

# Renewal of activities at Ione Community Church

Ione Community Church Council approved a relaxation of its Covid-19 policies at its meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>. It was the view of the members of the Council that with many of the members and friends of the church already vaccinated and the opportunity available for others to be vaccinated, as well – that the church should shift the responsibility of being safe from Covid-19 from the church to the individual. Each person may determine the degree of risk they wish to take for themselves. The new policy states that all normal church-sponsored activities will be reopened and resumed. All individuals are asked to make their own choices concerning the manner in which they wish to protect themselves and participate. As the church returns to normal activity, anyone may still choose to wear masks, meet via ZOOM, or worship via live streaming. The church has developed the capacity to live stream worship during the past year – and will continue to provide this to those who are unable, or do not choose, to attend in person. Anyone not feeling well or those who are sick-are asked not to participate in person. Such persons are asked to let the church

know that they are ill, so we can be sure to meet their needs: a meal, a ride to the doctor, help them get connected to the live streaming or ZOOM – just to name a few. All those preparing food or doing kitchen clean-up will be asked to wear gloves and masks for these tasks. Those not doing these jobs are asked to remain outside the kitchen area. The church will continue to be proactive in providing fresh air in the building by cracking the windows. The thermostat will be turned up and/or down for comfort on days that are very cold or very hot. “Ione Community Church rejoices in the ability to come together more fully and to do so with such a renewed sense of safety. This is the season of Resurrection. We, as the church, have celebrated the Resurrection of Christ at Easter. Resurrection means “resurgence, revival, renewal”. How fitting that it is in this season of spring- and the rebirth of hope- that we, as a church, are ready to embrace all of this as we lift our heads out of the experience of the past year to new ways to meet, and learn, and grow together once again,” said a spokesperson. The continued, “Easter

filled us with the promise of the “new life” Christ brought us in the gift of the Spirit - enabling us to live “beyond ourselves” as Beth Moore would say. The gifts of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to love more than we can love on our own; be more patient than we are naturally; to control our words and our actions with strength that is beyond our human nature. You get the picture. This “new life” that God calls us to, enriches our lives and our relationships beyond measure. And His grace forgives us when we can’t quite do what is needed. This is the “Good News” – knowing Christ brings us to ALL that we can be. As we experience His great love and forgiveness, we ourselves are resurrected and made new as we reach out to live fully in these gifts. And our life and relationships – indeed the world - are changed and renewed and made more fully whole. As a “Resurrection People” may we come together once again to build, renew, and serve actively as a community of faith. Worship at Ione Community Church is at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Join us.”

# Public invited to help with ‘Walk Audit’ for safer school streets

The City of Heppner and local schools are seeking help from local citizen willing to participate in a “Walk Audit” that will hopefully make city streets safer for kids. Local citizens are being asked to volunteer for one or two days and observe students arriving and leaving the elementary and junior senior high schools and document the walking and biking conditions around the area. The observation and documentation completed by the volunteers

will be used to identify “barriers to safe walking and biking as well as potential improvements.” The observation and documentation will be part of an effort by the city and schools in partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation to create a “Safe Routes to School Plan” for Heppner schools. Volunteers will be needed on two different days, May 18 at the Heppner Elementary school, and May 19 at the High School/Junior High. Group

sizes will be limited to 12 participants and masks will be required. To volunteer for this effort citizens are asked to RSVP on the internet web site: bit.ly/HeppnerSRTS. Anyone with questions can contact Dieter Waite at 541-676-9128 or email him at dieter.waite@morrow.k12.or.us. “This is an opportunity to make our streets safer and more comfortable for students and families to walk and bike,” said organizers of the event.

## A view from the hill

**By Doris Brosnan**  
Already this month has been one of variety at Willow Creek Terrace, as it started with the addition of several flowering plants and the flowers that adorned Medina Spirit, the horse that won the Kentucky Derby, a favorite race for some viewers. Then, laughter was encouraged on “World Laughter Day” and last week, walking about the Terrace during “National Walking Week.” Cinco de Mayo was observed on the 5<sup>th</sup>, full of color, Mexican trivia and good food. The Pedicure Party was a hit the next day, just in time for happy feet on Mothers’ Day, which brought some flowers and some visitors to

