

# DEPOT VOTE

-Continued from PAGE ONE

what Umatilla County has put forward and what the director kind of put forward as I understand it. I think we add it in there, kind of draws everyone back together." Doherty went on to urge members (of the CDA) to "pump the brakes" on taking votes that have not been discussed or are not on agendas. Russell said he did not really want to weigh in on what Umatilla County does on their side. "This is going to initiate discussion, or it certainly should," he said. "Our goal tomorrow is to undo the damage that was done a couple weeks ago, and again it (the CDA vote) is awkward, but it started a conversation that needed to be started." The commission voted unanimously, without the discussion, to send the letter to the CDA.

The CDA, on Oct. 22, in response to the letter from the Board of Commissioners, rescinded the Oct. 8 motion. CDA board member Rep. Greg Smith deferred to Kim Puzey of the Port of Umatilla who first put forward the controversial motion. Puzey moved to rescind the motion. "For the good of the region I move that we rescind the motion of October 8, because it was not on the agenda," he said. It was seconded by Ryan Neal from the Port of Morrow. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.

Smith then steered the topic of the meeting on to their efforts of preserving Oregon Trail sites that pass through the depot land, and the preservation of an Igloo Explosion site, also on U.S. Army Depot land. In 1944 an igloo, that housed 264 bombs for the war, exploded and killed six Army staff that were maintaining the igloo.

The CDA is working through the National Historic Preservation Act process, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Addressing concerns of the Oregon Trail Advocates and members of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) Smith says, "One of the issues that remains outstanding is

who's going to make sure that those properties we've identified as the South Trail and the 1944 UMCD Igloo Accident get protected." Smith then proposed a request to the Morrow County Planning Commission to oversee the south portion of the trail in Morrow County and the Umatilla County Planning Department oversee the Igloo Accident site. "The reason for this is to make sure that those acts of mitigation that we've committed to are honored."

Smith's motion said, "We authorize the executive director of the CDA to reach out to the two counties to formalize this request." CDA board member Bill Tovey said that he would like SHPO to be involved in the approval process to work with the counties in oversight of the trail sites. In response to Tovey's comment Smith replied, "One of the county's folks, depending on which side of the line, would go up, take a look, make sure we're honoring our agreement. And, in the briefest of briefest manners, notify SHPO we're in compliance." Smith then said he would talk to the counties about it as a "policy decision."

According to the CDA agenda the proposition to Umatilla and Morrow counties reads, "Morrow County commits to assume responsibility for the South Trail, its perpetual oversight, semi-annual monitoring and enforcement, if necessary, following dissolution of the CDA or the sale of a portion of property on which the South Trail is located." And the proposition to be presented to Umatilla County would read, "Umatilla County commits to assume responsibility for the 1944 UMCD Igloo Accident site, its perpetual oversight, semi-annual monitoring and enforcement, if necessary, following dissolution of the CDA or the sale of a portion of property on which the 1944 UMCD Igloo Accident site is located." Bill Elfring (Umatilla County) put the motion forward. It was seconded by Russell. The motion passed unanimously.

## Be Holy, Be a Saint

By Fr. Thankachan Joseph SDB, St. Patrick Church

The Church celebrates November 1 as All Saints' Day. When we look at the Catholic calendar, we see that on many days year-round we celebrate feasts of saints – for example: Don Bosco, January 31; Francis Xavier, December 3; Augustine of Hippo, August 28; Mother Theresa of Calcutta, September 5; St. Martin de Pores, November 3, Pope John Paul II, October 22, etc. Pope Francis beatified a teenager from Italy, Carlo Acutis, on October 10, 2020. This shows that the Church continues to venerate holy people. Now we have the patron of the new generation in Carlo Acutis. He used modern technology and YouTube channels to spread Eucharistic devotion and piety among believers. As we celebrate All Saints' Day on November 1, let us ask, why is it necessary to set apart a day to celebrate the feast of all saints?

We can think of two important reasons for us to remember all saints and martyrs, known and unknown, throughout Christian history: The first reason is that besides the handful of saints whose feast days we celebrate on specific days in the year, there are countless other saints and martyrs, holy men and women, virgins and children united with God in the heavenly glory that we do not celebrate. Many of these would be our own parents and grandparents who were heroic women and men of faith. Today the Church is bringing before us that honorable memory. The book of Revelations (7: 2-4, 9-14) reminds believers about the angelic vision of St. John the Evangelist, with the Lamb of God and the heavenly beings. We celebrate what Revelations calls "a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands crying out in loud voice, 'Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne'" (7:9). In many ways, therefore, All Saints' feast can be called the feast of the Unknown Saint, in line with the tradition of the Unknown Soldier.

