

# LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

## OTEC Board meets Tuesday in Baker

**BAKER CITY** — The Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative Board of Directors will meet at 9 a.m. Feb. 26 at OTEC headquarters, 4005 23rd St., Baker City. Discussion items on the agenda include the statement of operations and the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE).

## Condors in Hells Canyon?

**JOSEPH** — Find out the answer at Wallowology's free evening lecture at 7 p.m. Feb. 28. The presentation will be given by David Moen, MS, Conservation Biologist, Nez Perce Wildlife Division. All are welcome at the events, held at Wallowology, 508 N. Main, Joseph.

## RSVP by Thursday for next senior meal in Cove March 5

**COVE** — The next senior lunch in Cove will be served March 5 in Founder's Hall on the Ascension

School grounds. Coffee and tea are available at noon, and the meal begins at 12:15 p.m., featuring chicken alfredo fettuccini, broccoli, French bread and green salad with peach cobbler for dessert. There is a \$5 charge per meal. RSVP by Feb. 28 by calling Imie Bristow at 541-568-4545 or Betsy Arnson at 541-568-4902.

## Growing Through Grief support group begins in March

**LA GRANDE** — Growing Through Grief, a support group for those who have experienced a loss through death or are supporting someone in a time of grief, will begin March 7. Participants will learn about the mourning process, share their experiences and gain tools to help themselves and others cope with loss. Meetings will be held on Thursdays for eight weeks at 6:30 p.m. at the La Grande First Presbyterian Church, 1308 Washington Ave.

The group is sponsored by Grande Ronde Hospital Hospice and facilitated by Teresa Smith-Dixon, LCSW. The group is free to attend, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call 541-963-2273 or go email tsd01@grh.org.

## Get your log roll on at the pool Saturday

**LA GRANDE** — Veterans' Memorial Pool is having another log rolling Saturday. The announcement said, "Come test your lumber Jack or Jill skills, challenge a friend, and get some good old-fashioned exercise." The log will be out and ready to use March 2 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Cost is regular admission or any current membership.

## Rimfire silhouette shoots offered on first Sunday

**LA GRANDE** — The La Grande Rifle and Pistol Club is hosting a .22 rimfire

silhouette shoot every first Sunday of the month through April at the club's river range on Highway 244 (I-84 exit 252, then 3 miles west on the Ukiah-Hilgard Highway). The next event, which is open to the public, begins at 9 a.m. March 3. Entry fee is \$5. Eye and ear protection are required. Rifles or pistols, with no restrictions on sights. Call Darrel at 541-428-9757 or Gary at 541-786-0809 or go to www.lgrpc.com for more information.

## Group is dedicated to improving trails and historic sites

**ENTERPRISE** — The Wallowa Mountains Hells Canyon Trails Association will hold its third annual membership meeting to welcome new members and plan for 2019 activities on March 3. The meeting is open to all, and will begin at 3 p.m. in the Toma's Conference Room, 309 S. River St., Enterprise. Refreshments will be provided. Anyone interested in learning about helping to improve

trails and historic sites is encouraged to attend.

WMHCTA is a hands-on volunteer group started by local residents dedicated to improving the condition of trails and historic sites in Northeast Oregon. Since its start in February 2017, WMHCTA volunteers have conducted 30 work parties, invested more than 4,400 volunteer hours, cleared 120 miles of trail and made improvements to three historic sites. Annual membership costs \$20 for individuals, \$30 for families and \$10 for students. WMHCTA is part of the Eagle Cap Partnership, a cooperative agreement with Eastern Oregon University, the U.S. Forest Service and Wallowa Resources. For additional information, email info@wmhcta.org or go to www.wmhcta.org.

## Register now for Pesticide Safety Education Program

**ISLAND CITY** — The OSU Pesticide Safety Education Program is offering

two courses next week. A Worker Protection Standard Training for Ag Employers and Pesticide Handlers course is planned for March 6 in the conference room at the Union County OSU Extension Service, 10507 N. McAlister Road, Island City. A morning session offers a refresher course for ag employers from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.. The afternoon session provides training for pesticide handler cards. A session in English furns from noon to 2 p.m., and a Spanish session follows from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The cost of each session is \$25.

On March 7, the Eastern Oregon Landscape/Ornamental/Turf course will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 7 at The Place, 62846 Philynda Loop, Island City (off Buchanan near the McAlister intersection). The registration fee is \$120.

For more details on the specifics of the courses and to register, call Professional and Continuing Education at 541-737-4197.

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Due to information provided by the police department, The Observer reported on Jan. 21 Shawn Robert Lee, 53, unknown address, was arrested by the La Grande Police Department on charges of second-degree burglary and a Crook County warrant charging failure to appear in court on a charge of first-degree theft. Lee was additionally arrested by the La Grande Police Department on charges of negotiating a bad check and theft by deception.

### UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Arrested: Taylor Nichole Wilson, 28, unknown address, was arrested on charges of second-degree criminal trespassing, third-degree theft and possession of heroin.

Arrested: Keith R. Papineau, 61, Elgin, was arrested on charges of pointing a firearm at another, menacing, unlawful carry of a concealed firearm, supplying contraband, resisting

arrest and second-degree disorderly conduct.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident on Highway 203 in the La Grande area Sunday. The accident was reported at 5:27 p.m.

