

~ 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.

**Everyone has the right to their opinion**

To the Editor of the Heppner Gazette-Times:

First—I am a native of Morrow County, born and raised. I attended school in Morrow County and graduated from HHS in 1960. I later married a Morrow County girl from Boardman.

The family's dry-land wheat farm is still in the hands of the Davidson family and has long been a century farm. The ranch is located north and west of Ione.

Ms. Crosby talked about men in uniform. It is not widely known, but my Grandmother, Mabel Davidson, was widowed in 1926, left with seven sons and one daughter to raise and run the ranch. With Memorial Day just past, it should be noted, with a great deal of pride, that she sent five of her boys into the military during World War II, including my father, who was seriously injured in the Pacific theater. One of my uncles was shot down over Belgium, as an engineer on a B-29 bomber, and shot by the Germans after their plane crashed. Very few families can match their service to our country.

Second—during the time spent in Morrow County, there were mostly open-minded people who respected other people's opinions. It was never a situation of "my way or the highway" that I read every week in Ms. Crosby's letters. No one has the right to be telling other people how they should be living or thinking. It is simply none of their business. Everyone has a right to their opinion, whether they choose to broadcast it or not.

This is not 1954, or even 1984. It is now almost 2024.

Third—I taught school at various schools around the state of Oregon for 40 years. I know Ms. Crosby enjoyed the discipline she received from one of her teachers. Too bad that teacher tried to squash her individualism and creativity. That would be something I tried never to do. I taught young people to express themselves and remember they are individuals with a right to their own opinions. At no time did they ever (in my 40 years) receive an assignment to "read the chapter and answer the questions at the end." That assignment always guaranteed most youngsters to get As without learning anything. And one of the most boring assignments ever made to a student, at any time, anywhere.

I won't enter into a contest concerning Mr. Trump. But, there is little doubt that he is totally lacking any moral fiber that would make him a man. He cheated on all three wives, never attends church, and lacks any part of his persona that would guarantee a Christian could deep-down support him. And I won't even mention his last trial. But, here again, everyone has the right to their opinion and should feel free to express it. They should not be putting anyone down who does not agree with them.

I have been surprised that no one has responded to her rather lengthy letters, expressing little but her

own opinions.

Thank you,  
Robert H. Davidson  
Milwaukie, OR

**Words Matter**

The other day I was early for an appointment (rare these days), so I decided to find a place to snooze while waiting in my car. As I reclined the seat and cracked my window, I promptly noticed a young family with two small children unloading what looked to be the makings of a picnic. Awwwww.... how sweet, I thought. It wasn't long before I also noticed how loud a small family can be. Next thing I heard made me wanna grab a bar of soap. The mom was instructing her child to "go ride your F\*\*\*ing bike," which was followed by a few more choice words paired with a generally bad attitude. So much for "a good time was had by all." My mind went directly to the thought of this little girl turning 13. The picture wasn't pretty.

Why? Just Why? Has this really become the norm? So yes, I'll admit I've become known as the F Word Police and, yes, I really dislike that word. I remember when it was to be reserved for the worst of the worst...kind of a thermostat as to the degree of decline of an already reprobate mind. But there's more to it than that. The very act it represents is supposed to be an expression of love, a beautiful thing created by God, not a filthy act portrayed by a filthy mouth.

I understand the slip of the tongue after a traumatic event involving a hammer and thumb. Nobody's perfect. But wouldn't it be nice if we had enough respect for those around us to watch our mouths in our everyday conversations? I do miss the "there are ladies present" and "little ears!" admonitions. Jesus said, "Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks." I don't want it in my heart, or my brain. Then maybe it won't be the first thing out of my mouth when hammer meets thumb.

If you claim to be a follower of Jesus, then nonchalantly spout the f-word or any other cuss words known to man, something's wrong...and you're making us all look bad. I love you, but just stop. We are to be different, and the rest of the world should be able to tell the difference between us and them. Make it easy for them. Not to imply that a clean mouth will get us into heaven. Only Jesus does that. But the ability to "bridle our tongue" speaks volumes about the condition of our character (pun intended).

I'll admit, some non-swear words just bug me for no particular reason. When did the word "give" become not cool? I'm pretty sure Mrs. Sundquist never allowed her class to "gift" a gift...because a gift is a noun, not a verb. She was a stickler for pronouns, too. Speaking of which, my preferred pronouns are young, tall, blond, beautiful, oh...and rich...in case you wondered.

