

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Mortgage assistance available to federal employees

LA GRANDE — Community Connection Northeast Oregon, Inc., announced the availability of programs for furloughed federal employees in need of mortgage assistance. Go to www.oregonhomeownerhelp.org or call Debbie MacBaker at 541-963-3186.

Calling all teen readers

LA GRANDE — Cook Memorial Library is seeking new members for the library's Teen Book Clubs. This is a free activity, held monthly in the library's Community Room. The middle school book club is open to anyone in 6th-8th

grades, and the high school book club is open to anyone in 9th-12th grades. For more information, call 541-962-1339 or visit the library at 2006 Fourth St. in La Grande.

Class on soils and fertilizer offered to local gardeners

ISLAND CITY — The OSU Master Gardener program offers the community opportunities to expand gardening knowledge. The next class will be "Soils and Fertilizer" Jan. 29. Classes run from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the conference room at the OSU Extension, Union County office, 10507 N. McAlister Road, Island City. Presented by Gary Kiemnac, EOJ Professor of Soils, the

class is \$5 for the general public. For more information and to RSVP for classes, call the OSU Union County Extension office at 541-963-1010. For photos, upcoming classes and links to research-based gardening info, visit the Union County Master Gardeners Facebook page.

Watch for plow trucks before, during and after storms

LA GRANDE — A press release from ODOT reminds motorists to expect to see slow-moving plows and other winter maintenance equipment during and after storm events when snow and ice are present. Plow trucks are also often on the road prior to a storm, applying salt and/or deicer to help reduce the

accumulation of ice and prevent snow from bonding to the pavement. Because salt needs to mix with moisture to activate, applying it on wet roads just before freezing temperatures is ideal.

When drivers see a plow ahead of them, they should slow down and stay several car lengths behind, especially when the truck's warning lights and top roto beams are flashing. If there is snow on the road, the plows will likely be kicking up a lot of material that could limit visibility. If there's no snow on the road, they may be applying salt, sand and/or deicer.

Salt is primarily used on the interstate between Boardman and the Idaho border when conditions warrant. To get it applied

quickly and efficiently prior to a storm, ODOT trucks may be driving about 30 mph down the center of the freeway with plow blades partially lowered to keep motorists behind them from passing. For more information about ODOT's winter maintenance program, including application of salt and deicer, contact Tom Strandberg at 541-963-1330 or thomas.m.strandberg@odot.state.or.us.

Homeless Resource Events planned

LA GRANDE, ENTERPRISE — Anyone who is homeless and in need of services is invited to attend Community Connection's Homeless Resource Events planned for Jan. 30 as part

of the Point in Time Count, a nationwide one-day event to record the number of homeless people across the nation, which influences local funding.

The events will provide all homeless individuals and families the opportunity to meet and obtain information from a variety of supportive service providers. Food, beverages and cold weather items will be available at no charge. Come to the Riveria Activity Center, 2609 Second St., La Grande, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., or the dining room at the Enterprise Senior Center, 702 NW First St. between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Contact Rochelle Hamilton at 541-963-3186 or Danielle Salmon at 541-426-3840 for more information.

OBITUARIES

Ethel S. (Paulson) Morehead

La Grande
1931-2019

Ethel Sue Morehead, 87, formerly of Joseph, died Jan. 18 at Wildflower Lodge in



La Grande. A service in her honor will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 2 at St. Katherine's

Catholic Church in Enterprise, followed by a gathering in the church hall. Burial will be at Hillcrest Cemetery in La Grande at 3 p.m. Bollman Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

Ethel and her twin sister, Edna, were born April 20, 1931, in Lindsay, California, to Guy and Lillian Paulson. They joined three older brothers: Leo, Gordon and Warren. Ethel lived in Salinas, California, until her senior year of high school when she moved to La Grande to help her brother and sister-in-law operate Pine Cone Lodge on the Grande Ronde River.

In La Grande, Ethel met her future husband, Paul. They were married Dec. 18, 1949, and began their family in Wallowa, moved to Enterprise and eventually settled in Joseph. Together their faith and love for the Lord helped them to grow their family with strong values and commitment to each other.