the Terrace and was a start to the “Week Honoring the Aged,” a topic useful for morning discussions about strength and resilience. Also, some residents and the staff agreed that week to send a note of appreciation to the hair stylists who continue to come to the Terrace to serve their clients. This week has featured “Eat What You Want Day” yesterday and may be a busy day of phone calls tomorrow, which is “I Just Called to Say I Love You Day.” Sunday will be “Love a Tree Day,” observed by staff and residents who might be dressed in purple, since it is also “Wear Purple for Peace Day.” It also will bring to the forefront for discussion memory-care research being done by the Alzheimer’s Association. Added to those discussion topics will be Blue Jeans’ 148<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 20<sup>th</sup>, American Red Cross’s 140<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The two personal birthdays that week will be celebrated with favorite lunchtime menus for the neighbors and families when Ray French celebrates on the 18<sup>th</sup> and Bev Harris celebrates on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Some residents could be lucky on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, since one never knows when one might find a lucky penny on “Lucky Penny Day.” That will also be a day that will surely bring smiles to many faces if some generous owners of pink flamingoes will let the Terrace borrow them – it is designated “Pink Flamingo Day.” The Terrace community would enjoy adding to the few that Anna Schwarzen donated,

planting and posing those yard decorations for all to see. (Call 541-676-0004 to share or just bring them to the Terrace.) The following day will feature “Brothers Day,” so many tales will surely be told at the morning discussion. That week of the 24<sup>th</sup> will get residents and staff outside for “Backyard Games Week.” Friends Helping Friends gave the Terrace a generous donation with which they purchased some equipment for those enjoyable activities. The Terrace continues to offer job opportunities. Jobs that can include such entertaining activities with the residents but also include the assistance to the residents with varying needs. One fulltime and one parttime position, with benefits, are available. Call 541-676-0004. As the month ends with Memorial Day on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the residents will have more stories to share as they honor the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military and the residents’ loved ones who have also passed on. They will also observe the “flowering” of the cemetery as visitors also honor their deceased loved ones. The excellent care of the cemetery by Dana Wilson and John Healy has been greatly appreciated by the neighboring Terrace, and everyone hopes the strong winds calm down enough for the eradication of the dandelions, the only remaining challenge. The community on the hill views that expanse as tranquil and serene.

## Good News Only

**By Doris Brosnan**

“Say it with flowers,” instructed the FTD Mothers’ Day ad of 1918, and it still seems to retain its allure. Many mothers and mothers’ mothers received cards and bouquets last weekend. Some also surely received candy, extra hugs and I love you’s. So nice to be thought of in a special way. Also, a day that, for some, brought additional thoughts of our mothers who have passed on. Apparently, a slip of a finger – or maybe a slip of focus – last week resulted in one of the Papanastasiou twin’s names being typed as “Olen” when his name is actually “Owen”. (Apologetic oops.) Rick and Anita Peterson look forward to becoming grandparents to their first grandchild in November. Corey and Katelynn Peterson, who live near Pendleton, know that they will have a girl. Congrats to all. Tori Lovgren reports that her wedding shower on May 2 finally did it. It hit her with the realization that she is actually getting married. The “knot will be tied” at the Lovgren Ranch on June 12. It was a whirlwind of busy days that Caden Hedman just experienced. Caden joined St. Patrick Church on Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup> and then headed for Oklahoma on Tuesday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, because Caden has also joined the National Guard and had to report for basic training. We remember the young fisherman who had no luck fishing in Willow Creek because the fish were sleeping. Good news for this young man, he found some livelier fish last week and made his first catch.. Seen on Monday: the ODFW tanker putting more fish into Willow Creek, at the bridge at the north end of Gale Street. Confirmed by the employee doing the stocking, these are big enough to be keepers. Yes, another public bench donated to honor the

memory of a loved one is in the Heritage Park (between Main/Hwy 74 and Gale/Riverside Street). The beautiful Mustang blue “In Memory of Roger Schoonover” is a cause to pause and appreciate some fond memories. (At least three more can be located around Heppner, plus the ones gifted to the community by the Class of ‘91 as a thank-you.) Contact was made last week with another Gazette Times reader who was raised in our area before moving away. Tass Morrison, who graduated from Ione High School in ‘63, has subscribed to the GT since ‘97, when her mother, Irma Morrison died. She reports that the paper “still comes to me under her name, and I will never change that. Even though I don’t know many names... it is still very interesting to see what people there are up to and to read about the positive things happening in your area. I... stay connected with friends there, and through the G-T as well.” Tass spent 30+ years as an educator and continues to serve, now as a member of her local North Santiam District school board. Another fan of the Heppner Gazette Times now lives in Salem, and although he does not subscribe, he reaches for the paper as soon as he arrives at his father’s in Heppner for a visit. He says he likes to know what is happening here, even though he recognizes few last names. Matt Combe, Principal of HHS, has been elected to serve on the OSAA (Oregon Schools Activities Association) executive board. The organization of 293 schools is a policy maker, the mission of which is to “serve member schools by providing leadership and state coordination for the conduct of interscholastic activities, which will enrich the educational experiences of high school students.” (East Oregonian, May 6) “Com-

