

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Cove City Council meets Tuesday

COVE — The City of Cove will hold its regular council meeting Oct. 1. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Cove City Hall, 504 Alder St.

Register now for 'Successful Co-Parenting' class

LA GRANDE — A five-part "Successful Co-Parenting" class will be offered on Tuesdays in October. Participants will learn targeted skills to improve communication and reduce conflict from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Grande Ronde River Room at the Integrated Services Building, 1607 Gekeler Lane, La Grande (enter through the back door). The class is sponsored by the Union County Family Law Advisory Committee. Space is limited. To reserve your place, contact Mary Lu Pierce at 541-910-4004. Cost is \$45 per person (cash or check only). The fee may be waived by prior order of the court. The course is for adults only. Child care will not be

provided.

Wednesday community dinners resume next week

LA GRANDE — After a hiatus for the summer, the Wednesday community dinners at the Presbyterian Friendship Center, 1204 Spring Ave., La Grande, will resume Oct. 2. All are welcome at the weekly dinner, which is served at 6 p.m. for a \$3 suggested donation. Organizers say, "Come and enjoy the great food prepared by Merlyn's Catering and fun time with new and old friends."

Input sought on rules for Corporate Activity Tax

SALEM — According to a press release from Rep. Greg Barreto's office, the Oregon Department of Revenue is hosting a series of town hall meetings across the state to seek input from business taxpayers and tax preparers about the administrative rules for Oregon's new Corporate Activity Tax. Travel-

ing across Oregon, rule writers will sit down to hear the concerns, questions and suggestions of those affected by the rules. In Northeast Oregon, a town hall will be held Oct. 2 at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. A second meeting will be held from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Oct. 3 at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road in Boardman.

Warren campaign coordinator speaks at UC Democrat meeting

LA GRANDE — The Democratic Party of Union County invites the community to join an open discussion led by Steve Eltinge, Oregon campaign coordinator for Elizabeth Warren for President, at the Oct. 2 regular meeting. The gathering begins at 6 p.m. at the Flying J Restaurant on Highway 203 southeast of La Grande.

IC Sanitation District seeks board members

ISLAND CITY — The Island City

Sanitation District is seeking board members to apply to be on its board of directors. There are currently two open seats to be appointed. Anyone who lives within the district and is interested in serving the community in this way may contact Karen Howton at Island City City Hall at 541-963-5017.

Snow is in the forecast, ODOT says drive safely

LA GRANDE — A press release from ODOT warns that, with snow in the forecast, maintenance crews are preparing for early winter weather moving across Eastern Oregon that could create challenging driving conditions. ODOT urges motorists to keep safety in mind and drive according to the conditions of the road.

Active work zones typically don't shut down until late October, according to ODOT. Locally, drivers should be prepared for lane closures and possible construction activities and delays along Interstate 84 east of Pendleton along

Cabbage Hill, near Ladd Canyon east of La Grande, and along Highway 82 at the Minam curve and bank stabilization work sites.

For the latest driving conditions visit www.tripecheck.com or call 511 (or 800-977-6368). Outside of Oregon, travelers can call 503-588-2941.

Saturday is National Public Lands Day

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Bureau of Land Management will celebrate the 26th annual National Public Lands Day on Sept. 28 with a wide range of volunteer opportunities as well as designation of a fee-free day at public lands sites around the country.

"National Public Lands Day is a time-honored tradition where we come together as a national community to celebrate and care for these lands that are entrusted to all of us," said BLM Deputy Director for Policy and Programs William Perry Pendley. "The BLM invites everyone to spend this spe-

OBITUARIES

Elmer L. DeClue

Formerly of La Grande
1947-2019

Elmer Lee DeClue, 72, of Gleneden Beach and formerly of La Grande, died Sept.

24 at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Corvallis. A Rosary and Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2 p.m. Sept. 30 at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church.

Elmer was born Jan. 14, 1947, in El Centro, California, to John and Eva DeClue. He resided in California and Oregon. In high school, Elmer received numerous wrestling awards. He served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970. Elmer was married to Jane (Dickson) DeClue for 47 years.

