

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

City of La Grande improves water and sewer bill

LA GRANDE — The City of La Grande Water Department is notifying citizens of a new look to their water/sewer bills. Beginning with August billings, residents will receive the new full-page statement in an enve-

lope. According to the city, the statement will provide more information. Contact the water department with questions.

Cove City Council meets next week

COVE — The City of Cove will hold its regular council meeting Sept. 4. The meet-

ing will begin at 7 p.m. at Cove City Hall, 504 Alder.

Water Master speaks to UC Cattlemen Tuesday

ISLAND CITY — The Union County Cattlemen will meet Sept. 4 at the Ag Service Center in Island City. The Water Master will

be a guest speaker and will take part in a discussion about water rights and leasing. The meeting is open to the public.

Hospital sponsors free fitness program

LA GRANDE — Grande Ronde Hospital is offering a free five-session fitness

program this fall. A kick-off meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 4 in the GRH Therapy & Sports Medicine gym at 610 Sunset Drive, La Grande. According to a press release, the "Fit in 5" program is open to all ages and fitness levels and aims to help individuals meet their goals, whether they

want to get in shape to run a 5K or 10K or just need motivation to get out of their chair and move. On Sept. 4, the GRH Therapy & Sports Medicine team will discuss the program, stretching, footwear, goals, etc. For more information, visit www.grh.org/fitin5 or call 541-963-1437.

Anne (Lumsden) KirkpatrickFormerly of La Grande
1924-2018

Anne (Lumsden) Kirkpatrick, 94, of Baker City and formerly of La Grande, died Aug. 24 at her residence. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sept. 7 at the



First Presbyterian Church in Baker City. Following the service, friends are invited to join the family for a reception in the church Fellowship Hall.

Anne was born April 17, 1924, in Hollywood, California. She started school in the academy in Medford, moved to the Portland area and then settled in La Grande, where she was very active at La Grande High School in music, journalism and Honor Society. Anne was the first female La Grande High School Student Body Vice President.

Anne graduated from La Grande High School in 1942 then earned a degree in dietetics and institution management from Oregon State University. While at OSU she was a member and president of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and remained active in journalism as the manager of OSU's newspaper, The Daily Barometer. Anne completed her dietetic internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, Louisiana. After graduating from Oregon State, she worked at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Baker City until marrying Bruce Kirkpatrick on June 25, 1949.

Anne and Bruce continued to live in Baker City, where Bruce had a Chevrolet automobile business. Anne was an active homemaker in the 1950s-1970s, raising four children. She returned to dietetics in the 1960s, commuting to Grande Ronde Hospital and working as a clinical dietitian until retiring in 1976.

Anne loved to play bridge, travel and read. She was active in the First Presbyterian Church, PEO Chapter AX, multiple bridge clubs and AAUW, and she was a dedicated board member of the DeWuhs Keckritz Educational Foundation Scholarship board for 22 years. Anne was especially committed to helping young people with furthering their education.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Brent Lewis of La Grande; son, John Kirkpatrick of Clarkston, Washington; daughters-in-law, Dana Kirkpatrick Kutsch and Jeanie Kirkpatrick; and seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bruce; children, Kathy Ann and Bill; and brother, Treve Lumsden.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church Youth Program in Baker City, PEO Chapter AX scholarship fund or an organization of your choice, in care of Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Anne or to leave a condolence for the family, visit www.grayswestco.com.

Iona Gowin

La Grande

Iona Gowin, 59, of La Grande, died Aug. 29 at St. Luke's Hospital in Boise, Idaho. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel will be handling the arrangements.

Sherlyn K. Whiteman

Elgin

Sherlyn Kay Whiteman, 71, of Elgin, died Aug. 22. A celebration of her life and potluck will be held at 2 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Elgin Community Center. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Forest (Creech) HynekFormerly of Union County
1943-2018

Forest Hynek, 75, of Baker City and formerly of Union County, died Aug. 16 at her home. A celebration of her life potluck will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Baker City Community Connection Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St.

Forest, also known as Lori and Loretta, was born July 27, 1943, in Modesto, California, to Lawrence and Pricilla Creech. She married Sherman Polley in 1956, and they had three daughters: Helen, Beverley and Sherry. Forest and Sherman were divorced in 1965.

