

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Family Fitness Festival returns on Saturday

LA GRANDE — Mountain Valley's Family Fitness Festival will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 18 at 2519 Cove Ave., La Grande. This family-friendly event features food, live music, vendors, kids activities, MVFit Games and a 5K run. Live music will be provided by A.K.A. Thanks to generous sponsors, admission is free.

Annual LMS plant sale begins tomorrow

LA GRANDE — The 2019 La Grande Middle School Plant Sale will be held May

16 to 18 on the north side of the school, near the corner of Fourth Street and M Avenue. The sale will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. All plants were cultivated by LMS students. This year there are 12-inch hanging baskets, annual and perennial flowers, herbs, 13 varieties of tomatoes and seven varieties of peppers, plus pumpkin, zucchini, crookneck, pattypan, winter squash and cucumber plants.

Fiddlers entertain in Cove Friday

COVE — The Blue Mountain Old Time Fiddlers will

put on a show beginning at 6 p.m. May 17 at the Cove Sportsman Club, located on Highway 237 on the way to Union. The event will include dancing, snacks and fun, according to the fiddlers. Admission is \$5 (age 12 and younger get in free). Prior to the music, a picnic dinner will be served for \$5. All are welcome.

Set yourself up for camping success

WALLOWA LAKE — Wallowa Lake State Park offers Camping 101 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. May 18. The free class will prepare campers for successful

camping in both developed campgrounds and backcountry wilderness. All ages welcome. Meet at the Shoreline Day-Use Area in Wallowa Lake State Park. This is the second of a free six-part outdoor skills series. For more details, go to wallowalake.interpretive@oregon.gov.

New online accounting degree fills gap for students

LA GRANDE — A new accounting program at Eastern Oregon University aims to serve students through accessible, high-quality online courses.

Beginning this summer, the College of Business at EOU will offer an online bachelor's degree in accounting. The upgrade to a full accounting degree better prepares students for CPA licensure exams, according to a press release from EOU.

"Making the concentration a major is more transparent to employers, and clearly represents the rigorous nature of the program," stated accounting professor Ashley Walker in a press release.

The program is designed to meet government standards and pairs easily

with EOU's online MBA program to provide the required number of credits for CPA eligibility. To learn more about this and other online degree offerings at EOU, visit eou.edu/online.

GRH Auxiliary members attend awards luncheon

ISLAND CITY — Grande Ronde Hospital will hold its annual Auxiliary Awards Luncheon May 20. The event begins at noon at the Island City City Hall on Island Avenue. All members are encouraged to attend.

Virginia A. (Van Winkle) Thompson

La Grande
1941-2019

Virginia Anne Thompson, 77, of La Grande, died May 6 at St. Mary's Medical Center in Walla Walla, Washington. At this time no public services are planned. Arrangements are entrusted to Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

Virginia was born May 24, 1941, to Harmon Eugene and Elanor Van Winkle in Cottage Grove. The family lived in Spry and later moved to Vale to farm, where Virginia graduated from high school. On Feb. 26, 1961, she married Victor Thompson in Elgin.

Virginia worked at Valley View Manor for a few years before going to work for the Elgin Plywood Plant for 31 years. She was a member of the Assembly of God Church. Virginia loved to drive cars and loved to be outdoors, chopping wood, fishing and mushrooming. She was a hardworking wife, mother and grandmother.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Victor Thompson of La Grande; children, Carla Bates and husband, Eugene, of Union and Larkin Thompson of Boise, Idaho; brother, Jim Cochran of Snoqualmie, Washington; sister, Janis Hart of Indianola, Iowa; and one grandson.

Memorial contributions may be made to Oregon-SW Washington American Diabetes Association, 4380 SW Macadam Ave., Suite 270, Portland 97239; the American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, Maryland 20852; or the Oregon Heart Association, 4380 SW Macadam Avenue, Suite 480, Portland 97239.

Arthur L. Stockton

Cove

Arthur L. Stockton, 91, of Cove, died Feb. 4 at his residence. A celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. May 18 at the La Grande Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Robert P. Brummel Jr.

Elgin

1965-2018

Robert P. Brummel Jr., 53, of Elgin, died Dec. 23, 2018. A service will be held at 2 p.m. May 18 at the Elgin Community Center.

Known as Bob, he was born Feb. 23, 1965, to Robert P. Sr. and Zorna (Root) Brummel. He was married two times and served in the National Guard for 16 years. Bob enjoyed camping, fishing and hiking. His favorite sports were football and soccer.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Jennifer Higgins of Elgin; children, Austin Murray of Oregon, Shane Brummel of Washington, Steven Brummel of Idaho, and Sam Brummel of Idaho; siblings, Ronda Bates and Wayne Brummel; and one grandchild.

Blake M. Hines

La Grande

2017-2019

Blake Matthew Hines, 21 months, of La Grande, died May 5 at St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Boise, Idaho. A celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. May 18 at the La Grande Church of Christ.

Blake was born July 23, 2017, in La Grande, to Kaden and Krystle Hines. Though he didn't live very long on this earth, he touched the hearts of all who knew him. Baby Blake loved everyone and was constantly smiling. He had an infectious smile and giggled all of the time.

Blake loved playing with cars, cuddling with his pet puppies, reading books, building with blocks, and giving hugs and kisses. He enjoyed playing in the water and loved bathtime. Blake especially loved snuggling with his mommy and daddy.

