

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Raffle tickets on sale for crocheted blanket

UNION — The Union Carnegie Library is selling raffle tickets for a hand-made crocheted blanket. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for six. The raffle drawing will be held at the library's holiday open house Dec. 13. The raffle and the open house are sponsored by the Library Board and Friends of the Library.

Retired Educators group to visit Greenwood School

LA GRANDE — The Union County Retired Educators will meet 11:30 a.m. Dec. 12 at Greenwood School in La Grande for lunch and a program. Cost for lunch is \$3.80.

Here comes Santa Claus — on a train

LA GRANDE — Continu-

ing a La Grande Christmas tradition, Santa will be arriving in town on a train at 4 p.m. Dec. 12. Children and their families are invited to welcome St. Nick to town at the La Grande Depot. Coming early is advised. Goodies will be distributed to children. The event is put on by the Union Pacific Railroad Employees Club #17.

Reservations still open for sensory-friendly Santa visits

LA GRANDE — The Autism Society of Oregon is hosting free sensory-friendly Santa visits for all special needs children and their families. Santa & Mrs. Claus will be at the Tri-County Equipment Building, 62460 Commerce Road, La Grande, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 14. There will be snacks and activities and a photographer. Families will

be admitted every half hour to ensure a quieter, less crowded experience. Spots are still open. To reserve your time or for more information, all Julie Dudley at 541-562-6137.

Contribute to Community Bank's charity drive until Dec. 19

UNION & WALLOWA COUNTIES — Community Bank is conducting its annual charity drive. The program is an effort to collect funds from the community, to be used in that same community during the holiday season. Funds collected will be matched at 50 cents on the dollar up to a maximum of \$500 in matching funds per branch. Last year, more than \$27,000 was dispersed to 12 charities in the region. In Union County, the Elgin branch is collecting

for the Elgin Food Bank and the La Grande Branches are raising funds for the Union County Warming Station. In Wallowa County, the branches in Enterprise, Joseph and Wallowa will donate to local food banks.

Branches will have donation jars available through Dec. 19. All types of monetary donations are accepted such as personal checks, bills and coin. For more information, contact your local branch manager.

Translator District Board meets Thursday

LA GRANDE — The Blue Mountain Translator District Board of Directors will hold a regular meeting at noon Dec. 13 in the Misener Room of the Daniel Chapin Building, 1001 Fourth St. La Grande. Prior to the meeting, the agenda and

board packet will be posted at www.bmtd.org/public-notice.

DAR chapter gathers for Christmas potluck

ISLAND CITY — The Lone Pine Tree Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at noon Dec. 14 at Island City City Hall for the annual Christmas potluck. Members and guests are welcome to attend. For more information, call 541-963-4861.

Prepare for holiday rush with restorative yoga

LA GRANDE — Yoga Dawn Studio is offering an evening of restorative yoga Dec. 14. Cost is \$20, and space is limited to 10 people. To pre-register, call or text Carrie at 541-619-1090 or email kim@yogadawnstudio.com. Yoga Dawn Studio is

located at 105 Depot St., La Grande. More information is also available on the studio's Facebook page.

LHS class of '54 meets for lunch

LA GRANDE — The members of the La Grande High School class of 1954 will gather for lunch at the Flying J restaurant Dec. 13. The get-together begins at 11:30 a.m.

Elgin FBLA chapter plans county-wide blood drive

ELGIN — The Elgin FBLA chapter is organizing a Union County blood drive from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 21. The community is encouraged to sign up for the remaining openings to help save lives. For more information or to sign up, email shelbysannar@gmail.com or call 541-910-4021.

OBITUARIES

Braden Manjarres

La Grande

Braden Manjarres, 30, of La Grande, died Dec. 6 at his residence. A celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory is handling the arrangements.

Gerald 'Sonny' C. Presley

Island City

1932-2018

Gerald "Sonny" Clifford Presley, 86, of Island City, died Nov. 19 at his residence. A celebration of his life will be held in the spring.

