

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• **BAKER CITY** — The Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 9 a.m. at OTEC headquarters, 4005 23rd St., Baker City. Among other agenda items, the board plans to discuss the Action Committee for Rural Electrification and to award the DC Youth Tour scholarships.

• **LA GRANDE** — The board of directors of the La Grande School District will hold a special meeting and work session Wednesday, Feb. 26. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room, 1305 N. Willow St.

Briefs

Community dinner served on Wednesdays

LA GRANDE — On Wednesday nights, a community dinner at the Presbyterian Friendship Center, 1204 Spring St., La Grande, is open to all. Prepared by Merlyn's Catering, the meal begins at 6 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.

Master Gardener class focuses on saving seeds

ISLAND CITY — The Oregon State University Master Gardener program's individual classes are open to the community for \$5 each. Cindy Edwards from Folly Farm in Cove will teach "Seed Saving" on Tuesday, Feb. 25, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. This class will be in the conference room at the OSU-Union County Extension Office, 10507 N. McAlister Road, Island City. For more information and to RSVP for classes, call the Extension Office at 541-963-1010.

Brown Bag looks to what's next for the arts

JOSEPH — Seth Kinzie, Jeff Costello and Cheryl Coughlan present the "Future of the Arts in Wallowa County" during the Tuesday, Feb. 25, Brown Bag at the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture, 403 Main St., Joseph. The trio also will invite discussion from audience members. Other topics include a discussion of the completion of the long-awaited merger between the Wallowa Valley Arts Council and the Josephy Center.

The free event begins at noon and is open to the public.

Knit for your neighbors

LA GRANDE — Knitters are invited to Art Center East, 1006 Penn Ave., La Grande, on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. for a weekly lunch hour knit-in to make hats, scarves and mittens for neighbors in need of warmth. Bring your own supplies. Open from noon to 1 p.m., the gathering is open to all levels of experience, age 10 through adult.

Help kids cope with divorce, separation

LA GRANDE — Learn how divorce or separation affects your children and what you can do to help them at a workshop the Family Law Advisory Committee will offer Thursday, Feb. 27, 6-8:30 p.m. in the Misener Conference Room of the Daniel Chaplin Building, 1001 Fourth St., La Grande.

Mary Lu Pierce is the workshop facilitator. Cost is \$30 per person (cash or check only). Support persons and community members may attend for free. This workshop is for adults only. Child care is not provided. For more information call 541-962-9500 ext. 42.

ODFW asks hunters to share opinions

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife wants to hear what resident big game hunters think about hunting seasons in Oregon. Hunters can provide their comments at <https://www.oregonbiggameforum.org/> through March 3.

The department in a news release stated it has worked for several year to review and improve big game hunting seasons and associated regulations.

"This year we are planning on reviewing our primary deer and elk hunting seasons, which includes general archery and rifle (any legal weapon) seasons," according to Nick Myatt, the fish and game department's watershed manager leading the review for the agency.

"Before we start developing proposed changes to 2021 hunting seasons, we want to collect input from Oregon resident hunters on what their current experiences are with these seasons, what changes they would like to see considered, and what other issues are important to them," Myatt added.

ODFW is working with Responsive Management, a survey research firm specializing in attitudes toward natural resource and outdoor recreation issues, to host the online forum and conduct additional research, including surveys of hunters. While the process will randomly select respondents, fish and wildlife encourages all Oregon resident deer and elk hunters to comment at <https://www.oregonbiggameforum.org/>

The fish and wildlife department will use the forum and the surveys to inform proposals to change the 2021 big game hunting seasons. The department also reported it will provide additional opportunities for public comment after developing the proposals.

Yurts, cabins available for underrepresented communities

SALEM — Oregon Parks and Recreation Department announced a pilot program to introduce camping and outdoor activities to population groups largely unfamiliar with the state park system. The "Park Explorer Series" offers weekend

NEWS BRIEFS

Observer staff

camping trips in certain state park yurts and cabins this summer.

The program, co-sponsored with the Office of Outdoor Recreation, aims to remove barriers for communities considered underrepresented in outdoor recreation. Organizations can apply to coordinate one of eight small-group camping trips at parks throughout the state. Oregon Parks will waive fees for two-night stays in five yurts or cabins at each participating park.

"Surveys show some segments of Oregon's population do not camp or visit state parks, or at least not in numbers that parallel their population," according to Cailin O'Brien-Feeney, director of the Oregon Office of Outdoor Recreation, citing findings from the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, available at oregon.gov/oprd. "In partnering with community-based organizations, we hope together we can make the outdoors more accessible to these populations."

