing natural gas pipeline and compressor stations for twenty years. Pipelines are safe, efficient, ecologically sound. We now plan for the next "giant" step as part of the Alaska gas delivery system to serve the Western United States.

PGT — helping you benefit now while assuring a bright energy future.



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