

~ 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.

Fire the fox

I've been saying this for a while. We have the fox guarding the hen house. Now it appears a few of the hens are finally talking. Unfortunately, how long they'll keep their necks intact is anybody's guess. Our FBI has proven to be corrupt. Why does this matter? Because they have the power to wreck your life. All these little guys don't. The firing of a crooked Twitter employee does nothing to affect you. But when the very entity that's supposed to find the bad guys and bring them to justice have become "The Bad Guys," you have a problem. When they work for a political party that hates their own country and is doing its best to destroy it, you have a bigger problem.

Not only has the FBI been controlling what you are allowed to hear, see and say...they have the power to "punish" you (harass, surveil, take your possessions, arrest you and throw you in jail) as they see fit. And remember; bad guys lie. These guys are good at it. Just voicing the wrong opinion can make you a terrorist (and by the way, Mr. FBI, here's another letter for your file).

So, you thought as long as you were an honest, law-abiding citizen, you'd be fine? Not so. And all this is happening under the watchful eye of our justice system...and the bad guys are still unscathed. I doubt Hillary will be sporting an orange jumpsuit any time soon. And remember The

List of Epstein's Buddies? Things come and go so quickly these days.

You may be thinking "I am so sick of politics. Nothing ever changes. I just wanna live my life and stay out of this mess." That's a tempting endeavor...but it's like walking around in a snake pit and counting on not getting bit. Eventually, you'll wish you had paid more attention.

But, If you don't mind the status quo...paying through the nose for groceries and gas, giving half our paychecks to the government so they can "manage" it for us, watching our inept president stumble and mumble, our enemies threaten us, illegals and fentanyl flood the border, our kids' innocence disappear, all while knowing we are under the watchful eye of a crooked administration... just stay home and let the illegals choose your next president. I'm sure it'll be fine.

If we continue to employ the fox, eventually the hen house will be empty. So, are we willing to fire the fox? We have an opportunity coming up in 2024, providing they get the "kinks" ironed out of our voting system. Just be sure to guard your ballot... like a hen guards her eggs. No fox allowed.

"When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan" (Proverbs 29:2).

Susie Crosby
Heppner, OR

Heppner TSA participates in state middle school competition



Heppner junior high TSA participants. Pictured back: William Lehn, Joseph Ling, Kooper Miller, Jace Wilson, Alakae Rodriguez, Darby Spivey, Gunner Lawrence, Olson Anderson, Zach Christian, Mason Haugen and Kayden Hudson. Front: Eva Worden, McKenzie Maben, Kenzie Hudson, Kayelee Espinola and Ashli Paullus. -Contributed photo

The Heppner Middle School Chapter of the Technology Student Association participated in the Oregon TSA State Competition for Middle Schools. Heppner students competed in Digital Photography, Community Service Video, Junior Solar Sprint and Problem Solving.

Digital photography involves taking, editing and presenting photographs.

Community Service Video includes documenting a service project with pictures and video then presenting to an audience. Junior Solar Sprint requires building, testing and racing a solar-powered car. Problem Solving uses limited supplies to build a structure supporting two balls as high as possible and as far apart as possible.

Good News Only by Doris Brosnan

Maureen McElligott has coached tennis for 50 years, 30 in Boardman and 20 in Ione. Ione citizens agree that such dedication and know-how deserve recognition, which is why Maureen will be guest of honor at a gathering on June 1 at 6 p.m.

Congratulations, Dave Fowler! Dave has been named a Crystal Apple winner this year for his above-and-beyond work with students at HHS.

Kudos to Jennifer Thompson Campbell, Ione graduate, who now works for Community Counseling Solutions. Last week, Jennifer traveled to New Hampshire for the graduation ceremony at New Hampshire University, to receive her Master of Science Degree in Psychology. Jennifer reports that when daughter Madelyn was five years old, Jennifer declared this as a goal, and now, six years later, she has reached that goal, one class at a time, a goal that should serve her well in her chosen profession.

A fairly new face at Community Counseling Solutions is Ann Jones, who works in the front office. Ann's work for the Morrow County Fair Board has now been assumed by Sue Gibbs, who will be switching hats as she retires from teaching at Heppner Elementary and takes on the part-time fair work.