Elmer was employed by Boise Cascade and the Oregon National Guard. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and classic cars. During his

UPCOMING FUNERALS AND VISITATIONS

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Sept. 28 Jeraline "Gerry" Follett:

1 p.m., funeral, Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Julie Gribbling: 2 p.m., memorial service, Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Fred Parish: 11:30 a.m., memorial service, La Grande American Legion Hall, 301 Fir St.; reception follows.

Woodbury "Bud" Phillips: funeral, 1 p.m., Bollman Funeral Home in Enterprise; military services follow at Wallowa Cemetery.

service in the military, Elmer achieved multiple awards including: National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Reserve

Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Air Medal, Drivers Badge, Overseas Bar, Oregon Faithful Service Ribbon, 30 Year Medal, and Oregon Emergency Service Ribbon.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Jane DeClue; son, Michael DeClue of La Grande; daughter and son-in-law, Valerie and Matthew Schllicting of La Grande; sisters, Lucille Hanson of Wallowa, Jessie Saner of Idanha and Bonnie Hicks of Hermiston; and five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his son, Stephen DeClue; brothers, L.V. DeClue and Robert DeClue; and sisters, Barbara Brown, Joann Pittser, Eva McCluskey, Dewella Valek, Marcella Skillings and Beulah Davis.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the La Grande Optimist Club for football or wrestling. Contact Mike or Shaun Daggett at 541-963-5440.

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

Wilma M. (Miller) Troyer Schrock

Union
1930-2019

Wilma Marie (Miller) Schrock 89, of Union, died Sept. 25 at her home. A view-

ing will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Grande Ronde Menonite Church in Cove. A funeral service will begin at 10 a.m. Sept. 30 at the Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church.

Wilma was born Feb. 22, 1930, in Paint Township, Ohio, to John and Sarah (Kuhns) Miller.

On April 10, 1949, Wilma married Verton Troyer. To this union were born three sons and four daughters. Verton passed away on Sept. 26, 2008. On Nov. 19, 2017, Wilma married Harry Schrock Jr.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Harry; children and their spouses, Martha and Ken Torkelson of Duchess, Alberta, Lorne and Sharon Troyer of Ontario, Edwin and Susan Troyer of Halsey, Dorene and Dennis of Torkelson of Duchess, Alberta, Verda and Darrel Friesen of Union, John and Louise Troyer of Lebanon, and Arlene and Dennis Clugston of Sweet Home;

sisters, Mary Chupp, Joanna Miller and Emma Troyer of Ohio; brothers, Mark and James Miller of Ohio; and 46 grandchildren and 136 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents: John and Sarah Miller; first husband, Verton Troyer; brother, Paul Miller; sister, Frieda Raber; stepsister, Wilma Rose Hershberger; and two grandsons. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.

Robert E. Wolfe

La Grande
1942-2019

Robert Eathen Wolfe, 77, of La Grande, died Sept. 20 at a local care facility. A celebration of his life will take place at a later time.

Robert was born March 3, 1942, in Sweet Home, to Ernest and Naoma (Maxwell) Wolfe. He served in the U.S. National Guard. He married Diane Powell and they later divorced.

Robert worked as a commercial truck driver and was employed by B&K Auto Salvage and Simplot.

Surviving relatives include his daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and Mark Carter of Wendall, Idaho; sons and daughters-in-law, Justin and Jennifer Wolfe and Heath and Sherry Wolfe, all of La Grande; numerous grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Naoma Wolfe, and nine siblings.

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

Michael W. Gooderham

La Grande

Michael W. Gooderham, 78, of La Grande, died Sept. 24 at his home. A viewing will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 4 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. A funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Island City Lighthouse Pentecostal Church. Casual dress is preferred by the family. An obituary is forthcoming.

Ruth Weaver

Union

Ruth Weaver, 97, of Union, died Sept. 24 at her home. An obituary is forthcoming. Arrangements are under the direction of Daniels-Knopp

Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

John D. Dick

Formerly of La Grande
1960-2019

John Douglas Dick, 59, of Kennewick, Washington, and formerly of La Grande, died Sept. 20 at his residence. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Sept. 30 at the Presbyterian Friendship Center.