Known as Sonny, he was born April 11, 1932, in Baker



City, to Clifford and Maxine (Lawrence) Presley. He lived all over the state of Oregon and was in La Grande for the last nine

or 10 years. Sonny married Carolyn Roberts April 11, 1953, in Weiser, Idaho. They divorced in 1976. In the 1980s, he married Teresa Escamilla, and they later divorced.

Sonny served in the U.S. Army as a Corporal (E-4) in C Battery, 22nd Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion. He was employed as a heavy equipment operator for construction projects. An avid hunter and fisherman, he shot a big six-point

elk last year. Earlier in life, Sonny and his brother Don raced dirt bikes. He was a member of the local 701 engineers for 56 years and a life member of the VFW. He was also a member of the American Legion, Elk and Eagles.

Survivors include his children and their spouses, Michael Presley of Island City, Debra and Donald Graham of Umatilla, Donald and Jaci Presley of Oregon City, and Julie and Andy Henderson of Cove; stepchildren, Marlow Escamilla, Raquel Escamilla, Yvette Escamilla, Dustin Escamilla, Melanie Escamilla and Rocky Escamilla; brother, John Presley of Richland; and seven grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death

by his parents; brother, Don Presley; and sister, Cheryl Charsas.

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

Local funerals and visitations

The Observer publishes obituaries that conform to its obituary policy at no cost. Obituaries must be under 450 words and are edited for newspaper style. Paid advertising space is also available for those who want additional information included. For more information, call The Observer at 541-963-3161.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

La Grande Fire Department responded to 15 calls for medical and one fire alarm on Friday, eight calls for medical on Saturday and 10 calls for medical and one fire alarm on Sunday.

UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Arrested: Devin Eugene Johnson, 38, unknown address, was arrested on a parole board warrant.

Arrested: Michelle Kay Plueard, 38, Union, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Arrested: Aaron M. Chason, 18, unknown address, was arrested on a Oregon Youth Authority warrant charging a parole violation. The alleged parole violation was connected to an original charge of theft. Arrested: Jeffery Lane Rob-

erts, 39, unknown address, was arrested on a Union County Secret Indictment Warrant charging harassment and strangulation.

Cited: Two Union County juveniles were each cited on charges of unlawful possession of marijuana by a minor.

An invitation to enjoy an evening of Music

Händel's Oratorio "THE MESSIAH"

Free Admission
La Grande High School Auditorium
2nd Street & J Avenue
Sun, Dec. 16th, 2018 @6:30 pm

Nativity Collections on Display: open at 5:30 PM

OREGON IN BRIEF

From staff reports

Crab season delayed again on the coast

ASTORIA — Oregon's Dungeness crab fishery will not open until at least Dec. 31 after testing by state fishery managers revealed crabs are still too low in meat yield in some areas of the coast.

The Daily Astorian reports the valuable commercial fishery traditionally opens on Dec. 1. In November, fishery managers announced the season would be delayed until mid-December because crabs were not plump enough.

The most recent delay is not a big surprise, said Tim Novotny, the spokesman for the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, which advocates for the industry.

The commercial Dungeness crab fishery is managed under a tri-state agreement between Washington, Oregon and California. In early December, multiple areas within the region still did not meet the criteria for an opening, according to Oregon fishery managers.

The state will continue testing crab to determine if the season should open Dec. 31 in Oregon or be delayed further.

Deschutes River to be featured on 'forever' stamp in 2019

BEND — A scenic Oregon river will be honored with a stamp next year.

The Bend Bulletin reports the Deschutes River will be featured on a "forever" stamp in 2019.

The U.S. Postal Service announced in November that 19 sets of forever stamps will be available.

They include a series designed to commemorate the National Wild and Scenic River Act, a federal law that limits development along portions of distinctive rivers.

The collection features a dozen prints of protected rivers.

One of is the Deschutes River's small waterfalls in a photograph by Bob Wick.

The collection also includes images of the Owyhee (OH-wih-hee), Snake, Missouri, Skagit and Flathead rivers.

The Postal Service has not released a date when the stamps will be available.

