

The Official Newspaper
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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Published weekly by Sykes Publishing and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 177 N Main St. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: editor@rapidsolve.net or sykeschris@hotmail.com Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: In Morrow County \$35/year. Outside Morrow County \$40/year. In County Senior Rate (65 years or older) \$30/year. 9 month Student student subscriptions \$35/year.

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All News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.
For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$5.50 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$15 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$6.00 per column inch.

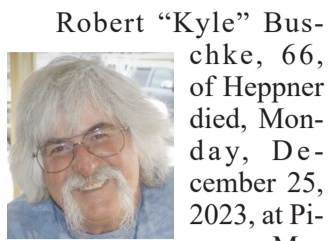
For Public/Legal Notices: public/legal notices deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Dates for publication must be specified. Affidavits must be requested at the time of submission. Affidavits require three weeks to process after last date of publication (a sooner return date must be specified if required).

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.

Obituaries

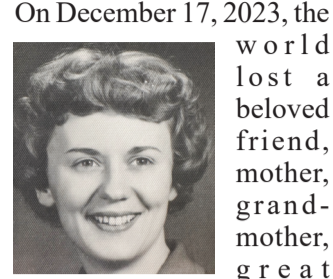
Robert Buschke



Robert "Kyle" Buschke, 66, of Heppner died, Monday, December 25, 2023, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner after a three-year struggle with Cancer. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, January 13, 2024, at the Heppner Elks Lodge with a meal to follow. A graveside service will be held at a later date. He was born December 3, 1957, at Heppner, the son of Delmer and Judy (Wright) Buschke. He was raised and attended school in Heppner where he graduated in 1976. He continued his education at Mt. Hood Community College and became an Automotive Machinist. He worked in that capacity for many years in the Portland area. He was a hard worker and started working at a young age delivering newspapers, mowing lawns, and when he turned 16, he went to work for Cal and Bev Sherman at their service station in Heppner. Kyle learned excellent work ethics from Calvin as well as from his parents. In 2007 Kyle had the opportunity to go to Port Lions, Alaska on Kodiak Island. He loved the outdoors and lived for hunting and fishing, so this sounded like living his dream, and it was. He spent eight wonderful years in Port Lions. He worked for Dock and Deb Kennedy at Wilderness Beach Lodge doing maintenance on the fishing boats, and jack of all trades at the lodge and fished to his heart's content. Kyle also worked for the City of Port Lions public works during these years. He ran all kinds of equipment for the city. The Kennedy's sold the Lodge and Kyle worked for the new owners for a while, but in 2015 he returned to Heppner to help his mother Judy care for his father who was suffering with Parkinsons. Kyle made many friends while in Alaska and still kept in touch with all of them. After

returning to Heppner, he worked driving trucks for Krome for a couple years and then went to work for SilverCreek as a truck driver and remained there until December of 2020 when he was diagnosed with cancer and had to retire. Kyle loved working at SilverCreek and reconnected with many Heppner families he had known growing up. Deer and elk hunting were what he loved, and he looked forward to hunting camp, every year. He started hunting deer and elk when he was very young with his brothers, Mike and Scott, and their dad's hunting group; Doyle Key, Matt Hughes, Howard and Jo Pettyjohn, Dan James, Cecil Rill, and of course all of their kids. And in later years he and his brother Scott continued to hunt together. Even this year while suffering through cancer treatments he was still making a list of things to take to hunting camp. Kyle was a 45-year member of the Heppner Elks and supported the Elks until his death. He never married or had children, but happily shared in raising his nieces and nephews. He loved them and was very proud of all of them. Survivors include his mother Judy of Heppner, brothers; Mike of Colton, Scott (Lori) of Estacada, Aunt Joyce Ward of Heppner, 12 nieces and nephews, and his best friend Rick Williams (Tia), and numerous cousins. Also, many friends and classmates. Kyle was preceded in death by; his father Delmer, grandparents, Max and Grace Buschke and Joe and Maryette Wright, uncle Glen Ward, aunt Joan Grey (Dale), Aunt Carole Shipps, and his best furry friend, Bandit. Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Home Health and Hospice, PO Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836 or to Heppner BPOE #358, PO Box 494, Heppner, OR 97836. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements. You may sign the online condolence book at www.sweeneymortuary.com.