John was born Feb. 11, 1960, in Rigby, Idaho, to Douglas and Julia Kay (Krupp) Dick. He attended Imbler High School and graduated from what is now Eastern Oregon University. John resided in Imbler, La Grande and Kennewick, Washington. He was married to Brenda Kevershan. He later married Shanna Marx.

John was employed by Boise Cascade and Packaging Corp of America. He enjoyed fishing, golf, music and rodeos. John loved football and was an avid Denver Broncos fan. His greatest achievements were becoming a Shotokan 3rd Degree Black Belt and graduating from college.

Surviving relatives include his daughters, Julie Fletcher of La Grande and Lori Walker and husband, Jerry, of Summerville; sons and daughters-in-law, Christopher and Sierra Dick of Benton City, Washington, and Chad and Amanda Huddleston of Gooding, Idaho; sisters and brothers-in-law, Joan and Tom Duncan of Island City and Connie and Rick Hoskin of Summerville; six grandchildren; and four nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at www.aspc.org/donate.

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

Jacquelyne Hiatt

La Grande

Jacquelyne Hiatt, 78, of La Grande, died Sept. 26 at her home. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Larry Burford

Union

Larry Burford, 80, of Union, died Sept. 24 at his home. An obituary is forthcoming. Arrangements are under the direction of Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

New director chosen for child welfare agency

The Associated Press

Oregon has a new director of child welfare.

The selection of Rebecca Jones Gaston was announced Wednesday by the Oregon Department of Human Services. She takes over Oregon's programs Nov. 4, charged with implementing reforms at an agency that's been in the headlines for child deaths, critical audits, increased scrutiny from lawmakers, a governor-ordered oversight panel and, most recently, out-of-state placement of foster children.

The Salem Statesman Journal reports that Jones Gaston is currently is executive director of the Social Services

Administration at the Maryland Department of Human Services, a role that includes oversight of programs for children and vulnerable adults.

In Maryland, Jones Gaston led efforts to reduce out-of-state placements of children in foster care from 68 to 18 youths in the last three and a half years.

Jones Gaston replaces Child Welfare Director Marilyn Jones, who left her job in June after Gov. Kate Brown established the oversight board and hired a team of consultants to review the agency.

Oregon has about 7,000 children in foster care at any given time.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Arrested: Crystal Marie McDermott, 33, unknown address, was arrested on a Umatilla County warrant charging failure to appear in court. The warrant was connected to an original charge of fourth-degree assault.

Arrested: Jesse Shodin, 45, unknown address, was arrested on charges of second-degree burglary, first-degree theft, and second-degree criminal trespass.

Arrested: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident Thursday in Island City on Island Avenue. The accident was reported at 2:31 p.m.

Cited: Nicole Ashlie Iwen, 24, unknown address, was cited on a charge of third-degree theft.

LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Arrested: Cynthia Ann Lydin, 55, Las Vegas, Nevada, was

arrested on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court. The warrant was connected to original charges of import/export and possession of marijuana.

Arrested: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Washington Avenue and Third Street on Thursday. The accident was reported at 7:53 p.m.

LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firefighters responded to 10 calls for medical assistance on Thursday and 10 on Wednesday.

UNION COUNTY SENIOR CENTER MENU

1504 ALBANY ST., LA GRANDE

Sept. 30-Oct. 4; lunch served 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

age 60+ \$3 suggested donation; others \$6

Monday: fish and chips, baked beans, coleslaw, fresh fruit (alternate meal available).

Tuesday: lemon-ginger chicken, rice, steamed asparagus, salad greens, rolls, fruit.

Wednesday: honey-glazed ham, mashed potatoes and brown gravy, Jell-O, rolls, dessert (alternate meal available).

Thursday: fish and chips, baked beans, coleslaw, fresh fruit (alternate meal available).

Friday: turkey wraps (with avocado and bacon), sweet potato fries, fruit salad, cookies.

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