

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. The GT is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$10. Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

America needs another Martin Luther King

To the editor:
 Martin Luther King was a great American, primarily because he did not see the color of your skin nor did he countenance violence as a means for justice. How desperately America needs another Martin Luther King. The right-wing rioters storming the Capitol building are no different than left wing rioters attacking police and federal buildings across America. Right-wing conservatives that justify violence to gain justice are no different from left-wing politicians that justify Antifa and BLM terrorists.

Sports icons like Labron James claim the Trump protestors were treated differently by police than BLM protestors proving racial bias and prejudice, further stoking the fires of racial division in America. Democrat politicians, led by House Speaker Pelosi and Senate Leader Schumer, who have supported, advocated and incited Antifa and BLM violence across America blame President Trump for the mob that invaded the Capitol building. The hundreds of thousands of Trump supporters that came to Washington D.C. are now all lumped together as a right-wing terrorist mob. President elect Biden claims he wants to bring America together as he attacks Trump and his supporters as white supremacists.

In the midst of incendiary accusations that are further dividing America, what really happened on the day Biden was to be formally declared the President of the United States at the United States Capitol? Certainly, the Washington D.C. police, Capitol police, and multiple adjacent police forces, along with National Guard units from three states would have been well prepared for perhaps one of the most momentous and potentially tumultuous days in American history. Hundreds of thousands of Trump supporters were expected on the capital grounds of America that day. The most controversial convention of electors in the history of the Republic were scheduled to meet that day, January 6, 2021, to formally elect the President of America. It is beyond comprehension to learn: 1) the Capitol police nor any other police department or National Guard units developed any threat assessment, 2) the Capitol police had access to multiple police reinforcement and the National Guard units, yet they turned down every offer for back up. Democrat D.C. mayor Muriel Bowser deliberately refused to allow the city to prepare for any form of violence or insurrection. "To be clear, the District of Columbia is not requesting other federal law enforcement and personnel and discourages additional deployment without immediate notification and with Municipal Police Department." ("Weeks in plain sight the police were not ready," PBS Jan. 6, 21) Thirty-four-year Capitol police veteran Larry Schaeffer commented, "We have a planned known demonstration that has a propensity for violence in the past and threats to carry weapons. Why would you not prepare yourself as we have in the past." (PBS Jan. 6, 21)

Nothing happens by accident in this world. The U.S. Congress is one of the most secure facilities in the world. That security has not been breached since 1815. No one, no mob could breach the U.S. Congress unless the attack was an inside job. There are layers of security, bullet proof, blast proof doors guarded by machine guns. PBS documented "videos showing officers stepping aside, sometimes taking selfies as if to usher Trump supporters inside the building they were supposed to guard." (PBS Jan. 6, 21) There are videos of Trump supporters taping Capitol police escorting four buses and black government vehicles through police roadblocks to the front of the Capitol building. No reinforcements were called until over 30 minutes after the breach.

The Capitol "mob" attack was well choreographed. Pictures were staged inside the sacred halls of Congress mocking every value and standard America once stood for. Donald Trump has no record or history of instigating this kind of insurrection or violence. He has stood for the police, military, law and order and against rioting and mob violence throughout his presidency. Now the press, media and politicians on both sides of the chamber are foaming at the mouth to lynch Trump and his mob of supporters. Professional athletes are clamoring against a supposed racial injustice. BLM and Antifa should have been ushered into the halls of congress for a picture shoot like the Trump mob. Those that lawlessly broke into the Capitol building do not represent Donald Trump, American patriots or those Christian conservatives that love America.

I long for the hour truth and justice is restored in America and the world. If the press and media would report the news honestly and our government officials would honor our constitution and the Godly heritage of our forefathers, our Republic could be restored. I would not be compelled to do research and document what is being deliberately hidden from the American people. Who gained from this mob violence? I guarantee it was not Donald Trump. The Democrat/Socialist/Globalist agenda has now been engraved in the American government: how fortuitous. A Democrat mayor and a Democrat Washington D.C. police force, with orders from the global deep state, organized this breach of our American government. It was not an accident and it was not negligence.