Family of man shot by Eagle Point police files lawsuit

EAGLE POINT — The parents of a man with

schizophrenia who was shot and killed by police in a Carl's Jr. bathroom have filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the city of Eagle Point, its police department and the officer.

Oregon Public Radio reports the man was shot after officers say they thought the man had a gun. Officers later realized the man was not armed and what they mistook for a gun was the officer's fallen Taser.

Officer Daniel Cardenas fatally shot Matthew Thayer Graves Sept. 19. Cardenas attempted to stop Graves for disobeying a crosswalk light. Graves eventually led Cardenas into the restaurant bathroom.

Michael and Vikki Graves filed the lawsuit days after the Jackson County District Attorney's Office released transcripts from an October grand jury proceeding that resulted in no charges for Cardenas.

Central Oregon deputy cleared in shooting of suspect

BEND — A central Oregon deputy authorities say shot and seriously injured a man driving in a dangerous manner toward him and another deputy has been cleared of any wrongdoing.

Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel on Friday said that Deputy Christopher Jones lawfully used deadly force when he shot Brandon A. Berrett in October near Bend.

Hummel says five deputies, including two trainees along to observe, went to arrest Jones on a probation violation.

Authorities say Berrett attempted to flee in a car and came within inches of Jones when Jones opened fire, hitting Berrett twice.

Berrett was taken into custody and transported to a hospital where he remained for two weeks. He's being held on a parole violation, and is

scheduled to appear in court today.

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What's Cooking ?
by Sandy Sorrels of **TEN DEPOT STREET**

I find that the most enjoyable part of this time of year is relaxing and enjoying time with friends and family. At Ten Depot Street we try to provide the atmosphere and food and drink to make the most of the winter holidays. This week we have some interesting specials and great entertainment lined up to add to the fun and pleasure.

For music on Tuesday veteran musician and singer *Jill Cohn* is playing. A radio station recently described a concert with Jill Cohn as "an evening of folk Americana bliss." Join us for a night with this talented Seattle based singer-songwriter pianist and guitarist, who is on tour in Eastern Oregon and Washington and is playing at Ten Depot Street as part of the tour.

Then Thursday *Dr. J and the Easy Riders*, another great ensemble with Luke McKern and friends, will be playing danceable reggae funk. Both night the music starts at 8:00.

Our *Blue Plate Special* this week is comfort food for this winter weather, delicious roast pork with mashed potatoes and gravy. What could be better? And we have some interesting appetizers that we have been perfecting, warm Baked Brie served with fresh sliced Fuji Apples and crackers. Roasted Brussel Sprouts with Bacon and Parmesan Cheese and a Salad with Oranges and Avocados.

Be sure to include *Ten Depot Street* in your New Year's Eve plans, not only for the best dinner in town, but also music by the popular *Holly Sorenson Band*. Call 541 963-8766 for reservations.

Remember that *Ten Depot Street Gift Certificates* are easy and appreciated gifts for almost anyone on your list.

BLUE PLATE SPECIAL \$10.95
Roast Pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, homemade roll (served Monday through Friday)

FAMILY OWNED

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32ND ANNUAL *Festival of Trees*

RAFFLE WINNERS
Don Dutton - \$300 OTEC Certificate
Kelsey Moulton - Walla Walla Spa & Wine Tour sponsored by Alegre Travel
Marilyn Fallow - Pacific City Beach Package sponsored by ISU Stratton Agency & Carter's Custom Cleaning
Cindy Williams - Five-year membership to LifeFlight

FAVORITE TREE VOTING RESULTS
Favorite Children's Tree - "Santa's Workshop" sponsored by Grande Ronde Hospital and decorated by Kat Paulson
Favorite Adults' Tree - "Journey to Bethlehem" sponsored by Blue Mountain Coin-Op Laundry & Gary Anderson Construction Inc., and decorated by Keri Eberhard

A Great Big Thanks to Everyone who helped make our 32nd Festival of Trees another huge success!

SOROPTIMIST International of La Grande Best for Women
lagrandesoroptimist.org