Fundraiser set up for Robanai Disque

Sometimes in this life people are given the opportunity to return a kindness with a kindness. Robanai Disque has spent her adult life helping others and is now in need of help as she battles cancer.

She started work as a nurse's aide at Heppner's Pioneer Memorial Hospital in 1976 and she then began working as a home health nurse in 1983. Robanai worked for Tri County Home Health which covered Wheeler, Gilliam and Morrow County.

Continuing her work with home health, later in 1983 Robanai went to work part time at Pioneer Memorial as an RN. The hospital still delivered babies at that time and the nursing home was part of the hospital, so one RN covered ER, the nursing home, delivery, hospital patients and the nursery.

Hospice services were added in 2002 to Pioneer Memorial Home Health and Robanai was the hospice coordinator. She continued to be a staff RN for Home Health and filled in at the hospital.

From 2009-2014, Robanai was director of Pioneer Home Health and Hospice. She stepped down due to health reasons and worked only part time until 2017 when the cancer forced her to retire. However, she continued as a hospice volunteer until 2020.

A Go Fund Me account has been set up to assist with mounting medical bills. In addition, a savings account was set up at the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Donations may be made at any branch of the BEO.

LAND PURCHASE

-Continued from PAGE ONE

Street at the food court. They also poured the new cement pad for the building and finished the restroom at the food court. The crew helped set up the booth for the Lions Club fireworks stand, picked up up one dead deer on Elder St, filled potholes on Willow and Chase Streets, dug a water line for flower posts at the new food court pavilion, planted flowers in the pot in front of Bucknum's, fertilized the hanging flowers baskets four times, installed a new toddler play area at Hager Park, hired Annabelle McDaniel to take care of the city parks for the summer, and also hired Bryan Collins part time to do odd jobs around the city.

The council also heard a report from Cutsforth who said he has been monitoring Brannon's Auto Repair business in Heppner on a monthly basis and said the cleanup project ordered by the city on the property is not getting better. "The collection of junk there is getting worse. I don't know if that's what the council wanted," he said indicating that he would continue to monitor the property and report back each month. He said he sent Brannon a letter reminding him that clean up still needed to be done on the property.

Spiritually Speaking

How receptive are we to the Word of God?

By Fr. Thankachan Joseph SDB, St. Patrick Church

Last Sunday, the Book of Isaiah offered us a rich portrayal of the power of God's word, reminding us that just as God cares for the earth by sending it rain to make it fertile, fruitful and rich, so He cares for us by sending His word. As the rain always yields positive results, the earth responds and becomes fruitful, so God persists with His word until it ultimately produces results. Like the rain and the snow that come down from heaven and become part of the Earth, similarly every word that comes from the mouth of God produces abundant results.

A second reading on Sunday, from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans, was all about hope. Life in the Spirit is life lived in hope. Endurance is a favorite word that Paul uses writing to the Romans. He reminds the Romans that they will be able to endure suffering and trials because of this hope, to look beyond the present suffering and see its meaning in the future. God's word of hope is not only for us human beings but for the whole cosmos, which is also in bondage and awaits liberation promised by Christ.

The parable of the "sower" was the theme of Chapter 13 of Matthew last Sunday, in which he is explaining the characteristics, dimensions, features of the Kingdom of God in the simplest form of presentation, in a parable. This parable of the sower teaches us that as the sower of the Word of God, Christ scatters the seed/the word anywhere and everywhere without any calculations or inhibitions. Similarly, it invites us as Christians to make use of the opportunities we get to speak about the Word of God to all categories of people. We have ample opportunities to speak about the Word of God to our non-Christian friends, but due to fear and inhibitions, we don't take them. The Lord of the harvest wants us to do it freely and willingly.

The central theme of the parable teaches us that there are different types of human beings, and their attitudes toward the Word of God are compared in the parable to different types of soil. What is the state of our hearts? Are our hearts open to receiving the words of Jesus, or are we hard of heart and a source of grief to Jesus? Let's compare ourselves to the people in the parable to see where we stand.

The first type of person is this one: The one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. (Matt 13:19). The seed that fell on the footpath, doesn't even get a chance to sprout because it didn't land on soil, and we see that it was pecked by the birds of the air. Due to lack of understanding, the evil one stole away the Word of God. Do we ever reject part of the message of the Gospel because we do not understand it? Whenever we reject part of the message of the Gospel, to use the words of Jesus today, the evil one has stolen the word from our hearts.

