



May 18, 2024 (Armed Forces Day)

#3

But Are We Safe?

You can turn off the news if it gets too depressing, but when you look out at the peaceful landscape of our McCroskey Township, keep in mind that crime usually comes unexpectedly.

A few months ago, one of our area merchants was robbed of some of her firearms on display in her store by four masked men who entered in broad daylight, grabbed the guns and then sped away, never to be heard from again. Thankfully, no one was hurt.

It was called-in, of course, and tribal police and sheriff's deputies made a belated appearance to investigate. No "All Points Bulletins," no emergency response, no public warnings were issued. Even the *Gazette-Record* failed to issue the usual email alerts to its subscriber list.

The paper did run a story on the incident the following week. Since then, like so many other crimes, it fell through a memory hole. No more reports.

Oh, well. It's a federal issue now. Local law enforcement can go back to their . . . whatever it is that they do.

(I happen to know a little more than most about this incident because my wife was running the Thrift Store next door when this happened.)

The under-reporting of crime is becoming a problem. Just recently, a European political leader was arrested for publicly informing her sisters concerning the high risk of rape from

migrants. I guess it is now a crime to stereotype people.

In the United States, a crime wave is sweeping the nation and County Sheriff's departments are alarmed. But it is not reported in the news.

We might need a neighborhood watch. There is a risk that Desmet Road will become a backroad escape for fleeing felons. Think about it.

The Joy of Shooting Firearms

I like our neighbor who frequently plinks in the woods. It serves as a reminder to would-be troublemakers that our neighbors are armed and potentially dangerous to criminals who may want to cause us harm. But don't count on law enforcement. You would probably be better served by calling a neighbor on a citizen's band radio than by dialing 9-1-1.

What our Legislators Hath Wrought

Our state legislators have just finished the 2024 session. But while many of them are patting themselves on the back, the rest of us are wondering what they have accomplished.

Well, for one thing, they have changed the language of legislation. Every bill passed now ends with a "declaration of emergency" clause. I wonder what it means to declare an emergency and then not tell anyone what the emergency is? Sort of like the four year old that dials 9-1-1 because her kitten is stuck in the tree. I would like to know what the emergency is. No one wants to say. I guess it is one of

those “everything-is-an-emergency” things. Maybe **we** are their emergency and they don’t want to tell us.

As for state conservatives, Mr. Ridley from Idaho for Life ranks the session with an A+, even though his pro-life legislation ended with the menacing emergency clause.

The folks from Idaho Freedom Foundation gave the legislators a big fat “F.” So, even the conservatives are sharply divided.

Regardless of your political persuasion, there is a primary election coming up this Tuesday in case you haven’t noticed.

Gardening for 2024

Frosty nights lingered into May this year, which is unusual. Then suddenly because of the solar storms, it got hot. I finally got something to grow, but I’m more concerned about the lack of rain.

From the era of water rights litigation a decade ago, many of us have aquifer rights up to 10,000 gallons per day. If you are serious about large gardens, you might need to upgrade your pump or look for ways to catch what rain water we do get.

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Best method is pools and small ponds. If you line the bottom, it should escape being classified as a wetland. With a liner, it becomes a recreational pool and you can use it as a back-up irrigation source. Heck, call it your “back-up water source for fighting wildfires.” That should make all of the troublesome bureaucrats happy.

If you missed the previous issues of this newsletter, you can find them at the website: savebenewahcounty.com

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Next issue: More Gardening for 2024, Post-Primary Commentary, The Zoning Board’s Plans for You.

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