

The Official Newspaper  
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**  
U.S.P.S. 240-420

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For Obituaries: Obituaries are published in the Heppner GT at no charge and are edited to meet news guidelines. Families wishing to include information not included in the guidelines or who wish to have the obituary written in a certain way must purchase advertising space for the obituary.  
For Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor MUST be signed by the author. The Heppner GT will not publish unsigned letters. All letters MUST include the author's address and phone number for use by the GT office. The GT reserves the right to edit letters. 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

**Spiritually Speaking**  
*Father Thankachan Joseph*



**"I Am the Bread of Life"**

As I was thinking of the theme of this Sunday, the Bread of Life, I came across the latest Eucharistic miracle reported from very close to my hometown, where during Holy Communion, the host turned into the real body of Jesus on the tongue of a 14-year-old girl on three occasions. Do you believe this can happen on our reception of the communion? Similarly, through the readings this Sunday, we come across some types of people whose lives at times become so full of failure and disappointment that they just do not want to live anymore. It is comforting to know that even the saints knew such moments. In today's first reading, we see the prophet Elijah experiencing such a moment. But God always sends him help and he can continue. In our bleak moments do we trust in God's help?

This first reading, from the First Book of Kings (19:4-8), describes the Prophet Elijah's desert experience. He is so human, so like us. He is weary of the spiritual journey and worn out from having to serve God with no support at all. So, he pleads to die rather than to live. Instead, the angel of God, perhaps God Himself, tells Elijah to get up and eat and to go to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. The important aspect that we must notice is that Elijah obeys God. This is the heart of our spiritual life. This is how each one of us wants to live even when we are not faithful. Like Elijah, we need to work with all our energy to obey the Lord! However tough the journey is, we can feel with His assistance that "the tough get going."

In the Gospel of John, (13:1), we read: "Jesus, knowing that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father" ... 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 the Lord Jesus to us before His departure to the Father. Thus, Jesus becomes "the Bread of life" (Jn 6:48).

We know well that Jesus was born in David's town of Bethlehem. Bethlehem meant "the place of bread, place of meat." Food is one of the main elements of human lives, and we all work to satisfy our stomachs, but Jesus became bread for everyone, to satisfy the spiritual and physical hunger of everyone, instituting the Holy Eucharist as the memorial of His presence with us and His unconditional love towards us. The Eucharist is spiritual nourishment for human beings, to satisfy their hunger for spiritual realities.

**Is Jesus Really Present in the Holy Eucharist?** The real presence of the Lord is felt in the Eucharistic bread that is kept in the Tabernacle. Eucharistic miracles take place every day on every altar where the Holy Eucharist is being celebrated.

**What are you hungering for?** Jesus satisfies the physical hunger of humans before the spiritual one. The Eucharistic discourse of Jesus in the Gospel of John 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 Jesus's words to the people on the right, "Come you that are blessed by my Father! I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink" (Matthew 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. As Jesus has become bread and gratified human deprivation, it is our time to satisfy the human needs of people around us. Is there anyone hungry around me? How do I approach such situations and become the bread someone needs? What bread are we looking for? Only Jesus can offer us that bread because "**He is the Bread of life.**"

**A View from the Hill**

The view from the Hill has often been hampered by smoke from wildfires during the past several weeks, but welcome breezes are now and then enabling residents to enjoy their front entry and view of the reservoir and the surrounding hillsides.

Recently those residents served as welcome to their new neighbor. Peggy Connor has moved from her long-time residence below the dam to her new apartment above the dam! Her move-in leaves two apartments available for rent. Interested persons can come by or call 541-676-0004.

August also began on another upbeat note, the traditional "happy birthday" song for Bev Sherman, who turned 89 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The family provided a ham for the birthday lunch with family and neighbors, cooked by son-in-law Mark Huddleston.

Bev and her daughters provided the blooming plants that they filled the entry planters with this summer, and Bev tends to the plants every morning.