The second type of person is the one compared to rocky ground, the one who hears the Word and receives it at once with joy but has no soil for the roots. When some tribulation or temptations of the world come, such a person immediately falls away. (Matt 13:20-21). Just as the seed sprouts lack a conducive atmosphere and the seed is scorched in the heat of the sun, we give up.

When the seed is sown among thorns, the third type of person is the one who hears the Word but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the Word and it bears no fruit. (Matt 13:22). It is "worldly anxiety and lure of riches" that can meddle with our spiritual life and put us off from our spiritual path. Have we missed Sunday services because we were too busy or made up some other excuse? Are we too busy to read the Bible? When we are too busy and put all these familiar spiritual needs from our lives, we are actually inviting the devil into our lives.

Finally, the seeds that fell on the good soil did not all yield in the same way. The Lord of the harvest is telling us that there will always be different types/categories of people who belong to the kingdom of God. He is, in fact, asking us to be fruitful and receptive to the Word of God. To be so, our attitude and openness to the Word is important, we have to realize that the Word of God is to the human heart what the seed is to the earth. Just as soil is barren without seed, so our lives are barren without the Word of God. The Word of God is the source of the Spiritual life. If there is no Word of God, all our efforts will remain fruitless. While we listen to human words and take them in, the most important voice we need to be attuned to is the Word of God. Happy are those who make the voice of God the most important voice in their lives. Such disciples will surely harvest the fruits of the Kingdom of God.

Morrow County youth exhibition planned

A showcase of Morrow County 4-H/FFA livestock and static projects will proceed August 16-22 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this will not be a public event.

"The 4-H and FFA members in our county have worked hard with their respective projects, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are working diligently to make sure they have the opportunity to show and sell their animals and present their talented works for view," said Morrow County 4-H educator, Erin Heideman. "The Extension Office, FFA Advisors, 4-H Leaders, Fair Board and Livestock Growers Association have all contributed in the planning stages of this effort."

The schedule, to date, is as follows:

July 29: Presentations and quick and easy ground beef contest.

July 31-August 1: Morrow County Horse Show, EOTEC, Hermiston.

August 16: Fashion Revue, static exhibits delivered, dairy cows to arrive.

August 17: Dairy Cow Show, market goat/sheep to arrive.

August 18: Market Goat/Sheep Show, small animals to arrive.

August 19: Small Animal Show, hogs to arrive.

August 20: Hog Show, beef to arrive.

August 21: Beef Show.

August 22: Virtual auction using ShoWorks.

For additional information, contact Erin Heideman at erin.heideman@oregonstate.edu or 541-676-9642.

Local students make honor roll at OSU

Students from Heppner and Lexington have been named to the Scholastic Honor Roll for spring term 2020 at Oregon State University.

Students from Heppner are Carson P. Brosnan, Sophomore, Business Administration; Jessica M. Kempken, Senior, BioHealth Sciences; Kevin P. Murray, Senior, BioHealth Sciences; Morgan L. Orem, Junior, Agricultural Sciences; Kane P. Sweeney, Junior, Political Science.

Lexington students include Logan S. Grieb, Senior, Marketing; Alex R. Lindsay, Junior, History.

A total of 7,004 students earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the honor roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work.

The Loop to hold meetings

Morrow County Special Transportation The Loop will hold its quarterly advisory committee meetings July 21 at the Bartholomew Building Lower Conference room, located at 110 N. Court St. in Heppner. In response to the current health emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, county facilities have limited seating capacity and meetings are being held electronically to provide participation other than in-person.

The meetings will be available for viewing via Morrow County Zoom meeting. To schedule a Zoom meeting invitation, please provide your name, phone number and email address to Morrow County Special Transportation The Loop via phone message at 541-676-5667, or email to kimes@co.morrow.or.us

The Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee will start at 3 p.m. On the agenda for the meeting will be public comment, approval of minutes, Covid-19 update, revenue/expense reports, ridership and other business as needed for the good of the order.

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee will immediately follow the Special Transportation Fund Meeting. On the agenda for the meeting will be public comment, approval of the minutes, Covid-19 update, revenue/expense reports, fixed route and other business as needed for the good of the order.

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