superintendents, Combe will be the only principal on the policy-making board.” Steve Schaber’s Ione shop class receives a big thank you for making a new lasered sign for the Ione Library, located at the corner of Spring and Second Streets. And good news for the patrons and staff of the library is that it is going fine-free. Becky Doherty is the librarian with the answers to all questions, 541-561-9828. Days and hours of operation are available on site. HHS drama club will stage Matilda on May 19 and 20. The musical with family appeal is about a five-year-old and about good winning over evil. Kudos to Hayden Hyatt and his Mustang baseball teammates. Hayden is earning plaudits for his impressive performance on the pitching mound, and the team is recording the first winning season for a Heppner team in over six years, a 10-1 record as of last Saturday. Proof of the outstanding good a small community can accomplish are the works of the Ione Education Foundation, which has been raising money for Ione-School students for 19 years. Last year, the generosity of IEF donors made possible the distribution of \$10,040 for student activities in and out of the classroom, critical to advancing student learning and overall positive education experiences. And Ione is going to be looking spiffier than usual after May 29, clean up day. Readers interested in joining a book club might want to check out the Page-Turners Book Club, which will be meeting at Perks and Brews in Ione on May 11 at 5 p.m. Betty Gray, 541-422-7335, will gladly share information with you. The women, ranging in age from 50’s, 60, and 70’s to 90, who play tennis almost every morning are extending a suggestion to

everyone who wants to give the courts a try. Yes, they contain cracks, unfortunately, but those do not usually impede play, which is a great social way, a truly fun way, to increase one’s physical activity and get more fit. A good advertisement of the benefits of tennis is JoAnne Burleson, who will turn 90 next month and still makes some effective, strategic hits. If you haven’t already, you need to vote by next Tuesday, May 18. Such an opportunity to make a difference close to home. And having several people interested in serving on our various boards is certainly good news. The county clerk’s office has answers if you have voting-related questions. Repeated kudos to those whom I consider friends of Willow Creek and Heppner. Yes, a few careless people have littered on the banks, but the cleanup is almost total. And these people who care can tidy up those few places in just a matter of minutes. Thank you. Dana Wilson and his helper, John Healy, are working diligently at keeping the look of our cemetery peaceful and attractive, somewhat challenging when trying to combat the dandelions without spraying because of the strong winds. Now they have those seedy puffballs, referenced last week in this column, to fight. John seems to have taken on this project with gusto, half-jokingly saying that he intends to “make our cemetery look as good as Arlington National Cemetery.” Reading someone’s good news can bring smiles to our faces, so this column will continue to share good-news tidbits as long as people email them to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or call 541-223-1490 (can leave a message if necessary) or stop me on the street. As always, hoping some good news comes to everyone reading this.

planting and posing those yard decorations for all to see. (Call 541-676-0004 to share or just bring them to the Terrace.) The following day will feature “Brothers Day,” so many tales will surely be told at the morning discussion. That week of the 24<sup>th</sup> will get residents and staff outside for “Backyard Games Week.” Friends Helping Friends gave the Terrace a generous donation with which they purchased some equipment for those enjoyable activities. The Terrace continues to offer job opportunities. Jobs that can include such entertaining activities with the residents but also include the assistance to the residents with varying needs. One fulltime and one parttime position, with benefits, are available. Call 541-676-0004. As the month ends with Memorial Day on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the residents will have more stories to share as they honor the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military and the residents’ loved ones who have also passed on. They will also observe the “flowering” of the cemetery as visitors also honor their deceased loved ones. The excellent care of the cemetery by Dana Wilson and John Healy has been greatly appreciated by the neighboring Terrace, and everyone hopes the strong winds calm down enough for the eradication of the dandelions, the only remaining challenge. The community on the hill views that expanse as tranquil and serene.

## Lexington offers free dump vouchers

The town of Lexington is offering free dump vouchers for Lexington residents to use for spring cleanup. The vouchers are available to pick up at the

town hall and can be used at the south transfer station May 15 and 16. For additional information, call the town hall at 541-989-8515.



## COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

**Organized by the City of Heppner**

**FREE DUMPSTER for garbage collection available at the City yard on Riverside Ave. Wednesday May 19th through Tuesday June 1st.**

**There will also be a spot to leave yard debris and burnable material.**

**The City will not accept tires, appliances, hazardous waste or household chemicals.**

**City of Heppner residents only**

**Please contact the City of Heppner for more information 541-676-9618.**

