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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner**  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**  
U.S.P.S. 240-420

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Chris Sykes.....Publisher  
Andrea Di Salvo.....Editor  
Cindi Doherty.....Advertising

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For Obituaries: Obituaries are published in the Heppner GT at no charge and are edited to meet news guidelines. Families wishing to include information not included in the guidelines or who wish to have the obituary written in a certain way must purchase advertising space for the obituary.  
For Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor MUST be signed by the author. The Heppner GT will not publish unsigned letters. All letters MUST include the author's address and phone number for use by the GT office. The GT reserves the right to edit letters. The GT is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$10.

# County transit needs reliability, consistency, study shows

By Andrea Di Salvo

Morrow County is delving deeper into the transportation needs of county residents, especially those considered under-served or disadvantaged.

The Rural Transit Equity Project was the result of a grant that Morrow County Planning and Morrow County Transportation secured jointly from the Oregon Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). The purpose of the project was to better understand the transportation and transit needs of historically under-represented and disadvantaged populations.

"So, it's both a planning and a transit study," said Morrow County Planner Tamra Mabbott, adding that Morrow County's is one of four such projects statewide.

Mabbott was on hand to present the findings at a recent Morrow County Board of Commissioners meeting. With her were Madeline Phillips, transit coordinator for DLCD, and Grace Donovan, new executive director of Eastern Oregon University's Rural Engagement and Vitality (REV) Center. REV is the contracting consultant for the project.

"In light of the new routes that will be coming online sometime this year, we want to focus on transportation-challenged populations and enhance the accessibility and use of transit services," Donovan told the commissioners.

She said that includes ensuring accessibility for those who don't speak English as a first language, as

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# Fundraiser planned to benefit Temples

Holly Rebekah Lodge and Heppner Christian Church will hold a dinner and bingo fundraiser to benefit Dick and Karen Temple on July 30 beginning at 2 p.m.

The fundraiser will take place at the Holly Rebekah Lodge in Lexington, and proceeds will go to help with medical-related ex-

penses for the couple. A dinner of pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw and cake will be available for \$5.

Bingo will begin at 3 p.m. Cost will be \$5 for 10 games or 50 cents per card.

A silent auction will also be held. Anyone interested in donating an item may contact LaRae Kindler at 541-310-9499.

**ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**

**Wasteland Kings**  
Hopeful Saints Ministry Presents Music in the Park  
5-7 PM July 9th, 2023  
2-7pm Sunday Funday Market  
Downtown Heppner City Park

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No Open Burning - No Burn Barrels  
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**Lunch & Dinner Menu**  
Specials 6-29 / 7-5

Thursday-Captains Seafood platter and coleslaw for \$11  
Thursday-4-9pm free Dot's pretzels with any purchase  
Friday-General Tso's chicken, rice, and egg roll for \$9  
Saturday-salad is ham egg, cucumber, tomato, olive, and a three-cheese blend of mozzarella, Swiss and cheddar over a bed of lettuce for \$10  
Monday-pulled pork nachos for \$9  
Tuesday- Closed for the 4th of July!  
Wednesday-chicken fried steak 2 breakfast bars and scrambled eggs for \$9

# Mary Ella McClure



Mary Ella McClure passed away on June 14, 2023, after a short illness. She was 91 years old. A graveside service was held Saturday, June 24. Mary was born February 7, 1932, in Heppner to Patrick and Elsie Mollahan. She was the salutatorian of her class at Heppner High School. She graduated from the University of Oregon, where she majored in English literature.

Mary met Don, the love of her life, while at university. They married in Heppner on February 26, 1955. Together they raised four children, first living in Heppner, and later in Ashland, OR.

Mary was warm, caring and kind. Her children and, later, her grandchildren knew they were loved without reservation. She always listened. She always made time. And she was funny. With a gentle smile and a mischievous glint in her eye, she was a shameless punner. For most of her 91 years, Mary read voraciously. She was always caught up on current events and ready to discuss what was happening in the world.

When her youngest was in grade school, Mary earned a library science degree at Southern Oregon State College. She worked as a high school librarian in Eagle Point for 20 years. She loved the school. She loved the kids who came to her library. She loved teaching essay writing.

Mary and Don were inseparable partners in life until Don's death in 2015. As empty nesters, they purchased a camper and later a fifth wheel. The two loved to travel. They popped over to the coast for weekends. They caught U of O football games in Eugene. And they made epic journeys across the U.S. and Canada. Later, they traveled with their two daughters to Ireland. Mary got to meet her cousins and visit the house where her father was born. It was,

she often said, the trip of a lifetime.

After retiring, Mary and Don moved to Seattle to be near their children and grandchildren. She babysat her grandkids when they were little, changing even more diapers (Don didn't do diapers). She was there for older kids before and after school, going through backpacks and making sure that homework got done. And she could talk sports like a sportscaster with her grandchildren, although perhaps with some bias toward her Oregon Ducks. Even as she slowed down in her late eighties, she loved to hold her great-grandbabies. She loved to watch them toddle. Mary was a wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She will truly be missed.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Robert, her brother John, and her husband Don.

She is survived by her brother Larry, her children (Kathy Alkire, Terry Claggett, David McClure and Doug McClure), her eight grandchildren (Tom, Steve, Kevin, Brianna, Ryan, Wesley, Emily and Alex), and her nine great-grandchildren (Dylan, Emmy, Ethan, Isaac, Ellery, Adelaide, Iris, Reid and Jackson).

Arrangements were in the care of Purdy and Walters at Floral Hills in Lynnwood, WA.

# Celebration of Life

Dale Holland Sr.—A celebration of life will be held for Dale Holland Sr. at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 2, at the Cutsforth Park gazebo. Please bring lawn chairs.

Dale died on December 9, 2022, in a Hermiston hospital at the age of 87. Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

# CDA to celebrate land transfer with ribbon cutting

The Columbia Development Authority (CDA) is inviting community members to attend a ribbon cutting celebration at the former Army Depot, now Camp Rees, on Wednesday, July 12. The Ribbon Cutting Celebration will begin at 10 a.m. with a short program led by the CDA, followed by a complimentary barbecue and a tour of the Depot.

The Columbia Development Authority is the new owner of 9,511 acres of former Army Depot land. The CDA is made up of

five partners through an intergovernmental agreement, including Morrow County, Umatilla County, the Port of Morrow, Port of Umatilla and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

During the event, the CDA will share about the development process and conduct a tour of the site, including exploring an igloo, visiting the southern Oregon trail, viewing the 1944 igloo explosion site and the former demilitarization site.

# Boardman to sponsor community-wide clean-up in July

The City of Boardman will sponsor a community-wide clean-up the month of July. The city has garbage vouchers available, with a \$50 limit, to residents of the City of Boardman. The vouchers are valid during the month of July at Finley Butte Landfill and the North Morrow Transfer Station.

The garbage voucher program encourages citizens to clean up their residences by disposing of yard debris. City residents may pick up their vouchers at Boardman City Hall at 200

City Center Circle beginning June 30. For more information on this program, call Boardman City Hall at 481-9252.

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**Ione's 4th of July Celebration**  
**JULY 4, 2023**  
Ione, Oregon

*Get Fired Up!*

**Live Music Featuring:**  
**Wicked Mary**  
**Plus James Dean Kindler & His Country Combo**

Fireman's Breakfast  
5K Fun Run/Walk  
Car Show/Cruz-In  
Parade  
Live Music  
Face Painting  
Fish Pond  
Free Games from Knockerball Tri Cities  
And Fireworks (weather permitting)

**Facebook.com/Ione4thofJuly**

Sponsored in part by Morrow County Unified Recreation District