August will continue to be a fairly quiet month of mostly routine in-house activities, including the return of the Friday Social. But one hoped-for jaunt will be a day at the fair on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Administrator Lankford is now trying to arrange transportation for interested residents.

Maybe Jerry Green could be encouraged to enter some of the Terrace produce in the fair, for he tends to the garden daily. Strawberries and tomatoes have graced the dining tables, for example. And adding to their home-grown produce has been veggies brought to them by Hal Bergstrom.

Virginia Peck's donated American flag again flies in the breezes on the hill, after a time out when the rope broke. Thanks have gone out to the Columbia Basin employees who replaced it.

Now the residents and staff at Willow Creek Terrace can again enjoy the view of the colors flying above the serene setting surrounding them.

**Good News Only** by Doris Brosnan

Five friends and her daughter Shawn McKay lunched with Nancy Anderson at the Broken Spoke last Friday to celebrate her 79th birthday. A pleasant way to greet her new age!

Nova Simpson spent four days with her friend Bruce Waltz and his love Ann Stevenson in McMinnville, June 25 – 28. Nova met Bruce when she moved from Spray to Pendleton in the third grade and they have remained friends since. They showed her all around McMinnville. They took her to their weekly "happy hour" that they have had for years at a friend's home, so Nova met more new friends (she has never met a stranger). They showed her downtown McMinnville where the entire street is shut down from Friday through Sunday for outside dining. They went to the Baptist church where Bruce and Ann volunteer at a family-counseling center, to teach how to parent better and to help struggling, frightened children. The center offers childcare, and clothes and diapers so badly needed for so many families. (Nova has information to share because she contributes often; "there can never be enough diapers for families in need.") They visited wineries, amazing produce stands with strawberries, blueberries, and fresh beans, and they had an amazing evening in their back yard with a fireplace and set-up for outside dining. There was dining, dancing, and many laughs, and they invited her again, so she looks to their next adventure. Recently, Cindi and Mike Doherty, with their son Chad Doherty and his wife, Alicia, plus their daughter Kylie Simpkins and son Malcolm traveled to Waterloo, Iowa, to see Cindi's Aunts and Uncles. One day, they went to Chicago to a White Sox game against the Mariners, and the Mariners won! Alicia also got an autograph from Andres Munoz. They also went to the Field of Dreams; Potosi, Wisconsin; to a brewery, John Deere Museum, and the Dan Gable Wrestling Museum. The weather was warm, and the humidity was high. They also toured the Amish colonies in Amana, Iowa. Kylie got to see her first firefly, and the cicadas were so loud! They were all amazed on how green everywhere was. Of course, everyone had corn on the cob from Iowa, which is the best!

Last Sunday, Robert, Dena, and Harmony Gonty came to Heppner to become reacquainted with their family roots. His great grandfather came to Heppner with his mother and brother to visit family, but when it was time to return home to Belgium, the two teen-aged brothers decided to stay, and the great grandfather opened a shoe repair shop and later a shoe store. That business was passed on to his son Edmond Gonty and was family-run for seventy-five years before being sold to Jerry and Joyce Kay Holloman. Robert, Raymond's son, spent most summers and every holiday when growing up visiting "my second home," Heppner, enjoying fishing and swimming at Willow Creek under the bridge by the library/museum. His grandmother, Eleanor, "always made sure the children were never idle and would put them to work..." unless they would disappear first. Robert said Heppner has changed "but is still thriving, and I am so happy I have so many memories of here. Everyone has been so nice to us during our visit, even opening the museum for us to visit and read some of our family history." He added his gratitude for Cherry Clark and Peggy for accommodating their visit. A happy coincidence at this museum visit was Joyce Kay's also happening to be there with a couple of her Tennessee cousins who were enjoying a tour about town! Contact info for Robert: 206-920-7890, rgonty@hotmail.com.

