



A Circular for the McCroskey Township

February 22, 2026 (Washington's Birthday, Traditional)

Issue #22

"Live and Let Live"

That is the unspoken ethic of country folks.

Why do people move to the country? Many answers: To mind their own business . . . to get away from the "rat race" . . . to be closer to nature . . . and so on.

If you look at the reasons, in the background is the sense that urban life intrudes on a person's consciousness. You begin to feel like your mind is not your own and everything you do is dictated by the mob. You can't move to the left or right, slow down or speed up, because the crowd is pushing you in one direction at one speed. You feel powerless.

You move to the country and if you are lucky, you will regain your sanity. But watch out . . . the "do gooders" live there too and might be in charge of local government.

What do they believe in?

Communitarianism.

"Communitarianism" is a new fangled term like "sustainability" that doesn't really have a legal definition. It is just an excuse to tell people what to do, and what not to do.

It is a hijacked term that sounds like we are talking about community-minded people. It has nothing to do with that.

It used to be called "communism" but that word got a bad reputation.

Then, it was called "socialism." That word got worn out too.

A few years ago, "communitarian" was invented as a fuzzy substitute word.

It does not refer to "Community-minded" people who seek to improve public spaces. Instead, these people want to control the use of private property and they want you to accept it for your own good.

Zoning boards are the haunts for these kinds of meddling do-gooders.

If you want to build a deck, they want you to pay a fee and get permission. If you need a new front door, pay a fee and get permission. You want an outhouse at the back of the property so you don't have to "pee in the woods"? Pay a fee and get permission.

Somehow, you get the suspicion that these local leaders are just city folks wearing blue jeans. You get to feeling the same way you felt living in the city - suffocated.

Seattle Metrocrats Come to Benewah County

If you want to learn how "communitarianism" has become the new lingo of local power grabs, go to the March 1st featured article for "The McCroskey Agrarian" at the savebenewahcounty.com website. An interview will be featured telling the story of tenants in North Seattle fifteen years ago. What was once a headache for city folks has now moved to the countryside. . . our countryside.

Our local zoning board is getting ready to implement the Governor's Executive Order for "All Hazards Prevention & Mitigation" EO #2022-04. That's more lingo like communitarianism right out of the UN metro playbook.

Communitarianism says your property belongs to the community and that you need to get permission and follow the community plan for land use. It is a word

found in the United Nations charter, but not the Constitution of the United States.

The US Constitution recognizes that your property rights come from God, not the community. It says it is the job of the community to protect your rights, not regulate your rights.

When neighbors disagree, they talk it out. And if that doesn't work, they go to court to resolve the conflict. The irony, as North Seattle residents discovered, is that Communitarianism creates *more* conflict because "rights" are never absolute. There are no fixed guide posts. Community standards keep changing and never ending rules and regulations are imposed creating new problems and disagreements.



Celebrating America's Sesquicentennial

This year is America's sesquicentennial. 250 years ago, the Declaration of Independence was signed. It's time to revisit America's heritage and identify the principles that made us unique in the world of nations. Why?

If nothing else, we need to re-educate our local "Communitarians" that Americans are doing fine on their own. If we need help, we will ask. We don't need government in our daily lives or dictating the use of the property that we paid for ourselves.

Setting the Record Straight

Did you notice the two new highway signs at the Desmet trucker's turnout?

What was once a charming remembrance in honor of the personal sacrifices of Father DeSmet on behalf of Indian missions, it is now forgotten and replaced by a dour complaint.

The McCroskey Agrarian

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The full text of "Sign #1" has been posted to the savebenewahcounty.com website, or just drive over there and read it for yourself. I doubt that many Tribal members would agree with its cynical deprecation of Christianity.

Likewise for "Sign #2," it replaces The McCroskey State Park sign which recounted the cheerful story of the philanthropist who donated that large tract of land for the enjoyment of everyone and kept it out of the clutches of corporate tycoons. Unfortunately, the new sign profiles a weird complaint about the Dawes Act which tried to get Indians to become farmers instead of remaining hunter-gatherers. The Dawes Act bequeathed 160 acre homesteads to Tribal members just like their non-Tribal neighbors.

Would any Tribal member today want to go back to a Stone Age lifestyle? Contrary to revisionist historians, it is not clear that the Dawes Act was flawed. The venture was interrupted by the Great Depression which came to farm country a decade before it did to Wall Street. Everyone suffered during that bleak time in American history, not just Indian homesteaders.

These depressing and divisive signs *did not* come from the CDA Tribe. **So don't blame them.** They came from the geniuses in the Governor's office. More next month.

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Next Issue: More of the same.

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