

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Oregon SNAP benefits schedule altered

SALEM — According to a press release, as a result of the partial federal government shutdown, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has asked states to provide early issuance of February benefits for those who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for food security. The 615,405 Oregonians currently enrolled in SNAP will see receive their next monthly allocation by Jan. 20. The early issuance will proceed, even if the federal government shutdown ends prior to Jan. 20.

“We want to be clear that these are not additional funds that SNAP recipients are receiving, but an early issuance of February benefits,” stated Oregon’s DHS self-sufficiency director, Kim Fredlund.

GRH Auxiliary meets Monday

LA GRANDE — Grande Ronde Hospital Auxiliary’s January meeting will be held on the 21st at Island City City Hall. Refreshments will be available at 9 a.m., and the meeting follows at 9:30. There will be a presentation explaining

GRH’s “My Chart” system. Anyone interested in volunteering with the GRH Auxiliary is encouraged to attend the meeting.

County residents invited to fair board’s annual meeting

LA GRANDE — The county is invited to the annual meeting of the Union County Fair Board beginning at 6 p.m. Jan. 17 at the Union County Fair Office, 1106 K Ave., La Grande. County residents are encouraged to air concerns, ask questions and submit suggestions. For more information, call 541-786-7746 or email amy.gunworks@gmail.com.

Saturday’s Cattleman’s Workshop is free to attend

LA GRANDE — The 15th annual Cattleman’s Workshop NW will take place Jan. 19 at the Blue Mountain Conference Center, 404 12th St., La Grande. The all-day event is free and includes a complimentary lunch. Registration is not required.

The day begins at 8:45 a.m. with an overview of the workshop’s sessions, which will be led by industry

experts: “Export Markets & National Beef Traceability Programs,” “Practicality & Implementation of Beef Traceability Programs,” “Value of Stockmanship & Low-Stress Systems in Beef Production,” “Retailer & Consumer Perspectives of Traceability Programs,” and “Economic Outlook & Impacts on Beef Marketing Systems.”

For more information contact Kim McKague at 541-562-5129 (ext. 21) or kim.mckague@oregonstate.edu or go to www.cattle-mensworkshopnw.com.

Senior center hosts foot clinics

LA GRANDE — The Union County Senior Center, 1504 Albany St., is hosting a foot clinic Jan. 22. To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 541-963-7532.

American Legion offers assistance to Coast Guardsmen

LA GRANDE — An announcement on the La Grande American Legion Facebook page announces that the American Legion is ready to assist Coast Guardsmen affected by the government shutdown. The American Legion

is working with Coast Guard Mutual Assistance to provide immediate financial support through the Legion’s Temporary Financial Assistance program.

TFA provides one-time grants of up to \$1,500 per eligible households to active duty Coast Guard members with minor children in the home and only for the duration of the current shutdown. Questions on eligibility or how to apply for a grant may be directed to 800-504-4098.

Comments on public transportation welcome

ENTERPRISE — Community Connection will hold a Transportation Advisory Council meeting at 3 p.m. Jan. 24 at Community Connection, 702 NW First St. in Enterprise. The meeting is open to the public, and input, comments and questions concerning public transportation are welcome.

Sign up for next week’s senior meal in Cove

COVE — The next senior meal in Cove will be served Jan. 22 at Founders Hall on the Ascension School

grounds. The meal will feature a taco bar, rice, beans and green salad, with brownies for dessert. There is a \$5 charge per meal. Coffee and tea are avail-

able at noon, and the meal begins at 12:15 p.m. To RSVP, call Imie Bristow at 541-568-4545 or Betsy Arnsen at 541-568-4902 by Jan. 17.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

La Grande Fire Department responded to six calls for medical on Monday and one gas leak and nine calls for medical and one illegal burn on Tuesday.

LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Cherry Street and Adams Avenue on Monday. The accident was reported at 9:05 a.m.

Arrested: Tyson Hancock, 44, unknown address, was arrested on a parole and probation detainer.

Cited: A juvenile was cited on a charge of third-degree theft.

Accident: Nobody was hurt in a traffic accident at Island Avenue and Pine Street on Monday. The accident was reported at 7:02 p.m.

