

COMMUNITY

Meetings

•LA GRANDE — Union County Historical Society will hold a meeting and potluck at noon Saturday in the log cabin at the Union County Fairgrounds. Members are asked to share Valentine’s Day memories and bring a special Valentine from the past.

Briefs

RSVP by Feb. 11 for senior lunch in Cove

COVE — The next senior lunch in Cove will be Feb. 18 in Founders Hall of the Ascension School. The menu will be chicken Alfredo fettuccine, zucchini parmesan, French bread and salad bar with oatmeal jam bars for dessert. There is a \$5 charge per meal to help cover expenses. Coffee and tea are available at noon, and lunch begins at 12:15 p.m. RSVP by Feb. 11 by calling Imie Bristow at 541-568-4545 or Betsy Arnsen at 541-568-4902.

Fires in Australia subject of next Brown Bag Tuesday

JOSEPH — Two Wallowa Fire Zone members who have helped fight the massive wildfire in Australia discuss their experience at the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture’s next Brown Bag lunch. Nathan Goodrich has been the fire management officer for the Wallowa Fire Zone since 2007. He recently returned from a tour in Australia where with an Incident management team responsible for managing numerous fires in New South Wales. Todd Peterson will join him. Peterson is in Australia and returns Feb. 18 with fresh news about the series of devastating fires. The free event is Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the center, 403 Main St., Joseph.

Teen movie night coming up

LA GRANDE — The Cook Memorial Library, La Grande, is hosting Third Friday Teen Movie Night on Feb. 21 starting at 6 p.m. The event is in the Community Room at the library, 2006 Fourth St., and features a family-friendly movie. In addition to the movie, teens can chomp down on free pizza courtesy of Domino’s Pizza and munch on popcorn from the Union County Safe Communities Coalition, which is helping to sponsor the event. Teens also can play a bingo game as they watch the movie for a chance to win prizes.

Wallowa County and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest hold open houses

JOSEPH –The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and Wallowa County are hosting open houses in February. The gatherings will provide opportunities for community members to have conversations with leadership and staff from Wallowa County and the national forest. The open houses are: Feb. 18, 5-7 p.m. at the Wallowa Senior Center, 204 Second St., Wallowa. Feb. 19, 5-7 p.m. at The Place (adjacent to the United Methodist Church), 301 S. Lake St., Joseph. Feb. 20, 5-7 p.m. at Cloverleaf Hall, Wallowa County Fairgrounds, 668 N.W. First St, Enterprise. So participants may come and go as their schedules allow. In addition to county and national forest leadership, district rangers and staff from the national forest’s Wallowa Mountains office will be available to talk about local resource management and projects. Visit www.fs.usda.gov/main/wallowa-whitman for more information about the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and www.co.wallowa.or.us for more information about Wallowa County. If you have questions about the open houses, contact Peter Fargo, public affairs officer for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, at 541-523-1231.

Library offers sustenance for brain and body

LA GRANDE — Help us stock our Little Free Pantry, the small shelving unit at Cook Memorial Library’s Fourth Street entrance where you can take what you need or give what you can. We accept all non-perishable, unexpired labeled food items and personal hygiene products. Harvest Share is on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon, or until the produce runs out. Free produce for everyone is provided by Community Connection and the OHSU School of Nursing. Harvest Share continues through March 10. Sign up for our free streaming services: Kanopy for films, Freegal for music, Freading for e-books, and OverDrive and Libby for e-books and audiobooks.



OFF THE SHELF
ROSE PEACOCK

Use Library Elf to corral all your family’s cards in one place, receive renewal and hold notifications. Library Elf also automatically renews eligible items if you’ve ticked the box when registering your account. Choose Cook Memorial Library from the library list at libraryelf.com to register. Children’s programming includes LEGO Play on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Storytime on Fridays at 3:30 p.m. Baby Tot Bop, for those 3 years old and younger, is Thursday mornings at 10:20. Toddler Time, for ages 14 months to 4 years, is Mondays at

10:20 a.m. Check out our GO-STEM kits, part of the “Greater Oregon Science, Technology, and Math,” regional partnership with EOU. Blocks Rock! STEM kits are also available. Children up to 5 years old can sign up online or at the library for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Participants receive a free book in the mail each month through their fifth birthday. Ready2Learn library cards also are available for children age 5 and younger. Teen book clubs meet Thursday. Contact Celine for details. Writing Circle is Feb. 13, at 4 p.m. Fortune Tins will be the iCraft on Feb. 21 at 4 p.m. Teen events are free and open to those in middle and high school.