As a woman involved with her family and many friends, Ethel will be remembered for her ability to make every one of them feel special. She was a shining light in her community and in the church where she served.

Survivors include her children and their partners, Mike and Sandra, Cheryl and Steve, Therese and Mike, Becky and Mark, Mary and Ken and Amy and Bob; 16 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; and four great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul; daughter, Mary Katherine; two grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and her parents and siblings.

Gerald "Jerry" L. Dudley

Union
1938-2019

Gerald "Jerry" Leonard Dudley, 80, of Union, died Jan. 20 of natural causes.



Per his request, there will not be a service. Known as Jerry, he was born Dec. 26,

1938, to Stephen and Reva Dudley. He and his future wife, Linda, were introduced by mutual friends at a baseball game Jerry was playing in. They were married Feb. 1, 1957, in Long Beach,

California.

Jerry worked for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office as a deputy and later as a detective for 25 years (with a brief stint as a Resident Deputy in Happy Camp, California, mid-career). Being a deputy was all Jerry ever wanted to be, and he was well respected and admired by his fellow deputies. Jerry and Linda retired to Union County, first in Cove then in Union, where they remained. In his retirement, Jerry worked cold cases as a volunteer for the La Grande Police Department.

Jerry was a master woodworker. He learned the trade from his father, starting with helping build the family home as a young boy in Paramount, California. Many of his woodwork pieces can be found throughout Union County.

Jerry was also an avid reader, particularly Westerns such as by Louis Lamour and the Jack Reacher series by Lee Child. He also loved John Wayne and watched his movies over and over — but his favorite movie was "The Outlaw Josey Wales," starring Clint Eastwood, which he probably watched hundreds of times.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Linda Dudley; daughter and son-in-law, Sherri and Daniel Croft; daughter, Julie Kay; son, Lee; former son-in-law, Steven Rush; sister, Deanna Moore; brother, Stephen; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Stephen and Reva Dudley, and sister, Janet Newbold.

Memorial donations may be made to The Wounded Warrior Project (www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or The Autism Society of Oregon (www.autismsocietyor.org).

Hope A. Paslay

La Grande

Hope A. Paslay, 22, of La Grande, died Jan. 19 at her residence. A viewing will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Feb. 1 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. A celebration of her life will begin at 2 p.m. Feb. 2 at the Island City Light-house Pentecostal Church. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory is handling the arrangements.

Marilynn M. (Nowak) Kauffman

La Grande
1930-2019

Marilynn "Lynn" M. Kauffman, 88, of La Grande, died Jan. 10 at a local care facility.



A service will be held at 1 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Imbler Christian Church. A meal will precede the

service at 11:45 a.m., also at the church.

Marilynn was born April 2, 1930, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Bill and Honey Nowak. She was married to John Kauffman.

Survivors include her children, Clarice Duncan of Summerville, Candace Goss of Bend, Kimberly Kauffman of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Michelle Shafr of Ma'ale Adumim, Israel, Liz Alecusan of Columbus, Ohio, William Kauffman of Arlington, Texas, and Lisa McLaughlin of Fredricksburg, Pennsylvania.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, John Kauffman Sr.; son, John Kauffman Jr.; twin brothers, Bill and Bob Nowak; and sister, Earla Mae.

Memorial contributions may be made to Next Step Pregnancy Center, 902 D Ave., La Grande 97850.

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

Mary L. (McDowell) Callahan

Formerly of La Grande
1941-2019

Mary Lou Callahan, 77, formerly of La Grande, died Jan. 21 at her residence in Pendleton. Viewings will be



held at Loveland Funeral Chapel from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Jan. 25 and from 10 a.m. to

11 p.m. Jan. 26. A graveside service will begin at 2 p.m. Jan. 26 at Island City Cemetery.

Mary was born March 7, 1941, in Rolla, Missouri, to Charles and Margret (Jones) McDowell. She resided in La Grande for 43 years before moving to Pendleton to be near family. Mary was married to Ervin L. Callahan for 30 years.

