

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• **LA GRANDE** — The Union County Retired Educators will meet Tuesday, March 10, at 11:30 a.m. at Denny's. The program will be "Music for Spring," presented by Doyle Slater.

• **ISLAND CITY** — The La Grande Rural Fire Protection Board will meet Tuesday, March 10, at 6 p.m. at the Fire Hall, 10200 S. McAlister Road, Island City. The fire protection district board oversees the operation of the La Grande Rural Fire Department.

• **LA GRANDE** — The La Grande Parks & Recreation Department commissions will meet next week. Each meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Parks & Recreation office inside Pioneer Park. The Community Landscape & Forestry Commission will meet Tuesday, March 10. The Arts Commission's meeting is Wednesday, March 11. Volunteers are needed for this commission. On Thursday, March 12, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convenes. For questions about the agenda or to volunteer contact Stu Spence, director, at 541-962-1348.

Briefs

Class on pesticides offered to local gardeners

ISLAND CITY — The Oregon State University Master Gardener classes are open to the community for \$5 per class. OSU agronomist Darrin Walenta will teach "Understanding Pesticides" Tuesday, March 10. Classes run from 5:30- 8:30 p.m. in the conference room at the OSU Extension, Union County office, 10507 N. McAlister Road, Island City. For more information and to RSVP for classes, call the OSU Union County Extension office at 541-963-1010.

Talent show and soup supper raises funds for Imbler FBLA trip

IMBLER — The Imbler FBLA talent show and soup supper will open at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, in the Imbler Elementary School's gym. Admission is free. Dinner is \$5 per person, or \$20 for a family of four or more people. There also will be silent and live auctions before the talent show. Proceeds will help pay for the FBLA members to attend the State Business Leadership Conference this spring.

UNION COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
1504 N. ALBANY ST.,
LA GRANDE
LUNCH MENU
MARCH 9-13

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: chef salad).
Tuesday: creamy mac & cheese (with or without ham), fruit, freshly baked bread, salad greens, cookie.
Wednesday: fried chicken, steamed cauliflower, mashed potatoes and country gravy, Jell-O, rolls, cake.
Thursday: Cobb salad loaded with chicken, bacon, cheese, baby corn, avocado and bleu cheese, soup, rolls.
Friday: baked potato bar with all the trimmings.

Alvin 'Al' L. Hixson

La Grande
1946-2020

Alvin "Al" Lester Hixson, 73, of La Grande, died Feb.



29 at a local care facility. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. March 7 at Loveland Funeral Chapel. Alvin was born Nov. 4, 1946, in La Grande, to James and Opal (Ortloff) Hixson. He resided in Durkee, Union, Adrian and La Grande. He attended grade school in Durkee and graduated from Union High School.

Alvin served in the U.S. Army. His marriage to Vera Elliott ended in divorce. He later married Patricia Witherrite. Alvin was employed with the Union Pacific Railroad, CPN and Oregon Trail Electric. He enjoyed running marathons and participated in the Hood to Coast. Alvin also enjoyed fishing, camping, hunting and riding motorcycles and four-wheelers. He was a member of the NRA, American Legion, Eagles and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Patricia; children and spouses, Susan and John Hobbs of Albany, Kim Hixson of Richland, Washington, and Thomas and Kristen Hixson of Oregon City; stepchildren and spouses, Amanda and Chris Case of La Grande and Tausha Murray and Nick DeLaquila of Meridian, Idaho; sisters, Martha Phillips and husband, Dale, of Union, and Linda Hixson of Weatherford, Texas; brother, David Hixson and wife, Mabel, of Killdeer, North Dakota; six grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Opal; brother, James Hixson; and sisters, Ada Hamilton and Eileen Okuda.

Memorial contributions may be made to Parkinson's Research, 8880 SW Nimbus Ave., Suite B, Beaverton 97008.

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

Douglas A. Ward

La Grande
1951-2020

Douglas "Doug" Alan Ward, 68, of La Grande, died Feb. 22 at his residence after a hard battle with cancer. A celebration of his life will be held later this spring.

Douglas was born May 10, 1951, in La Grande, to Ralph and Muriel (Houle) Ward. He resided in Northeast Oregon most of his life but lived in Seattle while attending high school. He graduated from Queen Anne High School and attended what is now Eastern Oregon University.