"Parks are for everyone, and this small gesture eliminates a very real barrier—cost—from the equation," Oregon Parks Direct

Lisa Sumption stated in the announcement. "We hope this is just a start for participants, and one camping trip will inspire many more outdoor adventures."

Representatives of interested organizations must submit an application by 5 p.m. March 6 detailing

the organization's eligibility, including its ability to administer the program and its commitment to serving communities that are underrepresented in the outdoors. Program details and the application are posted on the Oregon Parks website, oregonstateparks.org.

UNION COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
1504 N. ALBANY ST., LA GRANDE
LUNCH MENU
FEB. 24-28

Served 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

Monday: chicken taquitos, salad greens, Mexi-rice, chips and salsa, flan.

Tuesday: hot ham sandwiches, tomato soup, salad greens, fresh fruit, cookies (alternate meal: beef sandwich).

Wednesday: chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, steamed vegetable trio, fruited Jell-O, rolls, dessert.

Thursday: handcrafted pizza, salad greens, fresh fruit, cookies.

Friday: cabbage rolls, salad greens, cottage cheese, fruit, dessert.

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Next Week:
Mon-Fri Blue Plate \$12:
Shrimp Creole with Rice
and a spinach salad

Mardi Gras
Tuesday, February 25th
with the
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OBITUARIES

Larry L. Johnson

Joseph

Larry L. Johnson, 69, of Joseph, died Feb. 19 at Wallowa Memorial Hospital. A memorial service will be held Feb. 29 at 1 p.m. at the Enterprise Baptist Church. Arrangements are entrusted to Bollman Funeral Home.

UPCOMING FUNERALS AND VISITATIONS
Sponsored byFeb. 22
Mary Damewood:

2 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande First Christian Church.
Floyd Spaur Jr.:
1-3 p.m., celebration of life and luncheon, Wallowa Assembly of God Church.

Feb. 24
Douglas Woodell:

10 a.m. graveside service, Island City Cemetery.

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.
Larry Johnson:
1 p.m. memorial service, Enterprise Baptist Church.

Guy I. Hohstadt

Imbler

1952-2020

Guy Ingell Hohstadt, 67, a lifelong resident of Imbler, died Feb. 10 at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho, following an extended illness. No service is planned at this time.

Guy was born May 4, 1952, in La Grande, to Louis Alvin "Pat" and Vera (Ivie) Hohstadt. He graduated from Imbler High School.

Guy married his high school sweetheart, Faith Tannlund, on Dec. 8, 1973. They were married 46 years.

Guy worked as an oiler in the maintenance department at the Boise Cascade Studmill for 40 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, mushrooming, woodcutting and gardening. For many years he was known as the "lawnmower man." Guy enjoyed tinkering with small engines, repairing and maintaining lawn and garden implements for himself, friends and neighbors. He loved collecting and repairing vintage sewing machines.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Faith; children and spouses, Sophia and Tyler Webster of Walla Walla, Washington, and Corbin and Debrienne Hohstadt of Star, Idaho; two grandchildren; and siblings and spouses, Dennis and Becky Hohstadt of Imbler and Bertha and Merle Feik of La Grande.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Pat and Vera Hohstadt, and sister, Louise Hohstadt.

Donna L. (Courtney) Dickenson

La Grande

1958-2019

Donna Lee Dickenson 61, of La Grande, died Nov. 3, 2019, at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. March 23 at the Lostine Presbyterian Church, with lunch to follow at the VFW Hall in Enterprise.

Donna was born March 23, 1958, in Enterprise, to Ross and Carleen "Sue" Courtney. She graduated from Enterprise High School. In July 1977, Donna married Randy Dickenson, and together they had four children.

Donna worked as a nurse at Wallowa Memorial Hospital for many years. She enjoyed camping, reading, her dogs, visiting with family and friends and spending time with her grandchildren.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Randy of Pendleton; daughter, Brandy Jones of Kirkland, Washington; sons, Eugene "Gene" Dickenson of Wallowa, Cody Dickenson of La Grande and Shiloh Dickenson of Enterprise; brothers, Steven Strong and Daniel Courtney; and 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Kelli Courtney; sister, Sandra Courtney; parents, Carleen "Sue" Sasser and Ross Courtney; stepparents; numerous grandparents and great-grandparents; and grandson, Hunter Dickenson.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

WEDNESDAY

La Grande police cited Paul Leo Smith, 44, of La Grande, on a charge of driving under the influence of intoxicants. Police also cited Smith on a Baker County warrant for prostitution, a Class A misdemeanor. According to state court documents, the state has accused Smith of offering to pay for sexual activities.