Blake was his family's little ray of sunshine and he will continue to shine in their hearts every day until we see him again. He was the light of their lives and the star of their hearts.

Surviving relatives include his parents, Kaden and Krystle; grandparents, Tim and Misty

Hines of La Grande; aunt, Corinne Hines of La Grande; grandfather, Dave Evans of Nampa, Idaho; and great-grandparents, Lorene Hines of La Grande and Del and Barbara Green of Umatilla.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Loveland Funeral Chapel, 1508 Fourth St., La Grande 97850, to help with funeral and medical expenses.

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

Marolyn Smith

La Grande

Marolyn Smith, 80, of La Grande, died May 12 at a local care facility. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. May 25 at the La Grande Valley Fellowship Church. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory is handling the arrangements.

Lila C. (Finch) Douglas

Formerly of La grande

1930-2019

Lila Claire Douglas, 88, of Churchill, Montana, and formerly of La Grande, died April 29. Services were previously held. Arrangements were entrusted to Dokken Nelson Funeral Service of Bozeman, Montana.

Lila was born Aug. 13, 1930, to Ozroe D. and Helen Beryl (George) Finch in Ismay, Montana. She grew up in a large, loving and hardworking family on their ranch in the Pine Hills, east of Miles City. Lila attended the country school in Knowlton then finished grade school, junior high and high school in Miles City.

In high school Lila met Albert Douglas, a young cowboy from Ekalaka, Montana. They were married in 1948 and together worked on ranches in Carter, Powder River, Prairie, Teton, Granite, and Powell counties.

In 1972, Lila and Albert moved to La Grande and worked for Rev. Robert and Nancy Opie, CB Septic Services, and Douglas

Breeding Services. Reimer, Robert and Beverly moved with them. Reimer and Robert graduated from school in Imbler, and Beverly graduated from Cove Lila was active in her church, the New Life Christian Center, and in Women's Aglow.

In 1992, Lila and Albert returned to their beloved Montana as caretakers on a beautiful ranch in the Bitterroot Valley. In 2013, when they were in their early 80s, they retired to their final earthly home in Churchill, Montana.

Lila was a strong, wise and very gentle wife and mother. She loved music and had a beautiful, harmonizing voice that she used often to praise her Lord. Her family provid-

ed a scripture in her honor: "Many women have done excellently but you surpass them all. Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised" (Proverbs 31:30). Lila had a kind and encouraging influence on many more people than she realized.

Surviving relatives include her sister, Bertie Clowers; brother, Miles Finch; children and their

spouses, Larry and Sharon, David and Judy, Reimer and Kathleen, Robert and Karen, and Beverly and Bruce Donnell; and 16 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren, with more on the way.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Albert; parents, Ozroe and Helen; sister, Olive Rogers; brothers, Dennis, Earl, Joe and Lloyd Finch; and an infant great-grandson.

Robert (Bob) G Talbott

November 15, 1941 - May 6, 2019



On Monday, May 6, 2019, Robert (Bob) G Talbott traded his spurs for a pair of wings. Bob was out working calves on Sunday, weed eating on Monday morning, woke up from a nap, visited with the love of his life and fiancé, Donna Wadley, told her that he loved her, and then began slurring his words. The doctors told us that

he had a Massive Stroke that was unrecoverable. He wouldn't have wanted it any other way. We all had strict orders that he would never be put in a nursing home.

He was born November 15, 1941, to Platt Talbott Jr and Alberta Karns Holbrook Talbott at Enterprise, Oregon. Bob was the youngest of 6.

He attended school at Joseph Oregon. He married his high school sweetheart, Carole Howerton from the neighboring town of Enterprise. They had three exceptional children. Their marriage ended in divorce but had always remained friends.

Later in life he met his soul mate Donna at the Senior Center in Grangeville. They were the cutest couple and brought each other many hours of love and companionship. We are blessed that Donna brought such joy to Bob the last years of his life.

Bob was a cowboy, no other way to describe him. He worked on cattle ranches and sales yards in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. He is known far and wide for the tough working border collies that he raised.

Bob is survived by his fiancé, Donna Wadley; daughter Lorelei (Don Klement) McNamee; son Bill Talbott; daughter Brenda (Case) Dewit; four grandchildren, Colton McNamee of Mackay, Idaho; Shantel McNamee of Clarkston, Washington, Kacey DeWit of Seattle, Washington; Jessica DeWit of Missoula, Montana; sisters Irene Dockett and Marjorie Tripp. He preceded in death by parents Platt and Alberta Talbott; and brothers Everett, Fred, and Don Talbott.

Bob never met a stranger and if you had the good or bad fortune of meeting Bob you will have a story to tell. From having rubber bands put in your pancakes or trading pocket knives.

UPCOMING FUNERALS AND VISITATIONS
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May 18 Raymond Addleman:

graveside service, 2 p.m., Grandview Cemetery Veterans Circle; followed by 3 p.m. celebration of life at Riverside Park Pavilion.

Thelma Ansell: memorial service, 2 p.m., Loveland Funeral Chapel.

Russel Hunt: celebration of life, 2 p.m., Baker City Christian Church.

Arthur Stockton: celebration of life, 2 p.m., La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Donald "Biden" Tippet: memorial service, 11 a.m., Enterprise First Baptist Church, followed by a dinner.

May 25 Marolyn Smith:

10 a.m., memorial service, La Grande Valley Fellowship Church.

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