Douglas served in the U.S. Navy. On Sept. 5, 1987, he married Kathryn Jordan.

Douglas worked as a green chain puller while employed at a local lumber mill. His greatest treasure was his wife and family.

"Pakka" Doug thoroughly enjoyed any activity spent with his children and grandchildren.

Douglas always had a smile for everyone and loved to tell stories and jokes. A very caring man, he loved to spoil his family and animals with plenty of extra treats and was always willing to share and help others.

Douglas was an avid San Francisco 49ers fan. He was especially proud of celebrating more than 40 years of sobriety.

Surviving relatives include his wife of more than 30 years, Kathryn; daughters, Kimmie Austin of Elgin, Pamela Mackie and husband, Greg Cannon, of Boise, Idaho, and Kain Ward of La Grande; son-in-law, Ken Austin of Elgin; brother, Russell Ward of Pendleton; four grandchildren; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Muriel Ward; sons, Mitchell and Kenny Banaka; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society Oregon Chapter, 330 S.W. Curry St., Portland 97.239 or to a charity of choice.

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

Marlene M. (Knight) Town

Formerly of Northeast Oregon
1949-2020

Marlene Mae Town, 70, of Watford City, North

Dakota, and formerly of Troy, Elgin and Weston, died March 1 at Sanford

Medical Center in Bismarck, North Dakota. As she requested, she was cremated and will be buried in Boardman.

Marlene was born Oct. 27, 1949, in Clarkston, Washington, to Elmer F. and Alma M. (Loomis) Knight. She grew up in Troy, where she attended school through the eighth grade. Her family moved to Orofino, Idaho, where she attended high school.

Marlene married Mitchell "Mike" Town on June 30, 1967, in Orofino, and together they had three children. They spent most of their young married years traveling around to different logging camps in

OBITUARIES

multiple states before settling in 1976 in Boardman, where they remained for many years.

One of Marlene's proudest moments was earning her diploma in 1975 by taking night classes. Marlene and Mike divorced in 1981 but continued to raise their children in the Boardman area until 1988, when Marlene moved to Elgin and soon after to Weston to help care for her parents.

Marlene spent almost her entire life driving a forklift in different warehouse settings, finally spending the last 28 years employed at Smith Frozen Foods in Weston. In September 2018, when she became sick, she moved to Watford City, North Dakota, to live with her daughter Katie and son-in-law Willy. Marlene fought many health battles and ultimately lost her battle with both pancreatic cancer and congenital heart failure.

Marlene was a very kind and loving person. She lived for her family and would never hesitate to be there when they needed anything. She sat through countless baseball, football, basketball and softball games along with school concerts and graduations. She loved her work family as well and spoke of them often with high regard.

Surviving relatives include her brother and sister-in-law, Larry and Christina Knight; sister-in-law, Helen Knight; children and their spouses, Mitchell "Mickey" and Gina Town of Boardman, Angela and Mark Wells of La Grande, and Katherine "Katie" and William "Willy" Sargent of Watford City, North Dakota; and 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Alma Knight; brother, Danny Knight; and the father of her children, Mike Town.

Sandra 'Sandi' L. (Klein) Benson

La Grande
1947-2020

Sandra "Sandi" Lee Benson, 72, of La Grande, died

March 2 at her residence. A celebration of her life and potluck will be held June 4 at 11 a.m. at Riverside Park.

Known as Sandi, she was born Nov. 13, 1947, in La

Grande, to James and Velda (Carbine) Klein. She resided in Spokane, Washington, and La Grande. Sandi graduated from La Grande High School and attended business college in Spokane.

Sandi was employed with Safeway in La Grande, Norma's Burger Barn in Otis Orchards, Washington, and Gung Ho Restaurant in Spokane. She enjoyed making New Year's baby Christmas stockings for the Grande Ronde Hospital Auxiliary, reading fantasy romance novels and traveling with her friends.

Sandi was a regular square dancer and competed in bowling leagues. She participated in choir throughout high school and was known to burst out singing her favorite tune at random times.