Arrested: Alyssa Casey Harvill, 20, unknown address, was arrested while lodged in the Union County Jail on two Umatilla County warrants. One warrant charged failure to appear in court on charges of second-degree criminal trespass and giving false information to a peace officer. A second warrant charged failure to appear in court on an original charge of failure to appear in court.

### LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Arrested: Amber Suzanne Glaze, 37, unknown address, was arrested on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court on a charge of third-degree theft.

Arrested: Andrew Kevin

Wells, 25, unknown address, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Adams Avenue and Island Avenue on Sunday. The accident was reported 7:19 p.m.

Accident: No injuries were suffered in a motor vehicle accident on Adams Avenue Sunday. The accident was reported at 11:30 a.m.

Arrested: Tiffany Kay Evans, 37, a transient, was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass.

### OREGON STATE POLICE

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident on Highway 204 in the Elgin area Sunday. The accident was reported 2:54 p.m.

Accident: At least one person was injured in a traffic accident late Sunday afternoon on Interstate 84 about three miles west of La Grande.

### LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The La Grande Fire Department responded to six calls for medical on Friday, seven calls for medical and one burn complaint on Saturday and 10 calls for medical on Sunday.

### 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.

## Accident causes closure



Courtesy photo

Interstate 84 westbound was closed Sunday night due to a semi-truck and van towing a trailer crashing near La Grande.

## What's Cooking?

by Sandy Sorrels of

### TEN DEPOT STREET



Looks like more snow this week, at least until Friday. So if you can dig yourself out of the snow, come on down to Ten Depot Street for a break from the weather.

Our Blue Plate Special this week, *Belgian Beef and Beer Stew* is comfort food at its best. It is a recipe that I learned long ago from my dear Belgian friend Leen Inghels, who taught for years at EOU. Made with our prime beef and dark beer, it is delicious.

Thursday, the *Naughty Pine Band*, a Reggae inspired trio with original compositions and lyrics, is playing. Based in the Tri-Cities, their music is about "love for your fellow man, life's struggles, and burning trees." They have played for us before and are a really fun band.

Next Sunday, March 3, is the

annual **Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol Seafood Buffets** at Ten Depot Street, which raises money to help keep the all-volunteer ski patrol in supplies. With fresh salmon, Dungeness crab, shrimp, slow roasted roast beef, and homemade side dishes, there is something for everyone. Check with the **Mountain Works** 541 963-3220 or any ski patrol member for tickets.

Reserve next Tuesday, March 5, for **Mardi Gras**, another great musical event at Ten Depot. **The Depot Street Syncopators**, an all star group of La Grande's most talented jazz musicians, will be playing New Orleans style jazz with all of the excitement and enthusiasm that you would find at a Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans. And we will have authentic food and drink to go with it. Call 963-8766 for reservations.

### BLUE PLATE SPECIAL \$10.95

Belgian Beef and Beer Stew, steamed red potatoes, green salad, bread  
(served Monday through Friday)



## OBITUARIES

### Ilse I. Taylor

1935-2019

Ilse Ingrid Taylor, 83, of Chesapeake City, Maryland, died Feb. 23. Ilse was born March 21, 1935, near Treuberg, Germany, on March 21, 1935, to Karl and Amalie Lichottka. She came to the U.S. in 1956 and had a career as a professional seamstress. She was preceded in death by her husband, Waldemeer P. Kutteles, in 2017. Survivors include her daughter, Krystal Deborah Green of La Grande; sister, Erika Nafzinger of Maryland; and nieces and nephews in Maryland and Germany.

### Jack K. Fox

La Grande

Jack K. Fox, 98, of La Grande, died Feb. 22 at Grande Ronde Hospital. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be

handling the arrangements.

### Michael Van Meter

Formerly of La Grande  
1959-2018

Michael Van Meter, 59, of Bend and formerly of La Grande, died Nov. 2, 2018.

Michael was born Aug. 16, 1959, in Roseburg, to Ray and Etna (Joiner) Van Meter. He graduated from Eastern Oregon University, where he studied English and education.

Michael had a distinguished career in print, working at The Observer, The Daily Record (Ellensburg, Washington), The (Bend) Bulletin and other publications. He also had experience in radio journalism (KLCC). He won several awards for his work, including first-place awards for education reporting, in-depth news and feature writing.

Michael taught journalism and writing at Central Oregon

Community College from 2003 to 2018 and served as adviser to the student newspaper, The Broadside. Students and colleagues appreciated his gentle nature, wit and storytelling skills as well as his commitment to creating a supportive, challenging learning environment.

In addition to his work as a journalist and educator, Michael served as an elder at First Presbyterian Church in Bend. Friends and family will remember Michael's smile and his warm, funny, compassionate, sometimes irreverent presence.

He appreciated and made time to enjoy the finer things in life — relationships, people, good stories, good beer and the outdoors.

Survivors include his wife, Stacey Donohue; children, Matthew Van Meter and Autumn Van Meter; siblings, Barbara Jaworski, Sam Van Meter and Laura Van Meter; and six nieces and nephews.



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