

~ 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 \$15. Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

TRUTH

Why is it that every time I read the news these days, I feel like I'm standing in the grocery checkout line reading a glorified version of The Enquirer? Here's a newsflash for the news folks. I don't lay awake at night worrying about what Taylor Swift said about her boyfriend. And if I see her rosy, red lips or Kamala's pearly whites one more time, I may lose my lunch. I just wonder, why is it so hard to do a little research, get the news, and then report it? I don't care what so-and-so said about what's-her-face. Just find the important stuff and tell me the truth about it. And, like we learned in kindergarten, half-truths are no better than lies.

I recently did a little jaunt down Liberal Lane and looked at what's up in the mainstream news media. I don't remember ever seeing such an assault on the truth, except for maybe the one time I accidentally watched 30 seconds of The View. No wonder people have such ridiculous ideas. If that's their only source of "news", they might as well stick to their video games, Door Dash, and never leave their basement.

It just makes me a little nervous thinking about what's most likely going on beneath the surface as we hyperventilate over the term "bloodbath". Yes... Trump used that word.... to describe what would happen to our auto industry if China got ahold of the EV business. Liberal News media, of course, took it totally out of context and has Trump wielding an ax if he doesn't get elected.

Holly Rebekah Lodge reschedules BINGO to April 28th

Holly Rebekah Lodge is canceling their monthly meal and BINGO on April 28th due to it being Easter. Mark your calendars for April 28th when the Lodge will be offering a salad buffet for only \$5 starting at 3 pm. BINGO will follow at 3:30. The charge for BINGO is \$5 for 10 games. In conjunction with the May Day Festivities in

Lexington on May 4th the Lodge will have a variety of soups along with a dinner roll, cookie, and drink available for \$5 starting at noon. BINGO will start at 3:30. Once again BINGO is \$5 for 10 games. All of these events are family-friendly and will be held at the Odd Fellow Hall at 135 Main Street in Lexington.

Son-Rise Service

The South Morrow County Ministerial Association invites you to attend a Son-Rise Service on Easter Morning at 7 am at the

Gilliam & Bisbee Building in Heppner. Join us as we celebrate the Risen Savior as a community!

Spiritually Speaking
Father Thankachan Joseph



PEACE BE WITH YOU

As we celebrate Easter, I wish you all a "Happy Feast of Easter!"

Easter's theme is "Peace" (shalom). Easter reminds us that peace isn't something we find on the outside; rather it is a blessing we can experience on the inside. What we notice in all the post resurrection scenes is that the first words when Jesus appears to His disciples are "peace be with you." ...Maybe something that we and the world are looking for and longing to have. As I was preparing my Easter-message, something from the Bible struck me intensely from the Gospel of John, an apt message for the occasion: "Jesus answered them, 'Do you believe now? The time is coming and is already here when all of you will be scattered, each of you to your own home, and I will be left all alone. But I am not really alone, because the father is with me. I have told you this so that you will have peace by being united to me. The world will make you suffer. But be brave! I have defeated the world!'" (John 16:31-33)

Easter reminds us that peace is available to us at any time, even in the most difficult of circumstances because of Christ and the sacrifices He made for every single one of us. We need to shout, "Alleluia, God is with us!" Because Jesus declared, much before His death, just as a movie director knows what is going to happen or how things should happen in the next scene, Jesus was able to predict about Himself and His life, what was going to take place after His death: "In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

In the Acts of the Apostles (10:34a, 37-43), we see the continued work of Christ in His Church after His resurrection. This continued work of Christ was made possible as a result of the witnesses of the apostles. Peter's address to Cornelius and his household was preceded by the baptism of Cornelius and his entire household, a witness made possible by the resurrection of Jesus. Peter reminds them that "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem...." (Acts 10:38-39). Witnessing comes as a result of experience. We are all real witnesses of the Living Christ in our personal lives.

The letter of Paul to the Colossians (3:1-4) reminds us of one thing: "Brothers and sisters: if then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above" (3:1). When we were affected by the pandemic of Covid-19, Pope Francis tried to keep us focused on Christ and keep the church united in Christ in a unique manner. His *Urbi et Orbi* blessing was actually a moment of building peace with Christ; this is what Christ reiterated to disciples before His death and to us when we are caught in the grief and loss of dear ones: "you will have peace by being united to me." It is very apt at this time. We can really overcome fear, anxiety, nervousness, through the support of our praying communities in which we take part.

The risen Lord always greeted His disciples in all the post resurrection scenes with these words: "peace be with you" (John 20:19). He also mentions "Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid" (John 14:27). This Easter season reminds us all to come closer to the Lord, who is caring for us, who continues to protect us from all threatening events. Instead of looking for comfort and pleasures from material and worldly things, the Lord invites everyone to come closer to Him and trust Him more. Let the words of Christ resonate in our minds and hearts. I think that is the real message of Easter: "be brave I have conquered the world." If you remain in Him and His words remain in you, surely we can conquer with our faith anything and everything that challenges us every day. The gift of peace is available to us because Christ is the Prince of Peace. Jesus Christ is the light that dispels darkness and ushers lasting peace and joy.