The moral of the story: A number of innocent Capitol policemen lost their lives, in part because of the Trump mob, but primarily because they were set up like our boys at Benghazi. This does not excuse the Trump mob that lawlessly entered the Capitol. A four tour Air force veteran lost her life because she was deceived to attempt to win justice through storming the nation's capital. Martin Luther King showed us the way - nonviolent protest must be the moral of the story.

Stuart Dick, Irrigon

Open the businesses

To the editor:
 Greetings in this new year of 2021. I sent this letter to Governor Kate Brown this week and would like to have it also run as a letter to the editor in your paper.

Dear Governor Brown, I feel compelled to communicate to you about the present situation in Oregon and a major decision you have recently made.

Yes, we all know you and I have our differences, but I am struggling to understand why you have decided to open schools and not businesses. I have seen businesses bend over backward to install safety

barriers and other measures and comply with social distancing. Businesses need to be open and employees need to go back to work. Most people are being, and will continue to be, very cautious as long as this epidemic lasts. Let's give businesses the same opportunity you are giving schools.

I challenge you to now end the ban before people and private businesses go bankrupt.

Most sincerely,
 Liz VanLeeuwen
 Linn County State Representative 1981-1999

Profitability expected for northwest agricultural commodities

Northwest Farm Credit Services, the Northwest's leading agricultural lending cooperative, has released its quarterly Market Snapshot reports covering the state of major agricultural commodities in the region. Northwest FCS teams throughout Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington monitor conditions and report outlooks for commodities financed by the co-op.

All Market Snapshots and audio highlights are posted online at Industry Insights.

Northwest FCS' 12-month outlook for the agricultural commodities most common in the Northwest are summarized below.

Cattle: The 12-month outlook on cattle suggests slightly profitable returns. The national herd size is moderating, which is providing tailwinds to producer profitability. Instability around COVID-19 continues to weigh on restaurant demand for high value cuts.

Dairy: Slightly profitable returns in 2021 are forecast, although continued volatility is likely. The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program provided direct payments to producers and the Farmers to Families Food Box Program purchased dairy products, which supported milk prices, mainly Class III. Similar assistance is expected in 2021.

Fisheries: The 12-month outlook for fisheries expects profitable returns. Although 2020 hit the seafood industry hard with restaurant sales declining more than 50 percent, consumers remained hungry for seafood. Fisheries will continue to face challenges with ongoing COVID-19 protocols, changing total allowable catches and uncertain trade relations in 2021. There is optimism for increased demand as restaurant sales recover and retail demand remains strong.

Forest Products: The forest products outlook anticipates profitable operations for both mills and timberland owners. Strong demand and tight supplies are leading to favorable log and lumber prices. Robust housing starts will keep demand high, which could increase further as the COVID-19 vaccine improves economic conditions.

Hay: The 12-month outlook for the hay industry calls for slightly profitable

returns. In 2021, the hay market will focus on modestly optimistic fundamentals. A weaker dollar favors exports, and higher prices for protein substitutes, like soybean meal, will provide tailwinds to hay producers.

Onions: Onions are forecast to provide break-even returns over the next 12 months. Supply and demand indicate prices could increase, yet producers are sensitive to continued COVID-19 restrictions in the food service industry.

Potatoes: Slightly profitable returns are expected for potato producers. Processors' demand for uncontracted potatoes is restrained as the COVID-19 situation continues to dampen restaurant demand for processed potato products, such as French fries.

Sugar Beets: Sugar beet growers should see profitable returns for the 2020-21 season. The USDA forecast suggests stocks-to-use ratios will continue to decrease from 14.2 percent in 2019-20 to 13.5 percent in 2020-21, a favorable ratio for Northwest producers.

Apples: Apple growers can expect to see slightly profitable margins. A smaller crop and solid demand should increase prices. However, several quality issues have challenged growers this season. Quality will be a key driver of individual growers' profits.