UNION COUNTY SHERIFF

Cited: A Union County juvenile was cited on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Cited: A Union County juvenile was cited on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

CORRECTION

An entry on the police log in the Jan. 11 edition of The Observer errantly stated, due to incorrect information provided to The Observer, that Bryan Jungling of Elgin was cited on a charge of second-degree theft.

The log should have stated that Thomas Oldridge, 20, Elgin, and Mathew R. Marcher, 20, Elgin, were each cited on a charge of second-degree theft.

Public Safety Report

The Public Safety Report is compiled from police blotter information supplied by local law enforcement agencies and fire department reports. Individuals named as arrested and/or charged with crimes in this report are presumed innocent until proved guilty in a court of law.

OBITUARIES

Susanne (Briggs) Koenig

Enterprise
1942-2019

Susanne Koenig, 76, of Enterprise, died Jan. 5 at Wallowa Memorial Hospital. A memorial service will be held in the spring at the Enterprise Baptist Church. Bollman Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

Susanne was born May 10, 1942, in Alhambra, California, to Arthur Fredrick and Marjorie (Bradshaw) Briggs. She attended San Gabriel Mission Grammar School and Alhambra High School. Susanne married Bill Lucas and worked at Helen Grace Candy Co. and then managed Santa Barbara Savings and Loan. Later she married Myron “John” Koenig and ran a deli. In 1998, they moved to Enterprise.

Survivors include her husband, Myron “John” Koenig; two stepsons; son, William Lucas; one grandson and one granddaughter; siblings, Arthur Briggs and Toni Madison; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her first husband; children, Julie and Timothy; and grandson, Kyle.

Robert D. Bennett

Wallowa
1937-2019

Robert “Bob” D. Bennett, 81, of Wallowa, died Jan. 10 at home after a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. Services will be held at 11 a.m. Jan. 26 at the Wallowa Church of Christ. A potluck will follow. The family asks friends

to bring a favorite dish and stay to visit. Bollman Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

Known as Bob, he was born Jan. 25, 1937, in Elgin, to Clyde and Carrie Bennett. He graduated from Wallowa High School in 1956 and served in the Army National Guard for two years followed by two years in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Bob married Karen on Nov. 23, 1977. He and his brother Vernon owned and operated Ten-Neb Logging for many years. He was an active member of the Wallowa Church of Christ. Bob was a loving and generous man and was always willing to help others in their time of need.

Survivors include his wife, Karen; children and their spouses, Sandy Bennett, Debbie Duran, Mike and Lori Waters, Linda and Joe Estes, and Laurie and Rob Jennings; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and brother and sister-in-law, Vernon and Glenda Bennett.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Genieva Eckly and Ronald Bennett.

Jean (Freeland) Gray

Hilgard
1932-2018

Jean Gray, 86, died Dec. 24, 2018, at her home in Hilgard. She was laid to rest Jan. 4 at the Hilgard Cemetery.

Born Beauna Evelyn Val Jean and

known as Jean, she was born July 30, 1932, in Ellis Prairie, Missouri, to Wil-

liam “Guy” and Sarah “Ella” (Ward) Freeland. Jean was one in a family of 15 children. Her mother died when she was 8 years old. Jean grew up a farm girl and lived in various places in Missouri before moving to Touchet, Washington, and then Richland, Washington.

On Sept. 10, 1947, she married John Gray at his parents’ log-cabin home in Hilgard. They lived in Starkey, Hilgard, Umatilla, Kamela and La Grande, among other places, then returned to Hilgard where they built a home. Jean worked for Terry Trailers in La Grande and retired in 1986 when John retired from the railroad.

Jean was one of Jehovah’s Witnesses. She enjoyed sewing, quilting, cooking, raising chickens, picking huckleberries and hunting with her husband and family.

Survivors include her husband of 71 years, John Gray of Hilgard; children and their spouses, John Jr. and Renate of Hilgard, Linda D. Young of Hilgard and Vicky Gray of La Grande; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Ella Freeland; father- and mother-in-law, John and Beulah Gray; grandchildren, Jeremy Gray, Michele Young and Robert Gray-Elliott; and several brothers and sisters.

