

**Good News Only** by Doris Brosnan

Last Sunday, Heppner City Park was busier than usual as the Hopeful Saints' first "Funday" began at 2 p.m. with a blow-up attraction/challenge for the daring, face-painting and vendors across the street. These activities preceded the two-hour Brass Fire Band concert that began at 5 p.m. and the available pulled-pork meal. Certainly an upbeat way to spend up to five hours. The next Music-in-the-Park will be on July 9, so we can mark our calendars and look forward to another enjoyable evening!

Attending the concert last Sunday were not only locals but some band fans from Hermiston, including one band member's mother, who is 98 years old. Two other women admit to being "groupies" who are devoted to Brass Fire, following them and rarely missing a monthly performance at the Cozy Corner Tavern in Hermiston. Not long into the concert, Rita McDougall and Heather Villanueva were on their feet, keeping time with their bodies to the music they know so well. Heather explained that they hadn't realized that the band would be performing in Heppner that evening but, by coincidence, were here for the Jo Pettyjohn golf tournament that Heather has played in for about 28 of its 30-year history. Of course, when they heard, they borrowed a couple of chairs from the club house and headed for city park. Definitely, groupies!

We remember that Bob and Sherree Mahoney's granddaughter Savannah Wirth has been in medical school this year. Now, we learn from her mom, Trisha, "just how amazing she is," as she was recently having her first-year finals, attending review sessions and working at a free clinic but still found time to compete in the "Xtreme Barrel Race Events" in Reno! And she not only competed, she took home money in two of the three days of racing! Impressive young lady, proud mom, proud grandparents.

Last week, the library kicked off its Summer Reading Event. This year's program is open to adults as well as youngsters and young adults. This Friday, participants can start completing activities and logging reading minutes. Prizes and guaranteed fun! Stop by the library and get started.

Last Saturday, a tall, handsome cowboy and a beautiful bride who arrived for their wedding ceremony in a jeep set the tone for the hundreds of friends and family who came to the bride's family's ranch near Asotin to witness their forever pledges. Stephen Thompson and Charlie Dimke are now Mr. and Mrs. Thompson of Heppner. Charlie was stunning in her form-fitting long lace gown, accompanied by six attendants in lovely, gently draping, beige gowns. Stephen and his six attendants looked very serious in black boots, denim pants, black jackets and black hats. After some conversation under the cooling shade of gigantic canopies, a delicious meal and toasts to the couple, the dancing began, and the evening continued well into the night. Thus ended their first day of marriage, this couple who stressed several times their love of and appreciation for their families and friends.

Last Saturday saw a 6 o'clock wedding in Heppner. Brian Holtz and Sheila Dunaway, who have been a couple for five years, exchanged marriage vows before about 300 guests at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. They were pleased to have their mothers, Sandy and Linda, present for this important big step in their lives. Reflective of Brian and Sheila's style, dress for the very warm evening event was casual, with Brian and his four groomsmen in denim and shirts without jackets. Sheila wore a lovely off-white gown, and her four attendants were complementary in their striking brown gowns. After the celebratory toasts and meal, the dance floor became the focus for the rest of the evening and wee hours of the morning. Since both the groom and the bride are homeowners, they will be choosing to live in Heppner or Lexington.

Seeing GT coverage last week of the high-school sports was a pleasure. So many honors reported for outstanding spring-sports participants. To plagiarize a phrase, "it takes a team," so all participants are to be congratulated. Graduation ceremonies in our county were also featured in the GT and appreciated.

Betty Gray had the personal pleasure of attending her youngest grandson's graduation in Kent, WA, and then spending a wonderful week of visiting with him and his family. Jeremy received a scholarship to the University of Colorado, where he plans to focus on science.

Congratulations to Zach Bredfield on completing the plan he had as a freshman enrolled in McPherson College in Kansas; he just graduated with a bachelor's degree in automotive restoration. Zach apparently knew what he wanted those four years ago and kept his eye on his goal!

School is out! So, let summer begin! Sharing your smiles is as easy as jotting a note as an email or calling 541-223-1490, or pasting that FB post into an email to dbrosnan123@gmail.com.

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

**Cardinal Booster Club announces scholarships**



The Ione Cardinal Booster Club has announced the recipients for its 2023 scholarships. Pictured L-R are senior scholarship recipients Lewkus Burright, Calvin Rietmann, Bryce Rollins, Madison Orem and Carson Eynetich. -Contributed photo

**Morrow County players shine in All Star teams**

The Oregon Little League District 3 All Star Tournament will take place in Hermiston at the end of this month, and the Columbia Little League All Star teams will feature an impressive number of local names in its lineup.

The Columbia Little League is made up of teams from the communities of Heppner/Ione, Irrigon, Boardman, Umatilla, Stanfield/Echo, Arlington and Condon/Fossil. The All Star teams that will be competing in the District 3 tournament are made up of the best of the best from among those players, who will go up against top players from other District 3 leagues including Hermiston, La Grande, Pendleton and others.

