

Good News Only

By Doris Brosnan

Feels good to have options. Fully C-19 vaccinated individuals can choose to wear masks or to go mask-free, in most situations indoors and out. So says the CDC and doctors on TV. Last Sunday afternoon, in the comfort of her living room, Marlene Gray became the President of the Oregon Rebekah Assembly. The installation of Marlene and her slate of officers was accomplished on Zoom, with some glitches because of some too-narrow bandwidths, but it succeeded as some of her family, local Rebekah members and some friends quietly watched. Her work this year will require much traveling and has already begun.

Also installed as one in that slate of state officers, LaRae Kindle will serve as Marlene's Assembly Marshall. Present in her common place at Marlene's side, LaRae - after the state procedure - also swore to carry out her new district duties. She will serve the district that includes Milton-Freewater and the local Holly Lodge as the District Deputy President.

Soon to serve the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, JoAnna Lamb has been chosen as the new Executive Director. JoAnna, who moved to Heppner about two years ago, will "take the reins" in approximately one month, from interim director, Sheryll Bates.

Donald and Shelby Matthews have been proud parents of their first child for almost two weeks. Wren Robert was born on May 16, delighting Mom and Dad and grandparents Skip and Sandi Matthews. Wren - who Grandma says objectively "looks just like his daddy" - is the second grandchild for Skip and Sandi, joining nine-month-old Piper, the daughter of Tony and Whitney Hague-wood.

Sandi also reports that Donald has been working at Wheatland Insurance in the Ione office for about a month and may soon be moving to the Heppner office, which will eliminate a commute from home in Heppner.

From knee repair to auto repair - Marty Brannon is now back at work at his garage, good news for the many clients who depend on him to keep vehicles running or get them to run

again. He says he is recovering more each day.

Merry Chandler did it. She shaved her hair on April 12 and dyed it a dark, dark red, marking the anniversary of her stroke. She reports that she will be keeping the style for a while and for next month, which is designated "Aphasia Awareness Month," she plans to go gray, appropriate for calling attention to the language disorder that makes verbal communication difficult.

Work on Gale Street continues but the street is not nearly ready for asphalt, according to City Manager Kraig Cutsforth. The rest of the street to Main has yet to be removed. Presently, storm drains are being replaced, and the sidewalks must be replaced before the base composed of cement, recycled asphalt, gravel and rock can be laid in preparation for the asphalt. Another company will soon join the present one, and Chase Street will become the next street to start receiving attention, in about two weeks, hopefully. Someday the inconvenience will be behind us and we will be enjoying smooth streets and sidewalks.

As reported in the Gazette Times, the study of safe pedestrians' routes between Heppner Elementary School and Heppner High School was discussed yesterday and today at city hall. More information will be reported as the city government strives to demonstrate to ODOT that grants are needed to make passage across some streets and along some streets safer for students.

Another short season of school sports is ending as another short season is beginning, so some multi-sports participants might get a bit dizzy this week as they try to keep ending competitions and new practices straight. Good luck to everyone.

Yes, good news continues to come to our south Morrow County, and we enjoy the respite it affords us from some less-than-pleasant news, even for these few minutes needed for reading it. So, please share your tidbits by sending them to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or calling 541-676-5382 or 541-223-1490 or stopping me on the street.

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

Grants awarded

The Pioneer Memorial Hospital Foundation board met May 11 to consider requests from the hospital and to award student scholarships. They awarded \$19,000 to Pioneer Memorial Hospital for the purchase of a patient handicap bathtub, a scheduled upgrade to replace the existing bathtub. One board member expressed how much that particular item is appreciated and necessary.

The board awarded the Dr. Wallace Wolff Memorial Scholarship to Jessica Kempken in the amount of \$1,500. Jessica is attending Oregon State/OHSU to obtain her Doctor of Pharmacy.

Earl and Hazel Wilson Scholarships were awarded to Rylee Kollman, Sophie Grant, Faith Rosen, Zoey Gilbert and Hunter Nichols. Rylee was awarded \$1,200 to aid her in receiving her bachelor's degree in nursing at OHSU. Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 were awarded to Sophie at

Pacific University, pursuing a degree in optometry, Faith, attending BMCC for a nursing degree, Zoey, attending Linn Benton for her associate of diagnostic imaging from Linn Benton Community College and Hunter continuing his studies at Eastern Oregon University working toward his goal of medical school.

