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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner

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

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$5.50 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$15 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$6.00 per column inch.
For Public/Legal Notices: public/legal notices deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Dates for publication must be specified. Affidavits must be requested at the time of submission. Affidavits require three weeks to process after last date of publication (a sooner return date must be specified if required).
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



First Sunday of advent: stay awake

After Thanksgiving celebrations, we will begin the new liturgical year marking the Advent season. It is time to wait for the Messiah, our Savior. The Thanksgiving ceremony is an occasion for all of us to thank the Lord for all the blessings and graces we have received from the affectionate and loving Heavenly Father.

I would like to begin this week's reflection with a small quiz I used to use: Imagine that you are sleeping. You are dreaming. A huge wild animal is chasing you. You try to run away, and you see a tiger coming in front of you. You turn, but every side you turn to, you find a ferocious animal coming to attack you. How can you escape? The answer: Wake up. This is what all the Scripture readings of the week are trying to teach us. Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Generally, we understand His coming at Christmas, which recalls His historical birth 2000 years ago, and His coming on the Last Day. The season of Advent reminds us of our waiting for the second coming of Christ.

As we wait for the second coming of the Lord, the second reading of the week is our central focus, from the letter to the Thessalonians (1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2). The Thessalonians, Paul writes, were obsessed with the nearness of the second coming of Christ. In Paul's second letter to them, Paul reprimands them for giving up work and living in idleness (2 Thess 3:6-15). Apparently, some of them thought that the Lord's coming was so near that there was no point in providing for the future. Such excesses on the part of believers gave non-believers the impression that the second coming of Christ was a fear factor fabricated by Christian preachers to scare people into accepting the faith. Paul's opponents in Thessalonica were making such claims. The enemies of the church in Thessalonica were saying that Paul's teaching that Jesus would come back to take His followers with Him was Paul's own fabrication. To support their case, they point out that some of the first Christians who thought that Jesus was coming back to take them with Him were already dead. In other words, they were deceived in their belief. Paul's response is that their death does not mean that they will suffer any disadvantage when Christ comes. At Christ's coming, the dead will rise and, together with the living, they will meet the Lord in mid-air (1 Thess 4:13-18).

The Gospel reading is taken from the last chapter of Luke (21:25-28, 34-36), just before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to His disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the devastation of the Temple in Jerusalem, cautions about the persecution and tribulations to follow, and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

Watchfulness is the slogan of Advent. A funny anecdote comes to my mind to describe this particular aspect: A drunkard went for a Sunday Mass, listening to a long dull sermon. Feeling still hungover and tired, he finally nodded off hoping no one would notice. The priest had been watching him all along and at the end of the sermon he decided to make an example out of him. "Whoever in this room would like a place in heaven, please stand up," he exclaimed. The whole room stood up except, of course, for one. Obviously displeased, the priest said loudly, "And he who would like to find a place in hell, please stand up." The man, catching only the last part, sleepily stood up, only to find that he was the only one standing up. Confused and embarrassed, he said, "I don't know what we are voting on here, father, but it sure seems like you and me are the only ones standing for it."

We will now begin the season of Advent—the coming of our Lord. Watchfulness is the keyword for this season. We always need to be watchful for the coming of the Lord. This coming Sunday marks the beginning of the season of Advent, a time of preparation, a time of great expectation and great anticipation.

GT announcements

The Heppner Gazette Times will be closed Thursday the 28th and Friday the 29th for the holiday.

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SUBMIT NEWS, ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
SEND US PHOTOS
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Murray's Thanksgiving Hours
Thursday November 28
CLOSED
Friday November 29
Retail/Esspresso 9 am to 6 pm
Pharmacy: 1pm to 6pm

Happy Thanksgiving
We are so thankful for all of you! John and Ann

Murray's Drug
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Good News Only by Doris Brosnan

Reports are positive about the festive Friday shopping last week followed by the music at the ag museum and the lighting of the trees in Heritage Park! Good to hear positives about community activities.

The high school football teams had good runs this past season and are to be congratulated. We now turn our attention to winter's indoor sports, getting ready to support the basketball teams and wrestling teams!