Have you heard the familiar honking in the sky for the last couple, three weeks? Do the Canadian honkers know something we don't, or are they confused by the smoke, or are they just jumping the gun about a month early? Maybe they and the occasional falling red or gold leaves from trees are undeniable signs of oncoming fall. After all, fair and rodeo and football camp and practices are also indicative of a change.

Thanks to contributors who took a few minutes to send their tidbits to [dbrosnan123@gmail.com](mailto:dbrosnan123@gmail.com) or to call 541-223-1490! Good News is their news!

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

**HRL hosting breakfast Aug 10<sup>th</sup>**

Are you looking for a place to have breakfast? Look no further. Holly Rebekah Lodge has your answer. On Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 for only \$5 one can have pancakes, sausage, and scrambled eggs. This will be held at the Odd Fellow Hall in Lexington at 135 Main Street.

**Obituaries**

**Mary Patricia Pierce-Anderson**



Mary resided in The Dalles, where she continued to spread love and joy to those around her. She had a special place in her heart for children in the foster system, providing respite to families in need. Mary also had a passion for skiing, both on snow and water, as well as a love for the Pendleton Round-Up and tennis.

Mary Patricia Pierce-Anderson was a beloved member of the community, known for her kind heart, generous spirit, and unwavering dedication to her family. Born on December 29, 1949, Mary's life was filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories.

Mary is survived by her son, John Anderson, daughter-in-law Sheraya, and granddaughter Ava. She is also survived by her sisters Martha McQuinn and Molly Rhea, along with several nieces, nephews, and countless friends who will always cherish her memory.

As a young girl, Mary was welcomed into the loving family of Gene and Fay Pierce, along with her siblings Mike, Martha, Greg, and Molly. Growing up in Heppner, Mary attended Heppner High School, where she graduated in 1968. She then pursued her passion for dentistry by obtaining her dental assistant certification from Blue Mountain Community College.

A graveside service will be held at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery on August 9 at 11 am, followed by a luncheon at the Heppner Elks Club. In honor of Mary's memory, donations can be made to The Next Door Inc., a nonprofit organization that supports families in need.

After working as a dental assistant in Portland, Mary ventured to Arizona where she formed lifelong friendships while working as a waitress. In 1989, Mary married the love of her life, Steve Anderson, and together they welcomed their son, John, in 1994.

Mary's legacy of love, compassion, and kindness will live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know her. She will be deeply missed, but her spirit will continue to inspire all who were touched by her presence. Rest in peace, Mary Patricia Pierce-Anderson, knowing that your impact on the world will never be forgotten.

For over 20 years,

**Death Notice**

**Mary Ann Meyer**

Mary Ann Meyer age 94, a resident of The Dalles, OR, passed away on July 20, 2024. A Celebration of

Life will be held at a later date. Spencer, Libby, and Powell Funeral Home in care of arrangements.

**Judith A. Rea**

Judith "Judy" A. Rea, 86, of Ione died Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston. She was born on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1937 at Spokane, Washington. A

memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the Ione Community Church. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements.

**The annual FCMGT to be held August 24<sup>th</sup>**

The Annual Father Condon Memorial Golf Tournament will be on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 AM. Please arrive by 8:00. It will be a nine-hole scramble team event. If you don't have a team, please come and we will

ensure you get put on one. The cost to enter is \$30. Proceeds go towards the Catholic student scholarship fund provided annually by the St. Patrick's/St. William's Holy Name Society. For more information contact Mark McElligott.

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

**MURRAY'S BEER & WINE TASTING**

THURSDAY NIGHT OF FAIR  
Partnering with Cattlemen's Association

**AUGUST 15**  
6pm to 10:30 pm  
Morrow Co. Fairgrounds, Heppner

\$10 Starter Pack (1 glass + 2 drink tickets)  
Additional Drink Tickets \$5  
Dinner provided by: Taste of the South  
Opening - Musically Unstable - Joe Lindsay Band  
Music by: Caitlyn Ochsner

**Bring lawn chairs**  
**Limited seating available**

**Morrow County Livestock dinner tickets available at Murrays \$25**