Good News Only by Doris Brosnan

A weekend in beautiful weather is perfect when the scattered family can get together: The Laughlin house was full of family for the St. Patrick's Day weekend. Kirk and Lottie Holcomb came from Madras. Rod and Tami Berthold came from Mosier, and two of their sons, Nick, and Wes, were able to join them. Wes brought his fiancé, Sarah Burlingame and four-year-old daughter, Alma. Many toasts were made to Butch and Judie, Tami and Lottie's parents, and memories made. Bertholds traveled "the back way home" and stopped at Cottonwood State Park for a camp-out in the beautiful weather, so they didn't get home until Tuesday.

A rare roll call: The Blackhorse Doherty families gathered in Heppner to celebrate St Patrick's Day. On Saturday, Dennis and wife, Anne, came from Hermiston; Roger and wife, Eileen, flew in from a snowed-in Denver to stay at the ranch with Tony (and Martha is really sure that Roger and Eileen turned off the lights when they left town); Martha and Maureen drove over from the coast; Becky came from Ione; Dennis's son Ben, wife, Missy, and daughters Elizabeth and Cate and Cate's friends Kellen Young and Anna Hansell came from Hermiston. Cate is a Umatilla County Fair Princess and was on the UCF float. On Sunday afternoon, Eileen cooked a traditional Irish meal of corned beef, Cannannon (mashed potatoes and cabbage) and Irish Soda Bread. Joining the group at Tony's from Hermiston was Dennis's daughter Tess Neddo and her daughter Bryn. Mike and Cindi Doherty joined the cousins, as well. The only sibling missing was Nancy, who celebrated in Sacramento.

Last weekend Damon Brosnan was put to work preparing his mother's 2024 tax returns – this in addition to providing her room and board for two days – rewarded with a steak dinner at a 10 Barrel. His Aunt Florence Nolan, formerly of Heppner, lives in Brookdale Assisted Living in Redmond, where she celebrated her 82nd birthday last Sunday, which included a surprise visit from her son, Mike. She asked that her friends in Heppner be told that she thinks of everyone often, and she watches for names she recognizes in the *Heppner Gazette Times*.

Wow! She did it again! Alison Ball, senior at Whitworth University in Spokane was again named "Athlete of the Week" last week! She was recognized for her first place in the 200 meters and in the 4/100 relay. Congrats, Ali, granddaughter of Diana Ball!

Service beyond expectations; A fellow went into the bank, the teller could tell he seemed and looked disheveled. His hair looked tussled, and his clothing looked unkept. The bank teller finished and then came out from behind her desk patted his hair into place and fixed his clothing, she finished by giving him a hug. He really needed and appreciated that.

Cheerful to see colors appearing in flowerbeds! Come on, Spring!

Just a few minutes of your time can add to the pleasure the readers get from reading the "good news." Easy as sending to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or calling 541-223-1490. Here's hoping that good news comes to everyone reading this!

INSTALLATION OF 2024/2025 LODGE OFFICERS Thursday, April 4th

Lasagna Dinner at 6:00 pm prepared by Shelby Matthews

Installation of Officer's at 8:00 pm (family memebtrs are welcome to attend)



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

BIRTHRIGHT

Birthright of Morrow County is seeking monthly donors to support our work here in Heppner! We are a non-profit that offers confidential support to anyone who is pregnant or thinks she may be pregnant. If you are able to donate \$10, \$20, or more per month, please let us know! We also accept one time donations as well. For more info, call 541-676-0530. Thank you!

ATTENTION COLUMBIA BASIN ELECTRIC'S OFFICE HOURS ARE CHANGING

EFFECTIVE

APRIL 1st, 2024



HEPPNER'S OFFICE HOURS WILL BE:

MONDAY – THURSDAY 7:00am to 5:30pm

STARTING FRIDAY APRIL 5TH, WE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAYS PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY!

Outage line services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
541-676-9146



Lunch & Dinner Menu

Specials 3/28 - 4/3

- Thursday** - Ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, roll, and corn
- Friday** - Clam Chowder with a grilled ham & cheese
- Saturday** - Baked potato soup with cheese filled bread sticks
- Monday** - Southwest grilled chicken salad
- Tuesday** - Reuben with mac n cheese
- Tuesday night** - 6-9 \$2 hard shell tacos
- Wednesday** - Tuna wrap with a fruit parfait



Please call to schedule an appointment at 541-922-6420. We are located in the Morrow County Government Center at 215 NE Main Avenue in Irrigon. Heppner appointments are available.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE! Call 541-676-9228
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