"A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." Luke 6:24

Susie Crosby  
Heppner, OR

**Good News Only** by Doris Brosnan

Whether walking or driving on Main Street/Highway, deciding which way to go at the detour signs can sometimes be brain teasers! Hang in there, and take the back streets?!

Some sidewalks offer walkers a treat: Colorful chalk art—dinosaurs, birds, animals, loving messages, hopscotch. Can be quite uplifting and inviting to passersby who want to add their artistic talents.

Jan Stroeber and Dennis O'Donnell have responded to the question about Groshens Spring: Dennis contributes that in the '65 era, he worked for the Vic Groshens who was in charge of city maintenance, and "was always tinkering with the faucet at the spring." But Dennis doesn't remember if it was working then. Jan reports a lengthy history of the spring since she became interested in preserving the site and beautifying it in a show of respect for its historical value and as a memorial to French immigrant Vic Groshens. Pauline and Orville Matheny helped as the work began. Vi Wilgers joined Jan's work, and Howard and Beth Bryant, as well as the County Historical Society, were also interested in the effort. Columbia Basin Electric Co-op took out trees. Volunteers planted period plants, aspens, shrubs, grasses. With the passage of time and aging of workers, the site has developed some issues with the drip system, terracing, and signage, but Jan continues to hope that someone will call her to volunteer so the caretaking can continue. Though ownership of the spring might be in question, the city turns on the water, which goes to the fountain and to the plants, and Jan reports that that hasn't happened yet this year.

On May 24, Dennis Peck made a hole-in-one on number 7 at Willow Creek Country Club! This happened in a Wednesday-evening Men's Club Team Match Play Competition; consequently, he was obligated to provide celebratory beverages for all present. "There were a lot of witnesses!" John Edmundson reports.

On May 25, Mrs. Rosenbalm's and Mrs. Matheny's classes made their annual walk-about that included a hike to the Masonic Cemetery. Susan Hisler also visited the cemetery that day and reports being extremely impressed with the third and first graders she encountered. With the help of the parents and grandparents who accompanied the classes, the youngsters were diligently searching out the resting places of military veterans and placing small American flags at their headstones. And Susan appreciated the offer from the children who helped her carry several things to the site she was visiting. These children's showing of respect is to be nurtured, acknowledged, and applauded.

On May 27, Dianna Hoeft hosted a gathering of about 200 family and friends to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wright family ranch on Rhea Creek. Albert and Julia Wright left Indiana in 1852 and landed in Oregon City in 1853. Albert came to Oregon in '71, built a small log cabin across from now-Anson Wright Park, and built their home in '72. The deed to the property was filed in 1873, was registered as a century farm 50 years ago, and Diana has now started the complicated process of getting it registered as a 150-year-old ranch.

On May 31, Conor Brosnan texted this grandmother to report having become "a certified welder in stick and flux core all positions." Of course, abundant congratulations ensued, as well as a request for an explanation of the several unfamiliar terms! In a week and a half, Conor expects to begin his summer job as a welder with Union Pacific Railroad, with plans to return to Linn Benton Community College in the fall for his associate's degree in the welding program.

The annual request for cookies went out via the community churches for the Baccalaureate service on May 31, and once again, the response by Heppner bakers was overwhelming! The fabulous variety that the attending HHS graduates and their families had to choose from was appreciated by all after the service in the St. Patrick's church.

Another "Crafty Night" at the library on June 14 at 6 p.m.! This month's craft will be a "paint-stick American flag." This adults-only program has limited space, so interested people need to go to the website to register: www.otld.org.

Hats off to conscientious dog walkers who are picking up after their dogs. On the routes that Melancholy Collie and the Perky Puppy walk, far fewer piles of poo seem to be left than were some weeks ago.

Surely, we can never read enough positive tidbits. Please send your upbeat items to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or call 541-223-1490.

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

**HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES OFFERED**  
Classes start Tuesday, June 13th, & Thursday June 15th, 6-9 pm Field Day the 17th 8am to noon. Classes Tuesday the 20th and 22nd 6-9 pm. at the Lexington Gun Club. To sign up go to myodfw.com **Must sign up on line.** <https://myodfw.com/articles/hunter-education-classes-field-days>.  
Contact Instructor, Jim Marquardt at 541 969-4845. if questions.

**YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!**  
Submit Ads **heppner.net**  
Call **541-676-9228**  
Email **graphics@rapidsolve.net**  
We also offer **design and printing services**  
Heppner Gazette-Times  
Sykes Printing

Please join us at Cutsforth park Sunday June 18th at 1PM for the annual Elks Father's Day picnic. Some of the events scheduled are;

Corn hole - Kids treasure hunt, egg toss & water Balloons  
The Annual Kenny Turner Memorial Horseshoe Tournament  
Beverages, Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided.  
Side dishes are welcomed.

Open to all Elks members and their families.

**HEPPNER ELKS 358**  
"WHERE FRIENDS MEET"  
541-676-9181 142 N MAIN ST

**Spiritually Speaking**

Father Thankachan Joseph  
St. Patrick Catholic Church Heppner



**"I am the Bread of Life"**

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, the Catholic Church celebrates "Corpus Christi Sunday," the feast of Body and Blood of Christ.

We have souvenirs for memorable events. Last week I attended one of the graduation celebrations in our parish hall. I noticed a beautiful, printed souvenir on the tables of the graduates. We have this souvenir culture, but Jesus thought of it two thousand years ago. We can see it in the Gospel of John, chapter 13:1: "Jesus, knowing that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father..." He called His disciples together to celebrate the memorial together. "While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take it; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many.'" (Mk 14: 22). The Holy Eucharist is the parting gift of Jesus to us before His departure to the Father. Thus, Jesus becomes "the Bread of Life" (Jn 6:48).

Food is a main factor in human lives. Everyone works to satisfy their stomach and the stomachs of others with whom they live. We know that Jesus was born in David's town called Bethlehem. Bethlehem literally would mean the place of bread, place of meat, and Jesus has become bread for everyone to satisfy their spiritual and physical hungers. Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist as the memorial of His presence with us and His unconditional love towards us. The Eucharist is spiritual nourishment to satisfy hunger for spiritual realities. Before He left this world, He instituted the sacrament of Holy Eucharist, as well as the Sacrament of Priesthood, and asked His disciples to partake in the sacrament in His memory for eternity.

Jesus satisfies the physical hunger of human beings before the spiritual one. The Gospel of John, chapter 6, begins with the miracle of loaves. He fulfills the natural hunger of everyone before He begins the spiritual discourse. The temptation of the Lord in the desert begins with the tempter asking Jesus to change the stones into bread, since the Lord was hungry. In the last judgment scene, too, we read that, to the people on the right, he says, "Come you that are blessed by my Father! I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink" (Mathew 25:34-35). From these examples we need to assume that Jesus addresses the basic needs of human life first. The Lord is always and every time present with us with His real presence. He is always available to satiate the hunger and thirst of human beings.

We need more than food to live. In the Gospel of John, when he speaks about the vine and branches, and in the Eucharistic discourse, too, Jesus reminds us that without Him, we cannot live.

"I tell you solemnly, if you do not eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood you will not have life in you. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever" (John 6:53-54).

On the feast of Corpus Christi, Jesus offers different kinds of "bread" to the faithful to gratify their many hungers. To people who followed Him into the desert and who were starving, He offered ordinary bread, satisfying their physical hunger. To the leper whose body was falling apart, He offered the only bread that mattered—the bread of physical healing. To the lonely woman at Jacob's well, He offered the bread of human kindness and acceptance. To sinners He offered the bread of forgiveness. To the rejects and outcasts, He offered the bread of empathy and companionship. To the widow of Nain and Martha and Mary, who had lost a loved one, He offered the bread of compassion. To the thief who died by His side, He offered the bread of repentance and reconciliation with God.

As Jesus has become bread and gratified human deprivation, it is our time to satisfy human needs of people around us. Is there anyone hungry around me? How do I approach such situations and become the bread to someone who is in need? What bread are we looking for? Only Jesus can offer us that bread, because "He is the Bread of life."

**ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**

**WEEKLY SHOPPER**  
RESERVE YOUR SEAT BY NOON ON THURSDAY (541) 676-5667  
*the loop*  
Proudly Serving Morrow County Veterans

June 9<sup>th</sup> Combined Shopper  
**Grocery Outlet**  
Alive & Well  
Safeway Plaza  
Sheri's

June 16<sup>th</sup> Combined Shopper  
**Wal-Mart**  
Safeway Plaza  
Bellinger's  
Denny's