

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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 \$16 Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

Free Palestine

I will probably never be an expert on the Middle East, but I had questions. So I’ve done some research. What I found is pretty contrary to the popular opinion of those holding signs on the street and yelling “free Palestine.”

So here’s the truth: The Jews are not “occupiers.” They are the indigenous people. God deeded that land to them thousands of years ago. If you don’t believe the Bible (Genesis 15:18), ask an archeologist. He has proof. So yes, they were there first. But everybody and their dog has tried to boot them off. The Babylonians, Persians, Romans, Greeks, Ottoman Turks, Brits, etc., have all had a go at it. But God had other plans.

Since then, they’ve been picked on, dispersed and persecuted worldwide...had their borders disputed and their land carved up...the last piece by Winston Churchill, who got tired of listening to an Arab leader complain that the “Jews have too much land.” So he drew a line on a map and carved off another chunk.

So why all the fuss over a teeny country? It started with a promise...one concerning Isaac, the son of Abraham and Sarah. But Abraham blew it and listened to his wife, resulting in Ishmael, an illegitimate son who was not part of the promise.

Abraham’s indiscretion caused years of jealousy and battles between the descendants of Ishmael (Arabs) and Isaac (Jews). But there’s more to it than that. It was through the descendants of Isaac that God brought about His redemptive plan to bring salvation to the world through Jesus.

Satan has been trying to wreak havoc on God’s plan ever since, and is currently using Hamas, an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood, as a vehicle for evil.

For more informa-

Greenup heads to junior high finals rodeo



Heppner eighth-grader Savanna Greenup is headed to Des Moines, IA to the National Junior High Finals Rodeo. This is the third year she has qualified for this event but the first time she has been able to go. She is competing in barrel racing, breakaway roping, goat tying, and ribbon roping with partner Wyatt Risken. To qualify for the NJHFR, competitors must be the top four in their events and be in the fifth through eighth grades. -Contributed photo

Seniors Matter May/June Menu

May 27 - BBQ Beef Sandwich, Jojo potatoes, Coleslaw and Dessert

June 3 - Chicken Pot Pie, Garden Salad, Dessert

June 10 - Breakfast Casserole, Coffee Cake, Peaches

June 17 - Chicken Fettuccini Alfredo, Garden Salad Dessert

June 24 - Sloppy Joes, Chips, Pickle Spears, Dessert

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**Ride into summer freedom
Morrow County Public Transit
kicks off ‘A Summer of
Independence’**

This summer, leave the car keys at home and hop aboard for a season full of fun, freedom and fare-free travel. Morrow County Public Transit (MCPT) has officially launched its highly anticipated seasonal campaign, “A Summer of Independence.”

Whether you’re heading to the pool with the kids, browsing a local market, stocking up on groceries or simply enjoying some sunshine by the water, MCPT is making it easier—and more affordable—than ever to get where you need to go.

“This campaign is about more than just getting from point A to point B,” said Morrow County Transit Manager Steven Davis. “It’s about creating freedom—freedom for teens to hang out with friends at the skate park, for seniors to shop and socialize, and for families to connect with the resources that make Morrow County such a special place. We’re building a stronger, more connected community, one ride at a time.”

With comfortable, air-conditioned buses, wheelchair-accessible ramps, and friendly, trained staff, MCPT is prioritizing safe, reliable, and inclusive transportation all summer long. And this summer, the list of destinations is more exciting than ever:

For youth and others looking for summer fun, stops will include Don Daxter Skate Park in Irrigon, splash pads in Boardman and Hermiston, the Boardman Pool and Recreation Center, Funland Park / Hermiston Aquatic Center and the Heppner pool.

For those who need to shop or run a few errands, stops will give access to Harvest Foods (Boardman), Columbia Harvest

Foods (Umatilla), Heppner Market Fresh, Hermiston Walmart, Oregon Trail Library branches, post offices, community food pantries, senior centers, local shopping and eateries, Good Shepherd and Pioneer Memorial hospitals, and local pharmacies and health care providers.

Riders can travel to the great outdoors or experience natural beauty with stops at the Boardman Marina and Recreation Area, fishing spots along the Columbia River in Irrigon and Boardman, Willow Creek Reservoir in Heppner, and even the Morrow County Museum.

“Public transportation should be simple, safe and stress-free—and that’s exactly what we’re offering,” said Morrow County Transit Supervisor Patrick Keely. “We want people to explore their county, reconnect with their neighbors, and reclaim their summer without worrying about the cost of gas or having access to a vehicle.”

Better yet, MCPT offers free ride training to help residents navigate the system.

“If someone needs help learning the routes or planning a trip, we will send someone out to their home and show them how it works,” said Keely. “We’re serious about helping people find independence through transit.”

“We want people to feel confident using public transit, not just to get somewhere but to expand their independence,” added Davis.

To schedule a training or get help with planning your route, contact MCPT at 541-676-5667 or email mcpt@morrowcountyor.gov.

Sunday Men’s Play

Eighteen participated in men’s play on Sunday, June 1, at Willow Creek Country Club. Results are as follows: KP #4-13: Quinn Peck, 15’8”. Net—1st, Scott Dougherty, 55; 2nd, Rick Britt, 58; 3rd,

Dennis Peck, 59. Gross—1st, Jerry Gentry, 65; 2nd/3rd, Dave Pranger-Charlie Ferguson, 66. The next organized play will be June 8. It will be hosted by Rick Johnston, Jerry Gentry and Willy Gentry.

**Buschke obtains
MBA, steps into
marketing field**



Amanda Buschke. –Contributed photo by Mario Gallucci

Amanda Buschke, the granddaughter of longtime Heppner residents Delmer and Judy Buschke, is continuing a proud family legacy of hard work and achievement. A 2023 graduate of Willamette University and a member of the MBA Class of 2025, Amanda has recently accepted a position as a marketing coordinator at the Oregon

Restoration Company. Amanda is the daughter of Scott and Lori Buschke of Estacada, both born and raised in Heppner and graduates of Heppner High School. As a first-generation college student, Amanda’s accomplishments mark a significant milestone for her family.

While at Willamette, Amanda earned her bachelor’s degree in economics before continuing into the university’s MBA program, where she gained hands-on experience in marketing, leadership and project management. She also served as a project manager in Hood River through a consulting program focused on affordable housing initiatives.

June Specials

Salty Shoreline
Salted Caramel Macchiato

Islander Mocha
White Mocha + Coconut

Tropic Tide
Dragon Fruit + Passion Fruit + Mango
+ splash of Coconut Milk
Redbull or Lotus

Coco Cabana
Cold Brew + Coconut
+ Macadamia Nut Cold Foam

MURRAY’S ESPRESSO HOURS

MONDAY	6AM-6PM
TUESDAY	6AM-6PM
WEDNESDAY	6AM-6PM
THURSDAY	6AM-6PM
FRIDAY	6AM-6PM
SATURDAY	7AM-4PM
(7AM-8AM WINDOW ONLY)	
SUNDAY	8AM-1PM
(WINDOW ONLY)	

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