Chirela Wallace was in Cedar Park, TX, a suburb of Austin, from May 11 to 18. This was not Chirela's first visit with son Ken's family, but on this trip she was able to join him and his wife Josephine for granddaughter Alexis's performance in a production of Aladdin, in which Alexis starred as Aladdin, and for a three-game basketball tournament in which granddaughter Gabby was a major player. Alexis is now in sixth grade but has experienced acting, piano and voice lessons since starting-school age. Gabby has been into gymnastics and basketball since very young, a third-grader who plays "club ball."

Kit and Shirley George returned on the 15th from their 10-day trip that started in Pasco and had just one wee hitch—a 45-minute delay of their Saturday flight from Denver to destination Chicago. Joining daughter, Kimberly, and her husband, Mark, in Wilmet, the Georges had most of that week for leisure, which began with the first of two Cubs games, the day after arrival—a 15-inning game! On Thursday, the foursome headed out in two cars on the seven-hour drive to Columbia, MO, for some time with granddaughter Melina before her graduation from the University of Missouri on Sunday morning. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Strategic Communications. Then, Kimberly and Melina headed back to Wilmet, and Mark drove the Georges to nearby St. Louis, where they lingered overnight, refreshed and ready to fly home on Monday.

Paul and Susan Hisler have been busy supportive track grandparents this past week, and this week will see them traveling for more track yet. Four of Hislers' granddaughters will be competing at state junior high or high school level, so supportive grandparents want to be there to cheer them on: Healy, eighth grader in Heppner, will be in Corvallis today, competing in the long jump. Payton, seventh grader in a 6A Oregon City school, placed seventh of 22 in her steep district competition in long jump last Tuesday (and sang in a talent show last Thursday evening). Her sister, Reece, a freshman in Oregon City, will be running with teammates in the 4x100 relay prelims in Eugene on Thursday, in prep for the finals on Friday. She is apt to run into her cousin Hallee, freshman in Heppner, who qualified in six events and will be facing prelims for 2A schools at the same time and place. Good luck, Girls, and good luck, Grandparents, with keeping these straight!

Congrats to the area tracksters who will be performing this week! And kudos to Hunter Nichols, who is an Academic All-Conference athlete, and is also an Athlete of the Year nominee at EOU! And congratulations to Madelyn Nichols, a sophomore at EOU has also received the Academic All-Conference recognition!

Joanna Lamb reports that the HHS production of Enchanted was so well received, the talented cast performed an encore performance yesterday evening. Bravo, thespians!

Fourteen women from Ione and Heppner traveled to Sno Road Winery in Echo last Thursday for the monthly Birthday Luncheon they usually celebrate locally. An example of mere mention of doing something a bit different blossoming into an executed plan, this trip included Sno Road wines and sparkling cider and lunches from HP Café. This month's celebrants were Sharon Harrison and Doris Brosnan, who will become octogenarians one day apart, tomorrow and Friday. (They are aware of eight '61-graduates-of-HHS-now-80-year-olds who live in the area.)

Five quite Odd Fellows joined up last Sunday to mow and trim the Historic Hardman Cemetery—graves dating from 1883. Frank Osmin, Al Osmin, Melvin McDaniel, Corey Sweeney and Tommy Wolff brought their mowers and string trimmers to complete this annual chore. Snacks and cold beverages were provided by our local IOOF Willow Lodge #66, which maintains the facility. The IOOF Fraternal Lodge was created over two centuries ago, before any government social programs were established. Its motto has always been "...to bury the dead, feed the widow, and educate the orphan..." The Heppner Willow Lodge has seen new energy in recent years, with a score of new, younger members joining the fraternity.

"Thank you for doing the right thing," said the voice from inside a window of the Baltimore Apartments. Apparently, what seems to merely be a responsible act—removing a dog's poo from the lawn—is not commonly practiced by dog owners. That might explain, in part, the poor condition of the lawn? Good news is that bags for this removal are readily available in strategic places in town, so "doing the right thing" can become "doing the common thing."

Yes, learning of upbeat moments people are experiencing feels good. So, you can add to our readers' "feel good" moments by sharing. Please, send your tidbits to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or call 541-223-1490.

Here's hoping that some good news comes to everyone reading this!

Spiritually Speaking

Father Thankachan Joseph
St. Patrick Catholic Church Heppner



Come Holy Spirit: Renew the Face of the Earth

Originally, Pentecost was a Jewish feast celebrated on the 50th day after the Passover feast. Christians celebrate it on the seventh Sunday after Easter, celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and Mary while they were together praying in the upper hall.