Mary enjoyed crafting and playing bingo. She was a member of the Grande Ronde Hospital Auxiliary

and the La Grande Eagles Auxiliary. She was a survivor of breast cancer and multiple sclerosis.

Survivors include her children, Dan Callahan and wife, Robin, of Pendleton, Anna Callahan of Pendleton, and Nancy Callahan of Caldwell, Idaho; sister and brother-in-law, June and Art Creson of La Grande; sister, Bonnie Carper of Salem; brother and sister-in-law, James and Mary McDowell of LaPine; sister-in-law, Charlotte McDowell; nine grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Margret; husband, Ervin Callahan; and brothers, Arthur McDowell and William McDowell.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, P.O. Box 4527, New York, NY 10163, or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

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

Mildred McChesney

La Grande

Mildred McChesney, 94, of La Grande, died Jan. 23 at a local care facility. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Ralph E. Simonson

Elgin

Ralph E. Simonson, 90, of Elgin, died Jan. 23 at his residence. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Elgin Highland Cemetery. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory is handling the arrangements.

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

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

La Grande Fire Department responded to eight calls for medical on Wednesday and eight calls for medical on Thursday.

LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Arrested: Bryan A. Pace, 36, unknown address, and Trishila Lynne Sorensen, 35, unknown address, were each arrested on a charge of second-degree burglary, second-degree criminal mischief and theft of services.

Cited: Two Union County juveniles were each cited on a charge of third-degree theft.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Fir Street and Monroe Avenue. The accident was reported Thursday at 3:26 p.m.

UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident Wednesday

at Summerville Road and Sanderson Road in the Summerville area. The accident was reported at 9:40 a.m.

Accident: Nobody was hurt in a traffic accident on Highway 203 on Wednesday. The accident was reported at 11:51 a.m.

Arrested: Shawn Robert Lee, 53, Redmond, was arrested while lodged in the Union County Jail, on a Deschutes County warrant charging failure to appear in court in charges of second-degree theft and negotiating a bad check.

Arrested: Alicia Nicole Villarreal, 32, La Grande, was arrested on a charge of a restraining order violation.

Arrested: Damon Alan Preuss, 26, was arrested on a Umatilla County warrant charging failure to appear in court on a charge of disorderly conduct. Preuss was also charged with possession of a controlled substance, meth.

Arrested: Alexander Creighton Declue, 21, La Grande, was arrested on a Union County warrant charging unlawful possession of methamphetamine.

26 measles cases in Washington

By Lisa Baumann
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Health officials have confirmed 26 measles cases in western Washington in an outbreak that began earlier this month.

In Clark County, where the outbreak has been centered, the number of cases rose to 25 as of Thursday, with a dozen more suspected cases under investigation, said Dr. Scott Lindquist, epidemiologist for communicable diseases with the Department of Health.

King County also confirmed one case this week involving a man in his 50s who had recently visited Clark County, he said.

"We usually have five cases or less a year," he said. "At this point, we're expecting it to move across the state."

Twenty-one of the people infected were not immunized, according to officials. The others are not verified to have had the vaccine.

Nineteen of the Clark County cases involve children younger than 10. Five cases involve those from 11 to 18, and one infected person is between 19 and 29 years old.

Measles is a highly contagious viral illness spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It can remain in the air for up to two hours in an isolated space.

Those who may have been exposed should watch for early symptoms of fever and malaise and then a rash starting on the head and moving down the body, Lindquist said. "You feel miserable."

While many people think measles are not a big deal, officials are concerned because serious complications such as pneumonia and brain infections can arise, Lindquist said. He also urged people who have not received the vaccine to get it now.

Those who are infected have visited public places while contagious, including the Portland International Airport, health care facilities and schools.

The Clark County Public Health said yesterday the people newly confirmed to have measles have stayed home, preventing additional exposures to the public. County officials on Jan. 18 declared a public health emergency over the outbreak.

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