Gail (Walker) Dike

Enterprise
1937-2019

Gail Dike, 81, of Enterprise, died Jan. 7 at home from complications due to diabetes. A memorial service was held Jan. 12 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Enterprise.

Gail was born May 10, 1937, in Ogden, Utah, to LeGrande and Pearl (Ivins) Walker. She attended first and second grades in Ogden, and then her family moved to Reno, Nevada, where she attended third through eighth grade in a two-room country schoolhouse. During first grade, she spent six months in bed with rheumatic fever. At age 9, while riding a horse bareback, the horse ran away with her and she fell off and fractured her skull. After eight days in the hospital she was able to go home, where she spent another two weeks in bed.

After eighth grade, Gail attended Reno High School with more than 1,000 students. She was involved in drama, dance, music, volleyball and basketball. Gail graduated from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, with a bachelor’s degree in speech therapy and music. On the first day of freshman orientation at BYU, she met her future husband, James “Jim” Alvin Dike. They were married on Sept. 10, 1958, in the Los Angeles Temple in California.

Gail was a stay-at-home mom for her four children. Jim worked for the U.S.

Forest Service for 33 years, during which time they relocated frequently, moving every three to five years to various towns in Idaho, Nevada and Oregon. In retirement, Gail and Jim moved to Enterprise.

Gail had a voracious appetite for reading good books and a well-developed green thumb. She loved to grow house plants and outdoor flower gardens and could name more than a dozen flowers by the age of 3. Besides her family, one of her greatest loves was music. She taught piano lessons for more than 30 years and was chorister and organist in her church congregation for many years.

Survivors include her husband of nearly 61 years, Jim; sons and daughters-in-law, Tracy and Erika of Shelton, Washington, and Lindsey and Teri of Klamath Falls; daughters and sons-in-law, Leslyn and Matt Rasmussen of Corvallis and Janelle and Corey Wilcox of Bend; and nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Cecil E. Cain

La Grande
1951-2019

Cecil Edward Cain, 67, of La Grande, died Jan. 7 at Grande Ronde Hospital.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Jan. 18 at Daniels-Knopp

Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

Cecil was born Nov. 25, 1951, in Selma, Alabama, to J.C. and Onnie M. (Roberson) Cain. He moved to La Grande in 1974 to be with his sister. Cecil worked as a landscaper for his brother-in-law, Field Roberson, for many years. He was a member of the Amazing Grace Fellowship. He enjoyed fishing, family, walking about town and watching TV, especially Westerns.

Survivors include his siblings, Lillian Roberson of La Grande, Jessie Cain of Portland, Hattie Cain Harris of Portland, Sam Cain of Portland and Vanessa and Jeanette; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his siblings, David Cain and Christina Cain, and brother-in-law, Field Roberson.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Lillian Roberson, 1702 Washington Ave., La Grande, 97850.

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.



La GRANDE AUTO REPAIR
975-2000
www.lagrandeautorepair.com

MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE
ACDelcoTSS

Joe Horst

RENTALS.
Check us out!

Mountain Works Bicycles

1301 Adams Ave., La Grande, OR
541-963-3220
www.mountainworksbicycles.com

Luxury Senior Living
Assisted Living • Retirement Living

Resident-centered care is the cornerstone of Grande Ronde Assisted Living and Retirement Living Programs. Our experienced care team created a personalized experience for our residents and peace of mind for their families.

GRANDE Ronde
Retirement & Assisted Living
1809 Gekeler Ln. • La Grande
541-963-4700

When should you be treated in the Emergency Room?

- When a loved one is unconscious or unresponsive
- When you suspect a heart attack – chest pain, shortness of breath, etc.
- When you suspect a stroke – facial droop, weakness on one side, slurred speech
- After an accident or injury where you suspect a concussion, broken bone, internal injury, or other serious condition.

For most other health concerns, call your primary care doctor or provider. For life-threatening emergencies, call 9-1-1.

This message brought to you by the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization & Wallowa Memorial Hospital.

Wallowa Memorial Hospital
We treat you like family

601 Medical Parkway, Enterprise, OR 97828 • 541-426-3111 • www.wchcd.org
Wallowa Memorial Hospital is an equal opportunity employer and provider.