Meredith Jean Thomson Walters



On December 17, 2023, the world lost a beloved friend, mother, grandmother, g r a n d m o t h e r Meredith also known as 'Meredee' was Born October 5, 1939, to James and Madge Thomson in Portland, Oregon. She grew up in Heppner Oregon with her siblings: Bernice and Bruce. While working at the family grocery store, she developed skills that would last a lifetime. Graduating from Heppner High school in 1957, she then received her elementary education teaching degree from Oregon State in 1961, where she pledged the Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority. While attending Oregon State she met and married Charles Thomas Walters. They raised four boys: Rusty, Duane, Ammon and Aaron. She lived in various California areas including Woodland Hills, Westlake Village, Canyon Country, Santa Maria and Shell Beach. Meredith and Tom owned Walters Village

Pharmacy in Santa Maria for 18 years. She was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day Saints where she served in many capacities. Her commitment to service in other various organizations remained strong all her life including the American Red Cross. In 1999 she returned to Heppner until 2022 when she relocated to Utah. Those who knew Meredith immediately recognized her gentleness of heart, sweet spirit, and willingness to uplift, listen, and express sincerity, gratitude while then providing a hug and warm smile to all. She was her very happiest when she was with family (especially grandchildren) her dear friends or meeting someone new. Her love was genuine, pure, and unconditional. Meredith is survived by her four children: Rusty, Duane, Ammon and Aaron and their spouses, thirteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Listed on the Legacy.com website to share your thoughts is welcomed. In lieu of flowers the family has asked to send donations to: Alpine Credit Union, Attention Kendra Sorenson 120 N. 850 E. Lehi, Utah 84043 Make payable to Meredith Walters. Memo: Funeral Donation

Update on the LUBGWMA

-Continued from PAGE ONE
nitrate hazards, the impact on domestic wells, and the opportunities to participate in well sampling under the project. To identify areas where connection to public or community water systems is viable, a database of sampled wells and GIS layers illustrating nitrate level distributions will be developed. Bilingual outreach materials will be implemented to ensure all

community members are aware of the nitrate contamination issues and educated on ways to protect their health. Funded by the EPA, the county's grant is set to expire on September 30, 2026, but work on this comprehensive project is expected to be completed by August 1, 2026, according to the Morrow and Umatilla County Drinking Water Investigation (MUCDWI).

Heppner High Alumni panels



The Heppner High School Alumni posing together after speaking with the HHS kids. - Photo by Jill Miller

Heppner Jr/Sr High students welcomed the PAST into the NEW YEAR on January 3, as we hosted twenty-five Heppner Alumni to present in panels about where life has taken them since graduation. A HUGE thank you to the following Heppner graduates for spending their morning at their ole stomping grounds, sharing their experiences and words of wisdom with the current Heppner Mustangs: Dr. Shelley McCabe (Class of '02), Tanner Britt (Class of '04), DVM Shanna Sallee (Class of '05), Josie Miles (Class of '08), Torri Nicol (Class of '10), Brett Harrison (Class of '11), Garrett Robinson (Class of '13), Stephen Thompson (Class of '13), Tate Gentry (Class of '14), Paige Grieb (Class of '15), Macy Goodwin (Class of '15), Patrick Collins (Class of '16), Weston Putman (Class of '16), Logan Grieb (Class of '17), Coby Dougherty (Class of '18), Wyatt Steagall (Class of '18), Hunter Greenup (Class of '21), Kylie Boor (Class of '22),

Kason Cimmiyotti (Class of '22), Brian Lindsay (Class of '22), Hannah Finch (Class of '22), Paul Lindsay (Class of '23), Jacob Finch (Class of '23), and Madison Palmer (Class of '23). Once a Mustang, ALWAYS a Mustang! * If you are a Heppner Alumni & are interested in participating in future Alumni events, please contact Jill Miller at jill.miller@morrowso.org

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THE MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS A VACANCY

Interested Morrow County residents may submit an application for consideration. The deadline for applications has been extended to January 18, 2024. Applications should be submitted to community@mochohd.org. Applicants may reach out to the Chief Executive Officer, Emily Roberts, with any questions at 541-676-2915 or community@mochohd.org.



MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT
Excellence in Healthcare

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

Lunch & Dinner
Specials 1/11 - 1/17

Thursday - Chicken plus burger with smoked Gouda bites \$9
Friday - chicken and wild rice soup with salad and garlic bread \$9
Saturday - clam chowder and grilled ham and cheese \$9
Monday - Hot roast beef sandwich with mac n cheese \$9
Tuesday - tomato soup with a grilled turkey bacon cheese sandwich \$9
Tuesday night - 6-9pm \$2 hard shell tacos
Wednesday - cheeseburger pasta, roll, green beans \$9 or \$7 for seniors

The Oregon Public Utility Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$25.48-\$27.00 per month and business services are \$37.00-\$39.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

CenturyLink also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service. The ACP provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

For both programs, a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



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