Yoga Refresh, taught by Liv Westenskow, is Mondays at 9:10 a.m. This free weekly class is perfect for any level. Ballet Basics for adults is Tuesdays at 12:10 p.m. This free drop-in class for beginners explores the fundamentals of ballet to build grace, strength and flexibility in a low-key environment. Foreign Film Friday this month is Feb. 14. We will be screening the 2016 French romantic comedy “Love in Paris” at 4 p.m. (Films are not rated and might not be suitable for all ages.) The next Page Turners book club for adults is at 1 p.m. Feb. 11. The book for discussion is the 2020 Big Read book, “When the Emperor Was Divine” by Julie Otsuka. By telling

the story from the perspective of five individuals, Otsuka creates a haunting and intimate account of one family’s experience of the Japanese internment camps. Cook Memorial Library hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, noon to 6 p.m. Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. The library will be closed Feb. 17, a Monday, in honor of Presidents’ Day. Visit us at 2006 Fourth St., La Grande, or call us at 541-962-1339. Find out more at cookmemorial-library.org and our Facebook page: Cook Memorial Library-La Grande, OR.

Rose Peacock oversees adult services at Cook Memorial Library, La Grande.

OBITUARIES

Stanley M. Morrison

Formerly of La Grande Stanley M. Morrison, 87, of Weiser, Idaho, and formerly of La Grande, died Feb. 2 in Boise, Idaho. A celebration of his life will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 14 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. Casual dress is preferred.

Loray Clark

Island City Loray Clark, 86, of Island City, died Feb. 5 at her residence. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

UPCOMING FUNERALS AND VISITATIONS
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Feb. 8
Justice Clark:
4 p.m. celebration of life, Presbyterian Friendship Center, La Grande; casual dress preferred.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY Five non-communicative 911 calls came in at about 5:55 a.m. La Grande police responded and determined the caller was a child. A caller at 9:26 a.m. reported a vehicle struck a cat at Lane Avenue and Walnut Street, La Grande. The Union County Sheriff’s Office at 10:47 a.m. received a report of animal neglect on the 1000 block of Alder Street, Elgin. A caller at 12:14 p.m. reported an aggressive dog on the 1100 block of C Avenue, La Grande. La Grande police at 12:16 p.m. received a report of vandalism on the 800 block of X Avenue. An Elgin caller at 4:37 p.m. reported a suspicious person on the 500 block of Cedar Street. A Union County sheriff’s deputy checked and found the person was the property’s caretaker. La Grande police at 10:08 p.m. received a report of possible child abuse. Police responded and took a report.

TUESDAY La Grande police at about 11:50 a.m. responded to the 2000 block of Oak Street on a report of a suspicious person. Officers advised the subject not to return there. Six horses were running loose at 2:23 p.m. along Highway 82 in Elgin. The animal enforcement officer handled the situation and helped return the horses to the owner. Local medics and the Union County Sheriff’s Office at about 10:45 p.m. responded to the 62500 block of Mt. Glen Road, La Grande, for a traffic crash. La Grande police at 9:46 p.m. received a complaint about noise from a residence on the 2100 block of Alder Street. Police advised the occupants to keep it down. And firefighters responded to four calls for medical assistance Wednesday morning, four on Tuesday and 16 on Monday.

Dispute leads to shooting in LG

Observer Staff LA GRANDE — One man was shot in the leg early Tuesday in La Grande. The Union County Sheriff’s Office in a news release reported the county’s 911 center at 2:23 a.m. received a call for assistance from a 26-year-old La Grande man who said he had a gunshot wound to his leg. Law enforcement and medics responded, and an ambulance rushed the victim to Grande Ronde Hospital, which later transferred him to an out-of-area medical facility. At the time of the news release, the sheriff’s office did not identify the victim nor have information about his medical condition. According to the news release, the victim reported the shooting occurred inside his white four-door 2003 Buick LeSabre in front of the Union County Fairgrounds, 3604 N. Second St. The initial information suggests the shooting was a result of a dispute between the victim and a passenger in his vehicle. The Union County Sheriff’s Office is the lead agency