Pentecost ranks among the greatest feasts of Christianity. It is considered the birthday of the Catholic Church. The Jewish Pentecost was actually a post-harvest thanksgiving celebration in Jerusalem to thank God for a wonderful harvest. Scripture describes that on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles and Mary as fiery tongues, transforming them into fiery preachers. All those who listened to the apostles that day experienced a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit through the preaching of Peter.

The Acts of the Apostles and the last chapters of the Gospels describe the apostles in their locked-down experiences. "On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews" (John 20:19). Though clearly mentioned as timid or fearful, the disciples were transformed into powerful orators: "Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd" (Acts 2:14). What we notice is that timidity was transformed into boldness, indecisions were transformed into persuasions. Now when we take part in the Pentecost, we need to pray to the Spirit of the Lord to come down upon our world and also transform us.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he urges Christians to be always under the Spirit of the Lord. When we live by the Spirit of God, the qualities of that Spirit will be visible in us. The fruits of the Holy Spirit are "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (5:22-24). Possession of the gifts of the Holy Spirit automatically changes us into new beings, helping us move from fear to freedom, from timidity to power, from victim to victor, from silence to proclamation, from being individuals to being community, from division to reconciliation.

Recently we witnessed the outpouring of the Spirit when Bishop Liam Cary came to St. Patrick Church to administer the sacrament of Confirmation. He spoke of the Holy Spirit and His role in renewing the universe. When the Holy Spirit takes possession of us, we possess the gifts that actually help us renew the world around us. In the first letter to the Corinthians, Paul speaks about these seven gifts of the Holy Spirit:

- 1) *Wisdom*: Wisdom helps us not to get upset over little problems or put too much stock in passing events. We need the gift of wisdom to remember that people are more important than things and that God's love is more than everything else.
- 2) *Understanding*: A person who is understanding accepts others as they are and cares for people no one else notices. Those who understand us know our faults and imperfections, as well as our strengths and good qualities. Such people are always ready to encourage and challenge us, always ready to forgive us and give us a second chance.
- 3) *Knowledge*: Developing the gift of knowledge is what education is all about. It is important to remember, also, that human knowledge can be used for bad ends as well as good.
- 4) *Right Judgment*: Our greatest gift as human beings is the gift of freedom, to decide what we will make of our lives, the ability to make good decisions. Right judgment also helps us learn from our mistakes and correct the problems caused by our bad decisions.
- 5) *Courage*: Courage is the strength to do the right thing in spite of obstacles that make it difficult. The gift of courage gives us the strength and stamina needed to keep trying, day after day, to be the kind of Christians we want to be.
- 6) *Reverence*: The gift of reverence is a deep respect for God, others, and all of creation. Reverence helps us to see the true value of every person and of all created things.
- 7) *Wonder And Awe in God's Presence*: This is the gift by which we are given a sense of who God really is and who we are as creatures of God. This same God lives in my heart, listens to my daily prayers, cares about my tiny worries, and loves me in all my specialness and in all my weakness.

We need to have persons with these seven gifts of the Holy Spirit to change the world.

Please join us as we come together to celebrate the life of Rena Henry
11:00 am, June 10, 2023
Hughes Ranch 11:00 am
60458 Little Butter Creek Road
Please join us for lunch as we visit and share memories of Reena.

Willow Creek Water Park
Is looking for:
Lifeguards:

- Must be at least 15 years old.
- Training is now available here in Heppner!
- Training fee is the responsibility of all new lifeguards, but can be paid over the course of the summer. About \$250. Training takes a few days, but lasts a lifetime!
- Lifeguard certification is good for 2 years. If you return for a third year the training is free and much shorter in time.
- Beginning wage this year: \$14.00 per hour. The wage will increase each summer you return to WCWP!

Swim Lessons Instructor:

- Must be at least 18 years old with experience working with children.
- Part time; Hourly wage DOE
- Training available!

For more information and applications, please contact Bridget Waite at bridget.waite@gmail.com

**New Baby in Your Family?
Engagement?
Wedding?**

We want to share your life events!

Stop in the Heppner Gazette office or email us with details and photos.

All birth, engagement and wedding announcements are always free!

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