Cherries: Overall, profitable margins are anticipated for cherry growers. Reduced supply coupled with strong domestic demand helped sustain high pricing, which will translate into strong margins for growers. However, those with measurable losses in tonnage may not have had enough fruit to capture returns and will be reliant on crop insurance.

Pears: The 12-month profitability index forecasts slightly profitable returns for pear growers. Although demand has been lackluster

Share some good news

Hi Gazette-Times Readers,

Needing something to do and wanting to hear some good news for a change, I talked April and Bobbi at the Gazette-Times into letting me work on a column devoted to good news only.

For those young people who are not familiar with the days when a common attraction in the local paper was the tidbits of personal news individuals were willing to share with the readers, items that were beyond the announcements of new babies, engagements and marriages. Some people wanted to share that they had had company - usually people with whom many locals were familiar - or that they had been on a trip, were back from a hospital stay, or just had had a funny experience to relate, etc. I call it a type of "personal-interest" inclusion because I think many other people are like me in my pleasure in sharing someone else's upbeat happenings.

I do know that some of what I am thinking of is being shared on Facebook and other forms of social

media, but I believe that the reading audience of the GT is broader, and I enjoy reading a paper newspaper more than an electronic post. So, I want to give this a try. Yes, I could be wrong....

To kick off the approach, I plan to pop in at our local businesses and public entities to ask for some "good news," probably once every two weeks, or just once a month, depending on the reception of this idea. Maybe I can cover from the south end of town to the north in three or four days, looking for at least one upbeat note from each. Just one little tidbit can be enough to bring a smile to the reader's face.

I have thought for a long time that this type of column would be a good addition to the GT, and the past year's restrictions on my comings and goings finally did the trick. I decided to put my thoughts into action. Soon, I hope to see many people who do not throw me out the door when I approach and say, "Any good news you want to share with the Gazette-Times?"

Doris Brosnan

the last few years, increased pricing indicates demand may be finding some higher ground. Good quality will also increase growers' returns.

Wheat: The outlook calls for slightly profitable returns for wheat growers. The USDA's projected 2020-21 season average farm price for all-wheat is \$4.50 per bushel. Current markets are showing a higher average of \$4.70 to \$4.80 per bushel from the 2019-20 season. High yields and government payments will partially offset otherwise

break-even wheat prices.

Wine/Vineyard: Slight profits are expected for both vineyards and wineries, although it's a mixed bag for both. Lower grape yields and bulk wine supplies should support improved grape markets, but fundamental oversupply issues remain. Some wineries in the retail and direct to consumer channels are having record sales; however, wineries reliant on tasting rooms, events or other in-person sales are left with limited options to generate revenue.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson has released the following report:

-Kaelynn Hollingsworth was convicted of PCS Heroin and was placed into Umatilla/Morrow County Drug Court along with three years of formal probation. Also convicted of PCS Meth and sentenced to 90-day jail sentence imposed upfront. Allowed early release if able to locate in-patient treatment facility program.

-James David Town was convicted of Criminal Trespass 2 and sentenced to 18 months of probation, 10 hours of CSW and 15 days jail suspended on successful completion of probation. As part of the sentence, he

is to send a letter of apology to the victim and comply with formal probation in other case.

He was also convicted of Disorderly Conduct, sentenced to 15 days jail imposed upfront, 75 days jail suspended on successful completion of probation, 18 months of probation, 20 hours of CSW and comply with formal probation in other case.

James David Town was also convicted of UUMV and sentenced to 20 days jail imposed upfront, 160 days jail suspended on successful completion of probation, 18 months of probation, 40 hours of CSW, alcohol and drug treatment evaluation and any recommended treatment.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace, Glen Diehl, has released the following Justice Court report:

-Xavian L. Lenard, 27, Colorado City, TX was convicted of violation of basic rule, fine \$165 and no operator's license, fine \$265.

-Damien S. Wilhelm, 42, Lexington, was convicted of driving while suspended, fine \$440; no insurance, fine \$265; driving while suspended (second charge), fine \$440 and no insurance (second charge), fine \$265.

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