Surviving relatives include her children, Michelle Burke and husband, Travis, of Davenport, Washington, and Jamie Sampson of Ovid, Idaho; mother, Velda Klein of La Grande; brother, Duke Klein and wife, Kate, of Prineville; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and three nieces and nephews and five great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, James Klein.

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

Deborah J. Hogue

La Grande

Deborah J. Hogue, 58, of La Grande, died March 4 at her residence. Loveland Funeral

Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Robert Wolfe

La Grande

Robert Wolfe, 77, of La Grande, died Sept. 20, 2019 at a local care facility. A celebration of his life will be held March 14 from 3-5 p.m. at the La Grande Mavericks clubhouse. Friends are invited to bring photos and share their memories. There will be a taco bar that those who attend may contribute to; contact the family for more information.

Don E. Wood

Cove

Don Elwyn Wood, 91, of Cove, died March 5 at his home. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

UPCOMING FUNERALS
AND VISITATIONS
Sponsored byMarch 9
Delores Weathermon:

10 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, La Grande.

March 14
Patricia Tusten:

2 p.m. funeral, La Grande Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Stake Center.

Deborah Kaye Rudd, 53

October 30, 1966 - February 22, 2020



Deborah Kaye Rudd passed peacefully on February 22, 2020 after bravely fighting a long term illness. Debbie loved music and used her gift generously to bring peace and joy to many. She played for the elderly in nursing facilities, her own grandmother during the years of her illness, and countless others.

Her talents earned her the #21 single (Knock On Wood) on the European Country Music Association (ECMA) charts in 1998. Many will remember her performances at celebrations in La Grande, the Union County Fair, the Oregon State Fair, and the singing of the National Anthem at the Pendleton Roundup. Deborah performed with several local bands, providing entertainment at various events.

A graduate of La Grande High School in 1984, and the La Grande College of Beauty and Barbering in 1986, Deborah came to know many who loved and enjoyed her infectious sense of humor as she worked over the years at different Salons in La Grande.

The love of her family was most important to Deb and was evident in her conversations and writing. Her family and friends have far too many hilarious stories to share here, but suffice it to say she brought life to every situation. Ever so quick to speak of the love she held for her family, Deb will be missed by all.

Deborah was born October 30, 1966 to Jack Rudd & Patricia (Chadwick) Rudd.

Deborah is survived by her parents who live in La Grande, a brother Lane Rudd from Salem, a sister Jacki Mason of Vancouver WA, sons Jayce Keffer and Braden Rudd both of La Grande, granddaughter Kayelee Ann Keffer, Aunts and Uncles Bill and Donna Tsiatsos of La Grande, Bill and Linda Whittemore of La Grande, Andy & Kathy Gilbert of Eugene, Jim Chadwick of La Grande, Wallace & Marilyn Rudd of Cove, Debbie Rudd of La Grande and Jerri Rudd of La Grande. Deborah had many cousins that she dearly loved as well. She was preceded in death by her grandparents Donald and Cleo Chadwick, and Oscar and Marie Rudd, who resided locally, and niece Peyton Mason of Vancouver WA.

A memorial service will be held at 11am on March 14, 2020 at Faith Center Church in Island City, Oregon. Pastor Ted Davis will be officiating.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

ALASKA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO, MONTANA

REACH 3 million Pacific Northwesters with just One Call!



■ **PNDC CLASSIFIED - Daily Newspapers**
29 newspapers - 1,187,980 circulation
Number of words: 25 • Extra word cost: \$10
Cost: \$540 (Runs 3 consecutive days including wkds.)

■ **PNND 2x2 DISPLAY - Daily Newspapers**
27 newspapers - 1,016,864 circulation
Size: 2x2 (3.25"x2") Cost: 1x 2x2: \$1,050

More info: Cecelia@cnpa.com or call (916) 288-6011



FAMILY OWNED

NORTHWEST FURNITURE & MATTRESS

215 Elm Street La Grande (541) 963-5440

Like Us On Facebook



Nicole Cathey

Reed & Associates for
excellent service **LOCALLY!**



An Independent
Insurance Agency

Medicare, Auto, Home
insurance and Annuities



Kevin Reed

10106 N. 'C' • Island City

541-975-1364

Toll Free 1-866-282-1925

www.reed-insurance.net