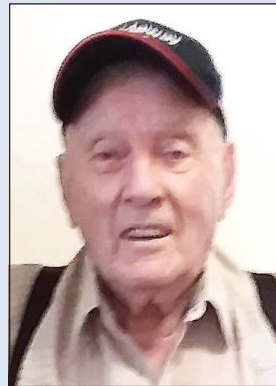


COMMUNITY  
Milestones



Contributed photo

**Leonard Murrill celebrates 90th**

Leonard Murrill is celebrating his 90th birthday today. He was born Feb. 18, 1930, and lives in Union. His wife invites his friends and the community to join her in wishing him a very happy birthday.

**Meetings**

• **PENDLETON** — The Board of Directors of the InterMountain Education Service District will meet Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the IMESD, 2001 S.W. Nye Ave., Pendleton. The board will hold an executive session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss real property transactions and labor negotiations.

• **LA GRANDE** — The Blue Mountain Translator District Board of Directors will meet Thursday at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at Umpqua Bank, 1215 Adams Ave., La Grande. Prior to the meeting, the board packet will online at [www.bmtd.org/public-notice](http://www.bmtd.org/public-notice).

• **LA GRANDE** — The city of La Grande Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission will meet Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Offices inside Pioneer Park next to the tennis courts.

**Briefs**

**'Walk on the Wild Side' Thursday at Wallowology**

JOSEPH — Jaszu Borzenki, retired owner/operator of Los Padres Guide Service presents "Walk on the Wild Side" Thursday at 7 p.m. at Wallowology Natural History Discovery Center, 508 N. Main St., Joseph. Modeled after tracking classes offered at Yellowstone National Park, this free lecture will give you the basic skills needed to actually track animals outdoors. All ages and levels of experience are welcome.

**Literary evening features poet James Benton**

LA GRANDE — The ACE Writing Project is a monthly evening of literary arts showcasing the talent hiding in our backyard. The Wednesday gathering features EOU's James Benton, English and writing instructor and author who will read from his book of poems, "Sailor," and from a forthcoming title, "The Book of Sympathetic Magic."

The event, free and open to the public, begins at 7 p.m. at Art Center East, 1006 Penn Ave., La Grande. Following the featured reading, writers are welcome to share original works. The open mic sign-up starts at 6:45 p.m.

# Local Boy Scout volunteer receives top salute

By Dick Mason  
The Observer

LA GRANDE — Linda Panike of La Grande recently received one of the biggest surprises of her life.

Panike was the recipient of the Gene Palmer Eagle Within Award. The annual honor goes to the top local adult Boy Scout volunteer. She said the award caught her totally off guard but the recognition was touching.

"I feel honored," she said. The Panike's selection was announced Wednesday at the annual Friends of Scouting Breakfast in La Grande. Panike could not attend the breakfast, but her husband, Chris, received it on her behalf.

The salute was in recognition of Linda Panike's nine-year commitment to scouting. She served as the La Grande area's Cub Scout Committee Chair for 11 years, through the end of 2019. In this capacity she helped oversee the operation of Cub Scout packs 513, 516, 521 and 586. Panike handled all of the paperwork for the operation of the packs, much of which she sent to the Boy Scouts of America's Blue



Photo contributed by Eric Valentine

Chris Panike, right, speaks Wednesday at the annual Friends of Scouting Breakfast in La Grande after receiving the Gene Palmer Eagle Within Award on behalf of his wife, Linda Panike, a long-time scouting volunteer.

Mountain Council office in Kennewick. All Boy Scout troops in Northeast Oregon are affiliated with the Blue Mountain Council.

Panike assisted the den leaders of the Cub Scout

packs her committee helped oversee, often filling in for them. Dens are smaller units of Cub Scout packs.

Several of the children in the Cub Scout packs Panike assisted went on to become

Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in Boy Scouts. Some went on to college and some are now married. Panike said it has been gratifying to see young people she knew as children go on to become

successful adults.

The La Grande Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sponsored all the packs Panike assisted. The LDS Church discontinued its sponsorship of Boy Scouts of America on Jan. 1 and developed a new global program for youths and children. All young people with the LDS Church in the proper age category still can participate in scouting. The only difference is there is no longer a church-sponsored troop.

Panike, before moving to La Grande, served as a Boy Scout volunteer for eight years for Troop 388 in Weiser, Idaho. She was in charge of putting on an annual spaghetti feed, which was a major fundraiser for the troop.