On June 8, 1966, Forest married Dennis Ray Hynek. They had six children together but only two survived infancy. Forest and Dennis shared 52 years of marriage and a love for the outdoors, horseback riding/packing trips, hunting, fishing and gardening. Throughout the years they participated in rodeos and riding clubs together.

An accomplished Native American artist, Forest was a member of the Carnegie Crossroads Art Center in Baker City and a member of the Nampa Art Guild in Nampa, Idaho. Forest sat on the board and council for the Delawares of Idaho Indian Tribe, and she was appointed Chief of the Cherokee Delaware Indian Tribe.

Forest was very proud of her Native American heritage and taught her children and grandchildren to respect nature and all that dwells therein. According to her family, Forest was a very kind and loving person who believed there is good in everyone.

Survivors include her husband, Dennis Hynek; children and their spouses, Bev Thomas, Tammy and Timothy Blaylock and Jake and Kandice Hynek; four brothers and one sister; and numerous grandchildren

and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father; daughters, Sherry and Helen; four infant children; and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Best Friends of Baker.

JoAnn (Upton) O'RourkeLa Grande
1932-2018

JoAnn O'Rourke, 85, of La Grande, died Aug. 27 at Grande Ronde Hospital. A graveside service will be held at 4 p.m. Aug. 31 at Hillcrest East Cemetery.

JoAnn was born Sept. 7, 1932, in Shawnee, Oklahoma, to Josephus and Rosalee (Parten) Upton. She resided in various places as a young girl but has been a part of the La Grande community for more than 60 years. On Jan. 14, 1949, she married Peter O'Rourke Jr.

JoAnn touched numerous lives while providing day care from the late 1960s through the '70s. She later worked for many years at JCPenney. In 1991, she joined the Pink Ladies at Grande Ronde Hospital, where she worked diligently for 25 years.

JoAnn's life revolved around her family and the many gatherings through the years. She enjoyed traveling the country with her husband, Pete. She also enjoyed gardening and kept a beautiful rose garden. JoAnn loved playing golf at the country club for many years. She was a lifetime member of the VFW Auxiliary and the Catholic Church.

According to her family, JoAnn was a devoted and positive role model for her three sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was and always will be the heart and soul of the family.

Survivors include her sons and their wives, Peter and Linda O'Rourke of Springfield, Patrick and Marlene

O'Rourke of La Grande and Michael and Shalem O'Rourke of La Grande; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Peter; parents, Josephus and Rosalee; and five siblings.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.

Laura L. VanDusen

Elgin

Laura L. VanDusen, 71, of Elgin, died Aug. 28 at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise, Idaho. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Lee G. SchauresLa Grande
1950-2018

Lee Gayle Schaures, 68, of La Grande, died Aug. 27 at his residence. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sept. 2 at the Island City City Hall. The family prefers casual dress.

Lee was born July 22, 1950, in La Grande, to Jesse and Faye (McCoy) Schaures. He resided in La Grande and Hermiston as well as Cheyenne, Wyoming. Lee spent his childhood roaming the woods of Union and Wallowa counties riding horses. He graduated from La Grande High School in 1968 and attended what is now Eastern Oregon University.

Lee was drafted into the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division and served in Vietnam. After Vietnam, he returned to La Grande and began his career at the Union Pacific Railroad.

Lee met his future wife, Lucinda "Cindy" Sue Hodge, in 1974 at the raft races at Riverside Park, and they were married Sept. 9, 1978.

They had three children, who were his everything.

Lee enjoyed hunting, fishing, working on cars and driving his horses with sleighs or buggies. He loved sharing his passion for driving horse and buggy, and one of his favorite sounds was sleigh bells jingling while driving his horses through the snow. Lee was a member of the Brotherhood of Local Engineers, Junior Old Timers and the Boy Scouts.

Survivors include his wife, Cindy; children and their spouses, Travis and Holly of Bunnlevel, North Carolina, Brady and Anna of Sandpoint, Idaho, and Kelsey of Salem; siblings and their spouses, Lynn and Melanie Schaures of Castle Rock, Washington, and Wanda and Dale Case of Cove; brother-in-law, Jack Norrie of Fayetteville, Pennsylvania; one grandchild; and four nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Faye; sisters, Sharon Norrie and Carol Schaures; and nephew, Darrell Lynn Skillings.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8517, or the Blue Mountain Humane Association, 3212 Highway 30, La Grande 97850.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.