Last Saturday found this writer and life-long friend Shirley George in Redmond for a reunion of the Edie, Florence, Kip, Doris, and Bob Morris siblings and the families' next generation. The weather cooperated for traveling (some five and six hours), so thirty-five attendees were able to enjoy three hours of catch-up conversations, photo ops, Mazatlán dishes, and promises to do it again soon, to do it during a more optimum season, and to try to catch more of the missing thirteen nieces and nephews with open schedules.

Thanksgiving is certainly the holiday that invites us to recognize our reasons to be thankful, and apparently about 88 million Americans will be sharing these reasons around tables filled with turkeys and accompanying dishes. About 45 million turkeys are sold for Thanksgiving, with hams running in second place. Wherever you are, whatever you will be eating, you are wished a truly happy time-out from work/responsibilities/stress/cares/worries for time with friends/family, and for counting reasons to be thankful.

What did the turkey say to the turkey hunter? ("Quack, quack!") What do you call rain on Turkey Day? (Fowl weather.) Thanksgiving = not a good day to be my pants! From Erma Bombeck: Thanksgiving dinners take nineteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes.... This is not coincidence!

Only contributions to this column will keep it going, so please contribute your tidbits by sending them to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or by calling 541-223-1490.

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

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For Sale
Approx 20 Acres
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Beautiful 20-acre property in Eastern Oregon, zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU). Along Willow Creek Rd

CONGRATULATIONS TO PASTOR TROY MCGILL!
Troy is now the lead pastor at CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER CHURCH in Heppner @ 535 Morgan Street
Come join us at 10:30 am Sundays
All are welcome!

THE UNDERGROUND OASIS

BREAKING THE BONDAGE OF ADDICTION AND FINDING FREEDOM IN CHRIST
WE MEET FRIDAY NIGHTS AT 7 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL AT THE HEPPNER SDA CHURCH
ALL WELCOME

BUCKNUM'S TAVERN
146 N Main Street Heppner 541-676-5274

Lunch & Dinner Menu
Specials 11/28 - 12/4

Thursday - Closed. Happy Thanksgiving
Friday - Ham, corn, mashed potato's & gravy, with a roll
Saturday - Grilled ham & cheese with potato soup
Sunday - Turkey & pepperjack deli sandwich with deep fried green beans
Monday - General Tso chicken, fried rice, & egg roll
Tuesday - 1/4lb hamburger with mac n cheese
Tuesday night 6-9pm \$2 hard shell tacos
Wednesday - Turkey bacon craisin salad

Obituaries

Frances Louise West (Francie)



ly, especially her grandchildren. She was an active part of their lives, taking them to the ranch, attending Vacation Bible School, playing in the hot tub, swimming, and teaching them how to cook. She and Jim were always present at 4-H and FFA events, sitting proudly in the stands with beaming smiles, supporting their grandkids with love and encouragement.

February 4, 1940 – November 12, 2024. Frances Louise West, known to all as Francie, passed away peacefully on November 12, 2024, at the age of 84. She was born on February 4, 1940, in Wasco County, Oregon, to Dorothy Margaret Fouts of South Dakota and Virgil Owen West of Oregon.

Francie was a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. She is survived by her children: Mark, Dean, Rona (Marty), Karen (Rocky), Tamara, Susie, and George (Sebrina), along with her grandchildren: Tanner, Colter, Jessica, David, Paul, Luke, Dominic, Nicole, and Katie, and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Jim, and her brother Mick.

A proud homemaker, Francie dedicated her life to caring for her family. She was known for cooking three hot meals a day, sewing, and creating beautiful quilts. She spent many years making special clothes for her daughter Rona, including a side saddle dress and a May Day dress. Sewing and quilting were her passions, and she also enjoyed painting pictures.

A memorial service to celebrate Francie's life was held on Saturday, November 23, 2024, at 11:00 AM at the Methodist Church of Arlington in Arlington, OR.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Francie's memory to the **Gilliam County Auction Committee**, PO Box 471, Arlington, OR 97812.

Francie's legacy of love, devotion to family, and generous spirit will be remembered by all who knew her. Her impact on the lives of her family, friends, and community will continue to be felt for generations to come.

Above all, Francie was deeply devoted to her family.

Please leave your condolence messages for the family at sweeneypayton-mortuary.com.

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ATTENTION HUNTERS!!

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