A great place to start a career

Dick Mason The Observer LA GRANDE — Young people looking for a good place to start their careers would be wise to give Union and Baker counties a close look. In a new report, financial technology company SmartAsset.com, based in New York City, ranks Union County as the sixth best county in Oregon for a person in the 20-24 age category to start a career and Baker second. Deschutes County was ranked first. It was followed after Baker by Morrow, Clackamas, Marion, Union, Jefferson, Wasco, Washington and Douglas counties. SmartAsset made its rankings based on the following factors: the unemployment rate for those age 20-24, the net median income, cost of living, purchasing power, income growth over the past five years and cost of attending college. The unemployment rate in Union County for those age 20-24 is 7.2%, tied with Baker County for second place behind Morrow County, which had the lowest age 20-24 unemployment rate among the top 10 counties at 6.7%, according to SmartAsset. Suzannah Moore-Hemann, executive director of the Union County Chamber of Commerce, credits Union County’s strong showing in the unemployment category to efforts of employers to provide job shadowing opportunities and internships for students. “It shows that (local employers) are strong supporters of those starting careers,” Moore-Hemann said. In terms of median income growth over the past five years, Union County

ranks eighth at 10.6%. Baker County is seventh at 8.5%, according to the report. SmartAsset also listed the cost of living data in its report, although it was not used directly in its calculations for determining the best places to start a career. Union County ranked the second lowest in that category at \$18,383 per year, while Baker County had the lowest cost of living among the top 10 at \$18,359. Moore-Hemann said Union County’s low cost of living is a plus for young people starting careers because it “helps those who are paying off college loans.” SmartAsset, a company launched in 2012, uses financial modeling to give advice on major financial decisions. Its new study also provides information on the best places to start a career in all 50 states.

Celebrating “The Goonies” 35th anniversary

Observer Staff PORTLAND — “The Goonies” is setting sail for showings throughout Oregon. Audiences in 1985 first went in search of treasure with a lovable band of kids from Astoria into the caves beneath the northern Oregon coastline and Ecola State Park. To celebrate the 35th anniversary of the film, Oregon Film and Travel Oregon will offer public screenings of the movie Coos Bay, Salem Cinema and Bend and a couple in Eastern Oregon. Possibly the most renowned of all films made in Oregon, “The Goonies” remains “a seminal experience for generations of filmgoers and self-described Goonies around the world who never say die,” according to the news release announcing the tour. Throughout each year, thousands of people come to Astoria to celebrate the film and the iconic setting of the movie.” Locals can catch the film at the following showings: •Friday, April 10, 7 p.m. at hq, 112 Depot St, La Grande. The showing is in partnership with the Eastern Oregon Film Festival. •Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m. at Churchill School, 3451 Broadway St., Baker City. The free screening is first come, first served. This combined effort and tour is to support the Oregon Film Museum and the official Goonies Day in Astoria celebration June 4-7. Eastern Oregon, too, has its connections to Hollywood: •Director by F. W. Murnau in 1928 shot the silent film “City Girl” in Athena and Pendleton. The Pendleton Round-Up Association electe actress Mary Duncan as the Round-Up Queen. •”The Lusty Men” from 1952 was shot primarily in Pendleton and stars Robert Mitchum as an aging bronc rider who meets his fate when his foot gets stuck in the stirrup after a successful ride at the Pendleton Round-Up. •The western “Pillars

of the Sky” from 1956 was shot in La Grande. •The 1969 musical “Paint Your Wagon,” starring Clint Eastwood and Lee Marvin was shot near Baker City and may be the most well known movie production in Eastern Oregon. •Cork Hubbard was born in 1952 in Pendleton and acted in movies and TV shows, including a 1983 episode of “Magnum, P.I.” and as Brown Tom in director Ridley Scott’s 1985 fantasy film “Legend.” He died in 2003. •Elaine Miles was born in Pendleton and portrayed Marilyn Whirlwind on the 1990s TV series “Northern Exposure.” She has continued to act in films, including in the 2019 movie “Juanita.” •The 1993 movie “Home-ward Bound: The Incredible Journey” shot scenes in, Joseph and Wallowa. •”Gold Rush,” filmed segments in southern Baker County in 2016. To see more of this list go to www.lagrandeobserver.com.

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Women and Wealth

Ackerman Hall #208 Alumni Room, EOU campus
February 8th @ 10am

Questions? 541-963-7433
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