Linda Curphey

La Grande

Linda Curphey, 77, of La Grande, died Aug. 30 at her home. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel will be handling the arrangements.

Vicki D. Stokke

La Grande

Vicki Darlene Stokke, 81, of La Grande, died Aug. 29 at her home. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Sept. 8 at Grandview Cemetery, followed by a reception at 11 a.m. at George and Vanessa Hagedorn's residence, 62097 Chandler Loop, La Grande. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel is handling the arrangements.

Phillis R. Baker

Formerly of La Grande

Phillis R. Baker, 82, formerly of La Grande, died July 25 in Salem. A celebration of her life will be held at 11 a.m. Sept. 8 at the Union County Senior Center. An obituary is forthcoming. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.mountainviewcolonial-dewitt.com.

Phillis R. Baker

May 18, 1936 - July 25, 2018

*In Loving Memory*

Phillis R. Baker, 82 of Salem, died Wednesday, July 25, 2018 in Salem. A Celebration of her life will be conducted Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 11:00 am at the La Grande Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande, Oregon. Memorial contributions in her memory may be directed to the Prineville Senior Center, 180 NE Belknap St., Prineville, OR. 97754. Phillis was born May 18, 1936 in Baker, Oregon.

She was the daughter of John C. and Marvel (Mastin) Gerdes. Phillis was born with a twin brother, Phillip. Their mother Marvel died shortly after giving birth from complications associated with the delivery. As a small child Phillis was raised by her father John Gerdes and his sister Alta, until his remarriage to Jean Gerdes.

Phillis moved to La Grande at age 14, to live with her Grandmother Annie Alvina Gerdes. She attended La Grande Senior High School graduating in 1954.

Phillis married Bernard Abell on October 1, 1955 in La Grande, Oregon. The couple lived in Portland, Umatilla, and later in La Grande. Two children were born to that marriage a daughter Marvel and a son Brian. Phillis worked at St. Joseph Hospital, and Goss Motor Company while living in La Grande. The marriage ended in divorce.

Phillis married Stephen Robert "Bob" Baker of Prineville in 1992. The couple resided in Prineville. Following her husband's death, Phillis moved to the Salem/Molalla area in 2015 to be closer to her family.

As a young woman she had enjoyed playing golf as well as being active in her children's activities including helping with PTA, Blue birds and Cub scouts. Later she enjoyed supporting her children and grandchildren in their sporting events. Grandma Phillis was always welcoming to her grandchildren and all of their friends. She hosted birthdays and graduation parties, at her home and always had a hug for all of them. Phillis loved to travel with her family. She visited Hawaii, Alaska, the Caribbean and trips to Reno with her best friend Mary Jo. Mom loved penny slot machines, bingo and the Senior Center in Prineville. Phillis was active in the TOPS program, and the Eagles lodge.

Survivors include; Daughter, Marvel Ann (Dan) Abell-Dement of Mollala, son Brian Abell of Walla Walla, WA... A brother John Gerdes of Sidney, Nebraska, Four grandchildren, and their spouses, Jared (Lexie) Abell of Bend, Trevor (Dara) Abell of Dayton, OR, Court (Whitney) Abell of Spokane Valley and Jamie (Jimmy) Monroe of Portland; 12 Great Grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews also survive. She was preceded in death by her parents, Husband Bob, and numerous brothers and sisters.

Friends and family may sign the online register book or send condolences at www.mountainviewcolonialdewitt.com

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I want to thank all persons and organizations that made contributions in the form of food, labor, flowers and other assistance to **Rebecca Scott** from the time of her terminal illness until her death. The same can be said of those whom assisted in conducting the following celebration of life which hosted 150 plus friends and relatives. Speakers, singers, and those arranging the floor space for the reception that followed did a terrific job. Those persons distributing the food and conducting clean up chores were especially helpful in the creation and atmosphere that led to great fellowship and sharing memories of Becci. Lastly, but not least, thanks goes to Gerald Hopkins for conducting the services in a professional manner that led to many compliments.

Harlan Scott

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