Columbia Little League will be fielding eight teams in the district tournament, seven of which have some serious Heppner/Ione representation—33 players, one alternate and nine coaches.

The Juniors softball team for girls ages 13-15 is coached by Kevin Payne, Taylor McDaniel and Larissa Gray. Local players are Maya Payne, Isa Payne, CiCi Stefani, Avree Lathrop, Havin Gray, Hailey McDaniel and McKenzie Maben.

Jeremy Rosenbalm of Heppner is one of the coaches of the 12U (12 and under) softball team, which includes local girls Tenley Rosenbalm and Klhoe Rodriguez.

Representing South Morrow County on the 11U softball team is Kamryn Dickenson.

The 10U softball team is coached by Andy Stelk and Jason Hanna. Local girls on the team are Hadlie Duncan, Laiken Stelk, Berkley Hanna, Harper Coiner and Ella Mullins.

For 12U baseball, Tim Dickenson is one of the coaches of the team, which includes Matt Wilson, Brodie Ogden, Kord Dickenson, Ketch Fennern and Bentley Smith.

Brad Adams is one of the coaches of the 11U baseball team. Boys on the 11 and under team include Cooper Stefani, Carter Adams, Peyton Matheny, Joel Wilson, JJ McDaniel, Charlie Mullins and Gage Rosenbalm, along with alternate Maddox McMasters.

Local players on the 10U baseball team are Sonny Matheny, Casyn Adams, Lucas Matheny, Cooper Patterson, Keller Sweeney, Kason Botefur and Uriyah Wedding. Stefan Matheny is one of the coaches for that team.

Along with South Morrow Players, Boardman and Irrigon have added several names to the roster.

In Juniors softball are Boardman players Jazzlyn Reyna, Valerie Lopez, Paola Flores and alternate Audrey Sak.

For 10U softball are Irrigon players Audry McDaniel, Savannah Hall and Lillah Brown and Boardman players Tiemey Bronson and Sophia Villegas.

Juniors baseball has an impressive number of Irrigon players, including Bennette Atkins, Colton Akers, Erik Covarrubia, Aiden Wells, Cody Johnson and Hunter Bowman.

Playing for 10U base-

ball is Jeffrey Wilcox of Irrigon.

The District 3 tournament will take place June 24-30 at the Hermiston Little League Field Of Dreams.

The 10U baseball and softball teams will both play at 10:30 a.m. June 24, baseball on field two against Pendleton and softball on field three against Union County.

Also playing at 10:30 a.m. on the 24<sup>th</sup> is 12U softball (Columbia Blue), facing off against Hermiston on field four.

At 1 p.m. on June 24, the 11U softball team (Columbia Yellow) will face Wallowa on field four. Because of a lack of teams in 11 and under softball, the girls will be competing in the 12U playoffs, with a possible matchup between the Columbia Blue and Yellow teams if both win their first-round games.

Later on the evening of June 24, Juniors softball and 12U baseball will both play at 6 p.m., Juniors softball on field four against the winner of the Harney v Pilot Rock game, and 12U baseball against Union County on field one.

Bypassing the first round of playoffs is 11U baseball, which plays at 10:30 a.m. on June 25 against the winner of the Pendleton v La Grande matchup. That game will be on field one.

Times and opponents for round two and consolation games will be determined by the outcome of round one games. Full brackets can be found on the Hermiston Little League Facebook page.

Dad Connection at Murray's from 5:30 to 6:30 pm on Thursday, June 15th. Come to discuss the importance of fatherhood. Sponsored by Birthright of Morrow County. Call 541-676-0530 for more information. See you there!



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

**Lunch & Dinner Menu**  
Specials 6/15 to 6/21

- Thursday-Chef Salad for \$9
- Thursday-4-9pm free Dot's pretzels with purchase.
- Friday- Chicken bacon ranch wrap on a tomato basil tortilla for \$9
- Saturday salad is a turkey cucumber salad for \$10
- Monday- Chili Burger with a bag of chips for \$9
- Tuesday- Chicken dumpling soup and a grilled ham and cheese sandwich for \$9
- Tuesday night 6-9pm \$2 hard shell tacos
- Wednesday is a Turkey wrap with lettuce, cream cheese, and tomato. Potato salad on the side for \$9.

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**Republican Summer FUNdraiser**  
Dinner and Auction  
Thursday, June 22, 2023  
Gilliam & Bisbee Building  
Heppner, Oregon  
Doors open at 5pm  
Spaghetti dinner served at 5:30pm  
Program and Speaker 6pm  
Auction 7pm.

**Featured Speaker:** Heppner native and former CIA Intelligence officer, Bryan Dean Wright from the "Wright Report" podcast.

**Tickets** \$25 available at Murray Drugs in Heppner and Boardman. Purchase tickets by June 15th or contact mcoreps@gmail.com

All purchased tickets will be available at the door as "will call".

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