

Good News Only by Doris Brosnan

Standing ovations and applause were de rigeur last Thursday evening at the G&B Town and Country event as outstanding Citizens-of-the-Year were recognized for their contributions to our community. All noted that they do not work alone but with many deserving individuals, but congratulations are due these involved, caring, civic-minded examples of people who make a positive difference: Cameron Proudfoot, Janet Wilson, Beth and Tim Dickenson, Molly Rhea, and Tacos Hometown! You all are Good News for Heppner!

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at the Hopeful Saints Church next Tuesday, the 13th, offers a great addition this year: strawberries and whipped cream as an option for the pancakes! That sounds like Good News added to the menu of fruit, ham, juice, and pancakes. Lent will begin the following day, Ash Wednesday, so this might be a last big splurge of eating for the six weeks that Lent adherents abstain from eating as they normally do.

A bit of Good News for this writer's Salem Granddaughter Amy is that she will have a lead in the May musical drama at West Salem High School. This will be Amy's last school performance, since she will graduate in June, a rewarding finale to her four years in productions, mostly as a member of ensembles, with her first speaking and solo performance just this last fall. Hard work and talent paying off.

One reader notes that sometimes "no news is GOOD news" is actually a truism! So maybe that explains the brevity of this week's column.

We do have a couple of chuckles coming from Dennis O'Donnell this week: "I can't believe I forgot to go to the gym today. That's seven years in a row, now." And "I asked a supermarket employee where they kept the canned peaches. He said, 'I'll see,' & walked away. I asked another & he also said, 'I'll see,' & walked away. In the end, I gave up & found them myself, in Aisle C."

Share your newsy, upbeat items with hundreds of GT readers! Send to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or call 541-223-1490 to get them into the "Good News Only" column.

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

A View From The Hill

by Doris Brosnan

Right now, many of the Willow Creek Terrace residents and staff members view the recent slower, quieter pace at the Terrace as totally acceptable, even preferable. Some sniffles, coughs, and general discomfort have kept some in their rooms and distancing themselves from others while this annual flu, covid, and cold season passes. Group activities have been minimized to Bingo and morning exercises and discussions, with extra separations, during this time.

Heavy hearts feel the loss of Ray Papineau, missing his positive presence, and also missing his family members who were so liberal with donations and with volunteering for many activities that added to Ray's and his neighbors' comfort.

But they can look forward to Floss Watkins's return, as she continues to make progress in her recovery from surgery. And they greeted a new but familiar face to many last Sunday when Herb Peterson, of Ione, moved into the Terrace. Now, three apartments remain available, so interested persons can call 541-676-0004 or drop in for information.

Also available at the terrace are resident-care positions, information on which can be found on the Terrace's FB site or by the above methods. Jasmine Haak has been selected as the new kitchen coordinator, and she is looking for help in the kitchen for evenings and weekends.

This month's special celebrations are the favorite type at the Terrace: Rita Bowman will celebrate her 96th birthday on the 8th with a special lunch for neighbors and family. And Alex Camarillo will be celebrating his 99th birthday with his specially chosen lunch menu on the 11th. The annual Valentines' Day Candlelight Lunch will be the other special celebration in February.

The slower pace could be especially appreciated by the Terrace staff right now, as they have now gone nearly paperless with a new medical-records system. This has been and continues to be a learning process, one that expedites record-keeping and a system of multiple checks and rechecks that greatly reduces the possibility of errors. Less time writing, more face time with residents!

The residents and staff greatly appreciated the tremendous help with the snow recently, but the weather now seems to have taken a turn toward warmer and drier days, so the need for help has dwindled. The Community on the Hill views this as reason to expect spring-like days to increase this month and bring summer along behind it.

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Ladies Night
 Thursday, February 8, 2024

TACO BAR Prepared by Regi Lazinka
 Dinner at 6:00 pm
 Lodge at 8:00 pm
 Member and guests only

HEPPNER ELKS 358
 676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

Sheriff's Report

MCSO Dec 1

- EMS: A 64-year-old male fell and hit his head in the back of a shop on Fuller Canyon Lane in Heppner.

- Death Investigation: An 82-year-old male is down in the bathroom on Depot Lane in Irrigon. It's unknown if he is breathing and he is blocking the door, preventing access. Irrigon Ambulance and Fire Department responded.

- EMS: A 65-year-old male with diabetes at Riverview Mobile Court on E Highway 730 in Irrigon is experiencing fading in and out of consciousness.

- Motor Vehicle Accident: A two-vehicle accident was reported at Rd/Wilson Lane in Boardman. There are no injuries reported, but it's unclear if the vehicles are blocking traffic. One vehicle is a black town and country, and the other is a red Volkswagen. The suspect was issued a citation and notified to appear in the Irrigon Justice Court on January 4, 2023, at 9:00 am.