Receiving scholarships in the amount of \$500 were Sage Ferguson, Marlee Mitchell, Emma Mueller, Madelyn Nichols, Sydney Wilson and \$250 to Jayden Wilson.

The Pioneer Memorial Hospital Foundation was formed in 1981 to promote good health through outstanding local medical care and to encourage and assist young people to enter careers in medicine through scholarships. It is non-profit and any donations given to aid in grants and scholarships are tax deductible. For more information, please contact Cari Scrivner at carolines@mocohd.org.

Heppner track team heads to state



Seniors and their parents were honored at the last home track meet held May 6. Pictured (L-R): Robert Wilson, Jayden Wilson, Steve Wilson, Sydney Wilson, Mindy Wilson, Darcee Mitchell, Marlee Mitchell, Slater Mitchell, Blake Wolters, Amy Wolters, Madelyn Nichols, Toni Nichols and Russ Nichols. -Photo by Susan Hisler.

The Heppner High School track team went to Union last Friday to compete in the Wapiti 2A-5 League Championships. The Mustang men and women had a strong showing with multiple athletes placing high enough to compete at the state meet in Union on May 21st. Placing in first or second allows the individual (or team in the case of relays) to compete at the state meet.

Jayden Wilson will compete at state after placing second in the 200-meter and first in the 400-meter. He will also be competing on the 4x400-meter relay team which captured first at the meet. The other men joining him on the relay team are Joseph Sherman, Brock Hisler and Trevor Nichols. Trevor also placed

first in the 800-meter, second in the javelin and second in the 1500-meter race. Rounding out the men's team at state will be Conor Brosnan who placed first in the discus.

The women Mustangs will be represented by Madelyn Nichols and Sydney Wilson. Madelyn placed first in the 800-meter and first in the 1500-meter race. Sydney will be representing the Mustangs in the shot put where she placed second.

Other Mustangs placing in the top 10 for their events were Marlee Mitchell, placing ninth in the 200-meter race and fifth in the 400-meter and Irelynn Kollman, placing fourth in both the 1500- and 3000-meter races. The women's 4x400 team of Marlee Mitchell, Madelyn

Nichols, Sydney Wilson and Irelynn Kollman placed fourth. Sydney Wilson also placed fourth in both the discus and javelin. Camryn Scrivner placed ninth in the long jump.

Brock Hisler earned his place in the top ten by placing eighth in the 100-meter. Brock also placed seventh in the 400-meter race. Conor Brosnan earned a third-place finish in the shot put and a fourth-place finish in the javelin. Saul Lopez placed tenth in the 100-meter. He also placed fourth in the shot put and eighth in the discus. Ty Boor placed eighth in the 400-meter.

Also placing in the top ten was Roen Waite, where he placed tenth in the 200-meter race and ninth in the 300m hurdles. Edward

Ellsworth earned an eighth-place finish in the 800-meter and a sixth-place finish in the 3000-meter. Joseph Sherman placed fifth in the 800-meter, seventh in the 1500-meter and fifth in the high jump. David Cribbs earned an eighth-place finish in the 1500-meter, ninth place in the 3000-meter and a seventh place in the high jump.

Conor Brosnan, Hannah Finch and Joseph Sherman also qualified for additional events via qualifying jumps or throws. Joseph will be competing in the high jump, along with 4x400 relay, and Conor will also be competing in the shot put and javelin along with discus. Hannah will be competing in the 400-meter and triple jump.



Left: Trevor Nichols, Joe Sherman, Brock Hisler and Jayden Wilson were district champs in the 4x400 relay. Above: Conor Brosnan was the district champ in discus. -Photos by Susan Hisler.



Above left: Madelyn Nichols was the district champ in the 800- and 1500-meter. Above center: Trevor Nichols took first in the 800-meter. Right: Sydney Wilson took second in shot put. -Photos by Susan Hisler.



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Class of 2021
CONGRATULATIONS
HEPPNER & IONE 2021 GRADUATES!

Join us in honoring and congratulating this year's
 Graduating classes from Heppner and Ione.
 We will be publishing photos of the seniors in the May 26th
 issue of the Heppner Gazette-Times.
 The cost is \$10 to have your name, business or family included.

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