

~ 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.

Don't you judge me

So just when you think you've seen it all...the devil one-ups himself as the perpetrator of a blatant mocking of Jesus and The Last Supper as the Grand Opening entertainment at the Olympics. Makes me wonder who the Olympic genius was that said yes to that. Was he looking for a gold medal in the Worst Decision Ever game? A bunch of rainbow guys dressed up in ridiculous outfits pretending to be Jesus and his disciples. Yeah, I'm sure that should please everyone.... except maybe those that know Jesus as the One that died in their place and saved them from hell. Oh, just sit down and be quiet you pesky Christians. Get over it. A little ironic that the folks that come unglued if you don't use their desired pronoun think Christians should just zip it and enjoy the show while their Savior get bashed.

I had an interesting conversation with a woman the other day that felt people were making a big deal outta nothing. She made her opinion clear that this was an "artform" which should be viewed and critiqued as art, and, by the way, who was I to say how God critiqued it? As she tried whitewashing the blasphemy, complete with several Bible verses to support her opinion of Christians that have the audacity to "judge" (I think she googled it), my eyes were opened to the number of twists and turns some will take around those verses to make their point. Context is a pretty important deal when you're using scripture to support your view.

It seems that even

outside the church arena, there's usually one verse everyone knows and can quote quite well. It is, in fact, a favorite of the unbeliever. "Do not judge lest ye be judged...." flows quite easily off tongue while defending one's bad behavior. Because Christians are supposed to love everyone while ignoring their sin and love is complete tolerance and total acceptance of one's behavior. Right? Well, that's a lie and I'm not buying it. While I'm not Biblical scholar, I don't believe Jesus meant we should go through life without having opinions and making judgements. That would be silly. Yes, He did tell us to get the board out of our own eye so we can see to get the speck out of another's eye (which is kinda funny when you picture it). He was actually telling us HOW to judge, as in don't point out someone's sin when you're rolling in it yourself, you hypocrite (which is a judgement). Get your own act together so you can help someone else get theirs together.

Jesus said we will know a tree by its fruit. Are we not supposed to look at that fruit and make a judgement as to what type of fruit it is, and then react appropriately? Being able to tell the difference between good and evil is a valuable asset, and an important judgement. And pointing someone to Jesus when we see them heading for hell is about as loving as you can get.

"Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly." John 7:24

By Susie Crosby, Prineville, OR.

Oregon Health Authority installs more than 100 water filters in LUBGWMA

By Yasser Marte/East Oregonian- The Oregon Health Authority and community-based organizations installed more than a hundred water filtration systems at residential households in the Lower Umatilla Basin Ground Water Management Area to help address the ongoing issue of high levels of nitrate in domestic well water.

According to a press release from OHA, 111 water treatment systems were placed Sunday, June 30, at some of the homes in the LUBGWMA.

"We are grateful to the plumbers who have helped us reach this milestone and we continue to look for ways to install these systems at a faster pace," according to Gabriela Goldfarb, section manager of OHA Environmental Public Health.

Goldfarb expressed her gratitude for the patience of residents who are waiting to get their treatment system installed.

The LUBGWMA region in northern Morrow and northwestern Umatilla counties has had high levels of nitrates in domestic well water for decades.

Nitrate in well water is a potential health hazard, and levels above 10 milligrams per liter of water

are considered dangerous for human consumption. Pregnant people and babies face the greatest risk, and livestock can be affected in the same way as babies.

OHA also recently announced a retesting effort to ensure households near the 10 mg/L are monitored. Residents are encouraged to continue testing their domestic wells nitrate levels.

Households in the LUBGWMA with a laboratory nitrate test result above 10 mg/L can all receive free water deliveries.

For the households with well water tests higher than 10 mg/L but under 25 mg/L, the state will pay for installation and maintenance of one in-home reverse-osmosis system that is certified to reduce nitrate levels to what is safe for drinking. These systems are not certified to reduce nitrates in wells with levels above 25 mg/L, according to the press release.

State rules require licensed plumber to install treatment systems. OHA's vendors also provide ongoing maintenance and replacement of filters. Vendors also collect a water sample for laboratory analysis of the water from the tap after installation to guarantee the water is safe for consumption.

MC fair features fiber mural and leather crafting workshops

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An example of weaving art.

-Photo contributed.

admire.

On Friday we will shift gears when Randy Linville will bring Bend the Trend Leather to the Morrow County fair. She will have classes on Friday from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm and again from 3:30-5:30pm the same day. She was born and raised in The Dalles, OR on a wheat farm. Her company is based out of Goldendale and was found-

ed in 2021. She started her business with a dream of a cowhide purse. She took matters into her own hands and made one. She has perfected these purses over the years and has ventured into new areas. "Small things have turned into big things!" Randy and Bend the Trend leather is now mobile. She will be featuring her talents this year with you. Participants will be making key chains made from cowhide.

The supplies needed and the classes are all free thanks to the Morrow County Art Coalition. Take time during the fair to create, relax and be a part of your community.

Community response to the Needs of SMC Seniors

-Continued from PAGE ONE

The Heppner Housing Authority sought bids from various contractors for the HVAC unit replacement. The estimated cost exceeded their available funds, so I talked with some grant funding partners. I met briefly with Amazon Web Services (AWS) external affairs manager Kalie Davis on July 11th and described the need. On July 26th, she called me back to say AWS had decided to provide all the necessary funds for the HVAC replacement. She described how they were excited to support the senior meal

program here in Heppner.

They've all been wonderfully helpful—Heppner Housing Authority, Morrow County, ODHS Office of Resilience and Emergency Management, Heppner Elks Lodge, and Amazon! We named our program South Morrow County Seniors Matter, and if that name were a question—"Do the seniors of South Morrow County matter?"—the resounding response from this community is, "Yes, they do!" This community has been amazing in its support of its older adults! And we are so very thankful!

Ione School District BOD to hold meeting August 5th

Notice of board meeting of Ione school district notice is hereby given that the Ione School District Board of Directors will meet for a Special Board

Meeting on Monday, August 5, 2024, at 11:00 am at the Ione School District cafeteria. Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 232 041 176 181 Passcode: b53kaa

WCCC Ladies play day results

There were 5 players in the ladies' gameplay at the Willow Creek Country Club on July 30th. Good, Cloudy. The results are as follows; Low Gross of the field was Karen Thompson. The low Net field was Kris Linder. The least putts of

the field was Carol Mitchell. Flights- Low gross was (B) Betty Carter. The low 9B) net was Karen Smith Griffith. Long Drive was Karen Thompson. K.P. was Carol Mitchell and Kris Lindner.

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