



## A Circular for the McCroskey Township

November 20th, 2025 (Thanksgiving Issue)



Issue #19

### When the Pilgrims were Communists . . .

They starved to death.

A rarely discussed historical fact which the Pilgrims shared in their memoirs and their public records was that the Plymouth Colony started off as a commune.

In the beginning there was no private property. Everybody worked together in common fields and stored the harvest in a common warehouse. They thought that because they were Christians, everybody would do their part.

They didn't.

Almost the entire colony died-off in the first year after settlement from malnutrition and disease. This was because there was not enough food to go around. Too many of them had been too lazy during the growing season, thinking, "Let someone else do the work."

After that frightful calamity, William Bradford records that it was decided to divide the land into private plots. Whatever you grew on that plot was yours to keep.

Recognizing that their own labor and success were what stood between them and the hardships of another starving

winter, whole families worked their fields. Even small children were given tasks that fit their abilities.

After that much more successful harvest, they celebrated their first real Thanksgiving, and the rest is history.

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### Give Freedom a Chance

The following is a Letter recently published in the Opinion columns of the *St. Maries Gazette-Record* (11/19/25)

*Without piling on our beleaguered County Commissioners over the current fiscal crisis, let me just offer a solution for consideration: do what Ronald Reagan would have done . . . and did.*

*Deregulate.*

*If the tax base cannot support legitimate government services, then grow the tax base. The best way to do that is by deregulation.*

*In Reagan's day, it was called "supply-side economics."*

*Until something better comes along to fund local government, property valuations are the foundation of the tax base. Benewah County needs a building boom.*

*The Commissioners need to bring back the building codes we had before the UN Global Warming zealots took over. They need to simplify the permitting process so that the people don't have to hire an attorney. They need to liberalize subdividing*

and cut the fees. . . the opposite of what they have been doing the past ten years.

As I recall, back in the day when Mike Miland was the building inspector, he just required a floor plan (after construction was completed) and that the property was insurable. Otherwise, the property owner was free to improve and develop his property as he saw fit. Benewah County had a reputation of small government and freedom which attracted a sustainable and stable growth for the county.

If we don't want the county to devolve into some kind of communistic freak show of high fees, unenforceable codes, and a snarling permitting process run by lazy bureaucrats, then we need to give freedom a chance.

James Stivers

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### **Home Invader Charged**

The update from the Prosecutor's Office found in the November 5th Edition of the St. Maries Gazette-Record reports that the rural Desmet-area home invader has been charged. Read the newspaper article or past issues of the McCroskey Agrarian for details. Congratulations to area residents who pursued the matter to make our neighborhood safe.

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### ***The McCroskey Agrarian***

1435 Desmet Rd.  
Desmet, ID 83824



### **Harvest Reports**

Area hay harvests were poor this year. Did you notice that we scarcely got any rain all summer long? We wouldn't have had a garden at all had we not irrigated.

Anyway, sold off the entire cow herd while the market was still up. Grown cows were over \$1k while the younger ones brought more per pound.

There's talk of importing cheap beef from Argentina. While that might bring down retail prices, it will hurt efforts to rebuild the nation's herds. There is a risk that too many operators will get out or down-size even more to cash-in on the good prices before they go down again. It will prolong the rebuilding process and create dependence on foreign suppliers.

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**Next Issue: Area News, the County CAFR, and more harvest reports..**

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If you missed the previous newsletters, you can find them at [savebenewahcounty.com](http://savebenewahcounty.com). James Stivers, Editor/Publisher [jwstivers1@gmail.com](mailto:jwstivers1@gmail.com). Let us know if your postal carrier failed to deliver your copy.

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