La Grande police at 7:07 a.m. received a report of vandalism to a vehicle on the 300 block of Fourth Street.

A caller at 1:24 p.m. reported an injured deer on the 500 block of Fifth Street, La Grande.

La Grande police at about 2:15 p.m. responded to the 200 block of Aquarius Way for a disturbance involving juveniles. Police separated the parties and counseled them.

A Union resident at 3:41 p.m. reported vandalism on the 200

block of East Beakman Street. La Grande police arrested Kayla Marie Ruth Johnson, 32, of La Grande, for two counts each of second-degree burglary and third-degree theft, all Class C felonies.

Union County sheriff's deputies at about 7:15 p.m. responded to the 800 block of Lake Avenue, La Grande, on a call about a burglary. They arrived to find no crimes.

THURSDAY

A caller at 7:13 a.m. complained about a semitrailer blocking the road on the 63200 block of Highway 203, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded. The truck driver moved the rig.

The Union County Sheriff's Office at 8:50 a.m. received a report of multiple burglaries on the 100 block of South 11th Street, Elgin.

A caller at 3:45 p.m. reported

animal abuse on the 1200 block of Conklin Road, Cove. The animal enforcement officer would check it out.

La Grande police at about 6:40 p.m. responded to a report of a theft of a business sign from the 2900 block of Island Avenue. Police found the juveniles responsible and returned the sign.

La Grande police at 11:41 p.m. received a report of a car prowler on the 2100 block of Alder Street. Officers looked but did not find anyone suspicious.

FRIDAY

La Grande police arrested Zachary Allen Vice, 35, of La Grande, for unlawful entry into a vehicle and two counts of second-degree criminal mischief, all misdemeanors, and one of first-degree criminal mischief, a Class C felony.

And the La Grande Fire Department responded to seven calls for medical assistance Wednesday and five Thursday.

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Justin R. Bowling, 44

February 7, 1976 - February 7, 2020



Justin R. Bowling, 44, of La Grande, passed away on Friday, February 7, 2020 at OHSU, Portland, OR. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Grande Ronde Academy, 507 Palmer Avenue on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 2:00pm. This is the former site of Valley Fellowship Church that Justin loved.

Justin was born on February 7, 1976 in La Grande, to John Bowling and Gale Greer. Anyone that knew Justin, knew that he enjoyed life and had a "Hello" for everyone he met.

Justin could recognize the Golden Arches of McDonald blocks away and always wanted to stop and eat. He enjoyed many a good hamburger, fries and a coke. Justin was active with Special Olympics and performed in bowling, swimming and track and field activities over the years. Justin loved to dance and attended many "Uniting Together" dances at the Senior Center in La Grande. Justin worked at New Day over the years, helped deliver the local news paper and was a "greeter" at the Senior Center during lunch time for a period of time.

Justin grew up with his mother, Gale Greer. He attended Ferndale High School in Washington. He was a member of the Max Higbee Center in Bellingham, WA and enjoyed attending their activities. Justin moved to Oregon as an adult to live with his father, John Bowling and wife, Yvonne. Justin was enrolled in New Day Residential and Employment Programs. He then moved to Adult Foster Care and lived with Rod and Marladeen Risteen until his recent illness.

Justin was a child of God and enjoyed attending church singing, praying and visiting with people. Justin attended Valley Fellowship Church in La Grande for several years. Pastor Steve Kirkeby will be officiating Justin's service.

Justin is survived by his father, John Bowling (Yvonne) of La Grande; step-sister, Melonie Carr-Bair and step-brother, Chris Fletcher both of La Grande; mother, Gale Greer (Loren Garlich) of Shelton, WA; half-sisters, Erin Harris (Mike) of Tacoma, WA and Adrienne Greer of Salem, OR and several nieces and nephews both of Oregon and Washington.

Justin's family would like to thank the staff at OHSU in Portland for their dedication and empathy during his illness. They would also like to thank, Rod and Marladeen Risteen for their love and dedication to Justin for over 12 years. Justin was loved by his family, friends and staff and will be greatly missed.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the United Together of La Grande, 509 Benton Court, La Grande, OR 97850 or Union County Special Olympics, 802 Crook Street, La Grande, OR 97850.

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