- Animal Complaint: Goats are trespassing in a yard on Gun Club Lane in Hermiston. The owner of the goats lives in the blue house next door, and the RP

wants them removed.

- Trespass: A female has been coming onto the RP's property on SE Thirteenth Street in Irrigon without permission to collect her belongings. The issue has been resolved.

- Driving Complaint: A red Ford Ranger from the 80s, with broken back windows and a black racing stripe, was seen speeding in front of a house on SE Utah Ave in Irrigon and heading towards Idaho.

- Traffic Hazard: A silver Honda with a cargo bin on the roof snapped off near the 159 WB on I-84 in Boardman. The RP is concerned that it poses a traffic hazard.

- Welfare Check: A couple at Love's Travel Stop and Country Store on Tower Rd in Boardman were seen rummaging in their trunk for a long time. When approached by the RP, they quickly got into their car and locked the doors. The trunk was covered with blankets. The RP requested a welfare check to ensure their well-being. The couple is in a black 4-door sedan, possibly a Volvo. MCSO responded and everything was found to be in order.

Town and Country Awards

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Attendees at the Town & County event.- Contributed Photo

the food. The servers were incredibly efficient, from the FFA Future Farmers of America and the Technology Student Association. Dale Bates handled the sound, ensuring everyone could hear and enjoy the proceedings. Murrays did the flower arrangements, adding a nice touch. Finally, the money generated from the silent auction baskets will be donated to support the St. Patrick's Day celebration.

To add to the festive atmosphere, Joe Lindsay entertained the audience with his famous awardee song, lightheartedly poking fun at the recipients.

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce recognized

exceptional individuals and businesses with the following awards:

Man of the Year: Tim Dickeson presented by Mark Rietmann

Woman of the year: presented by Erin Heide-man

Business of the Year: Jackie Juarez Emmel and Faviola Juarez

Lifetime Achievement: presented by Jerry Conklin

Student Achievement: Cameron Proudfoot presented by Ryan Gerry

Citizen Educator of the Year: Janet Wilson presented by Sarah Matheny, Melissa Coiner, and Chelsea Mathey

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~ 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

RAINBOW BRITE HOUSE

Have you heard this? "No great nation can be in a position where they can't control their borders. It matters how you control your borders. Not just for immigration, but it matters for drugs, terror, and a whole range of things." Guess who said this. Nope, not the real president.... not the one who built the wall and actually secured the U.S borders. It was the other guy. You know the one that says there's "nothing more" he can do? Understandable. I mean the man is so busy....it takes time to see that your political opponent is continually harassed, indited 10 times, and hopefully sent to prison for 700 years. I'm sure it's exhausting. Besides, everybody can use a little more Beach Therapy.

Anyway, I'm pretty sure I got it figured out. He was talking about the White House borders. Makes perfect sense now. Once he put that razor wire up (the good razor wire...not the evil stuff Abbot used), he figured there wasn't much else to do. Ooopsie on the white powder stuff though. That was before the razor wire so that doesn't count. No more white stuff in the White House. Check your pockets, Hunter.

Well, I got to thinking. How in the world have we kept that racist, bigoted, Nazi, White Supremacist name. I mean seriously.... the "White House"? Where is the inclusiveness, the diversity in that? And why is it painted white? Where are the moral monitors of all that is fair and politically correct? But I'm sure it's in the planning stages.... the Rainbow Renovation Project will make all things right...(and Left), and NOT white. Instead, when we refer to that Iron-clad,

securely bordered place that houses the brilliant leaders of our great country, we will use the new and improved name....The Rainbow Brite House. Much better.

Meanwhile, those inside that new and improved facility will be working to make sure the borders of our states are safe. Nobody should run the risk of cutting themselves when illegally crossing those state borders, so they'll be cutting that razor wire (the evil kind). And those crossing our borders will need to be fed, of course. I hear some strategically placed Taco Trucks are in the works. They've also started construction on several border restaurants.... Panda Express and Pita Bread Express will be just a border-crossing away. Comfort for everyone is key here. I hear California's generous governor is even providing free health care to all illegals....putting those tax dollars to work. Let's keep those folks healthy so they can make it to the polls. Makes perfect sense.

I got a great idea. From now on, let's keep our local bank doors open 24/7, including the safe deposit boxes and vaults. None of those mean bank tellers and managers allowed (especially anyone on horseback with whips). Then let's make sure everyone knows about it so a big ad in the local paper would be great. And of course, we would have snack tables set up too. For all you bank customer nay-sayers....calm down. I'm sure only honest, law-abiding folks will walk through the door. Because people are basically good, right? Oh, except Maga hat-wearers, of course.

By Susie Crosby from Prineville

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