Panike was introduced as the 2020 Eagle Within winner by the husband and wife team of Ed and Michele Hibbard of Baker City, the winners of the 2019 Gene Palmer Eagle Within award.

The Hibbards, citing what many people have told them, lauded Panike for being well organized, conscientious and an excellent motivator.

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

**FRIDAY**

An Elgin resident at 8:46 a.m. asked a Union County sheriff's deputy to provide extra patrols in the area of the 1600 block of Carolyn Terrace due to a package theft.

A caller at 9:57 a.m. reported cows were on the loose at Highway 82 and Courtney Lane, Imbler. The animal enforcement officer responded and found the cows behind the fence.

A student at about 11:20 a.m. caused a disturbance at Island City Elementary School, 10201 W. Fourth St., Island City. The school resource officer responded.

La Grande police at 3:37 p.m. received a complaint about possible drug use and criminal mischief on the 2500 block of Fir Street.

Two vehicles crashed

together at about 5:50 p.m. at Cove Avenue and 26th Street, La Grande. There was a report of an injury. A La Grande police officer and a Union County sheriff's deputy responded.

La Grande police at about 9:40 p.m. responded to a report of two loud bangs on the 100 block of South 18th Street. Officers did not find the cause of the noise.

A caller at 11:08 p.m. reported a possible fight on the 1200 block of Washington Avenue, La Grande. City police and Union County sheriff's deputies responded and warned the people involved.

**SATURDAY**

The Union County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police at about 2:10 a.m. responded to an Elgin home for someone suffering a mental or emotional

crisis.

La Grande police at about 8:35 a.m. responded to a report of a disturbance on the 1100 block of Benton Avenue. Officers soon after arrested Christopher Quintanilla, 35, of La Grande, for felony domestic violence assault.

A caller at 12:35 p.m. reported the theft of a handgun from property on the 3200 block of Alder Street, La Grande.

La Grande police at 2:42 p.m. received a complaint about vandalism on the 700 block of M Avenue.

La Grande police at about 7:25 p.m. responded to the 200 block of Depot Street for a fight. Officers arrived and broke up the disturbance.

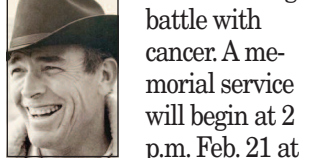
The La Grande Fire Department responded to eight calls for medical assistance Saturday.

## OBITUARIES

**Harvey L. Gillworth**

Enterprise  
1934-2020

Harvey Lewis Gillworth, 85, of Enterprise, died Feb. 11 after a long battle with cancer. A memorial service will begin at 2 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Enterprise Church of the Nazarene.



Harvey was born Aug. 6, 1934, in Kenton, Oklahoma, to Harvey and Lena Gillworth. He began ranching in Oklahoma with his family. When he grew up, he moved to Oregon, where he worked on ranches in West Linn, Central Oregon and, for the past 43 years, Wallowa County.

Harvey and his wife, Ginger, were married for 66 years. They did everything together, and ranching was their life. They moved to Day Ridge and built a log home, where they farmed and ranched with their son, Wesley. They then moved above Troy and ranched on different properties until they settled at Grouse Flats, where they built the house

he lived in the rest of his life.

Harvey's passions were cattle and the mountains and people of Wallowa County. He always had a good working dog by his side. He loved horses and broke many of them himself.

Harvey played guitar and bass guitar, and family gatherings were always fun with music and friends. He enjoyed tooling leather, making chaps, saddles, holsters and about anything you could think of out of leather.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Ginger; children, Kathy and Wesley; sister, Fannie Mae Jones; and three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harvey and Lena Gillworth; one grandson; and numerous siblings.

**Douglas Woodell**

La Grande

Douglas Woodell, 61, of La Grande, died Feb. 13 at a local care facility. Arrangements are entrusted to Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

**UPCOMING FUNERALS AND VISITATIONS**  
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**Feb. 22 Mary Damewood:** 2 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande First Christian Church.

**Feb. 29 Dock Baker:** 2 p.m. memorial service, La Grande First Presbyterian Church; followed by reception at Presbyterian Friendship Center.

**Justin Bowling:** 2 p.m. celebration of life, Grande Ronde Academy, La Grande.

**April 3 Loren Fihn:** 5 p.m. burial of cremains, Island City Cemetery; followed by reception dinner.

**April 18 Linda Johnston:** 1 p.m. celebration of life potluck, Elgin Community Center.

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