The second reason for this celebration is that it gives us a peek into our eternal destiny. The first letter of St. John states, "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed" (1Jn 3: 2). The saints whom we venerate and honor today are the ones who lived their call as children of God to the full. The saints whose memory we celebrate and honor were men and women like us. Where we are now, they used to be, and where they are now, we hope to be someday. As Christians we know that individuals' life stories are not limited to what happens to them between the day they are born and the day they die. Our stories begin before we are born, at our conception, and go beyond the day we die, to all eternity. That is why we do not simply forget people after they die. In the preface we use for the deceased, we say life is not ended but changed. Didn't St. Theresa of Lisieux say that she would spend eternity doing good on earth? In our mortal eyes she is dead and gone. But in the eyes of faith we know that she is alive now more



Fr. Thankachan Joseph

than ever because she is now fully alive in God. She is now more alive than we are because the life she now enjoys can no longer be diminished by suffering, disease, sin or death. Nothing of earth can affect the present lives of the saints.

Unfortunately, our reaching the fullness of life with the saints does not happen automatically. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). How do we live a life of doing the will of our heavenly Father? The answer is given us in the Beatitudes, in which Jesus gives His followers a road map of sanctity and eternal life. All the saints we celebrate today walked the hard and narrow path of the Beatitudes to arrive at heavenly ecstasy. On the feast of All Saints the church invites us and challenges us to walk the walk, not just to talk the talk, of the saints.

In Matthew (5: 1-12), the Beatitudes suggest a way of life, inviting every one of us to identify with the poor, those who mourn, the meek and those who hunger and thirst after justice. They challenge us to be compassionate people, to be men and women who are pure in heart and to become the peacemakers in our dealings with one another, in our families, and in the society at large, even when this approach to things exposes us to ridicule and persecution.

As we are facing our presidential election, there can be differences of opinion and principles. Do you uphold and promote Christ-like values that He insisted on with His disciples, the values He addressed in His sermon on the mount? None of the saints we celebrate today had as their aim in life to amass wealth, to acquire power or to gain popularity. Rather, they looked forward to the eternal reward which God gives to His faithful ones at the end of this short earthly life of illusion.

Today we are invited to walk the path of the saints, the way of the Beatitudes. The way is narrow and hard. We need faith and courage to walk it. The examples of the saints and their prayers encourage us and help us on. St. Augustine found it hard to live the Beatitudes, but when he read the lives of the saints he said, "What these ordinary women and men have done, why not me?" Faith assures us that all who heed the call of Jesus and live the life of the Beatitudes, at the end of life, we shall, together with all the saints, hear the consoling words of the Lord, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of your master" (Matthew 25:21). The solemnity of All Saints invites us to turn our gaze to the immense multitude of those who have already reached the blessed land and points us on the path that will lead us to that destination. The Church is inviting every one of us to walk the path of the saints and become Holy like He is Holy.

## Death Notices

**Francine Mae Crawford** – Francine Mae Crawford of Hermiston was born July 16, 1930 in Portland, OR. She passed away surrounded by her family on October 23, 2020 in Hermiston at the age of 90 years.

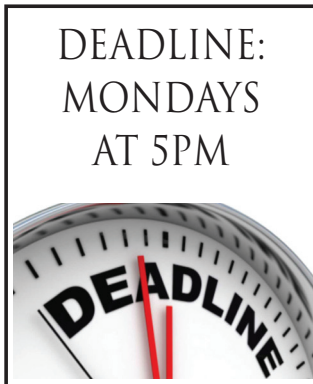
A celebration of life service following state guidelines will be held Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel, Hermiston.

Please share memories of Francine with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

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**A Reminder to Insulate Water Meters**  
The City of Heppner would like to remind everyone to insulate their water meters this winter.  
It is important to protect the meter from freezing before the temperatures drop. Now is the perfect time. Pettyjohn's, the local hardware store stocks a piece of insulation that is a perfect fit. The cost is \$2.00, other building supply stores carry insulation as well. Anyone that has a difficult time accessing their meter to insulate it is encouraged to contact The City for assistance. The City charges \$75.00 plus materials for the repair of any uninsulated meter that becomes frozen.  
If there are any questions or concerns please contact The City at 541-676-9618 or stop by City Hall.

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