

COMMUNITY

Briefs

Support local libraries on Library Giving Day

LA GRANDE — Believing that libraries serve as a cornerstone for our communities, Libraries of Union County Foundation is part of a coalition of libraries joining forces to raise funds through a Library Giving Day campaign, an online fundraising event. Patrons and library lovers are encouraged to make a gift in support of their library anytime now through April 23. To support Cook Memorial Library, go to www.cookmemoriallibrary.org.

Anthony Lakes early pass sale extended

NORTH POWDER — In light of Covid-19 events, Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort has extended the deadline for its annual early pass sale to June 30. Anthony Lakes sells all-mountain and Nordic-only season passes. The early pass sale offers the lowest rates available all year. For more information and to purchase season passes, go to www.anthonylakes.com.

Attention: shed hunters

STARKEY — Opening day for the Starkey Experimental Forest and Range has been postponed. The area will remain closed to public entry until further notice to align with the governor's "Stay Home, Save Lives" order during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The 25,000-acre Starkey Experimental Forest and Range on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is popular with the public for gathering of shed deer and elk antlers each spring, and typically a large concentration of 100 or more people camp in a small area at the main gate in anticipation of the traditional May 1 opening day.

Union County Museum will open July 4

UNION — The board of directors of the Union County Museum Society announced the season opening event has been postponed until Saturday, July 4. Traditionally, the museum opens for the season on Mother's Day, hosting an open house and taking the opportunity to highlight new or updated exhibits. Opening event hours and details will be announced in late June.

The delayed opening "will allow volunteers to clean and prepare for the season while practicing social distancing, in addition to allowing time for the pandemic to dissipate and some form of normal social gatherings to return to Union County and the country," said Nod Palmer, board president.

The Union County Museum, at 333 S. Main St. in Union, is run by volunteers. Volunteer activities range from being a host to working on new projects and necessary tasks. To learn more about volunteering, contact Linda Bond at jefflinda-bond@gmail.com or call 541-562-5061.

No fishing at Morgan Lake

LA GRANDE — To limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to comply with the Oregon Gov. Kate Brown's executive order, Morgan Lake will remain closed, which includes no fishing. According to the city of La Grande, the park gate will remain locked and restrooms closed. No camping is allowed.

The annual fishing derby at the lake is also canceled this year.

Reminder of available assistance from Parks and Rec

LA GRANDE — The city of La Grande Parks and Recreation Department issued a press release to remind residents the department's employees are available to run errands for elderly individuals or others unable to do so themselves during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Send an email about the details of what is needed to mckayla.nitz@cityofla-grande.org or call 541-962-1352.

Meals on Wheels drivers needed

LA GRANDE — Community Connection is in urgent need of volunteers to be Meals on Wheels drivers. For more information, call Sydney Gleeson at 541-963-7532, ext. 1104, or stop by 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande.

Your library card provides online access to thousands of items

Hello to all of our patrons from the staff of Cook Memorial Library. Join us in a new initiative, Say Hi La Grande, by greeting your neighbors every evening at 7 p.m., from a safe distance, of course. See www.Facebook.com/Say-HiLaGrande for more.

The building may be closed, but your library card provides online access to thousands of items. If you don't have a card, you can apply for an eCard. Online registration for a Cook Memorial Library card is open only to La Grande

and Union County residents who do not receive library services from another city within the county. Visit www.cookmemoriallibrary.org and click on the

OFF THE SHELF
ROSE PEACOCK

"Request Library Card" link. Requests for eCards are generally filled

within 24 hours, longer if you apply over the weekend. Include your email address or phone number so we can contact you with your card number and PIN. If you have a regular library card, you do not need an eCard. If you are unable to find your card or need your PIN, call 541-962-1339 Mon-

day-Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or email libdirector@cookmemoriallibrary.org.

Online resources include: **Library2Go (Over-Drive/Libby):** Downloadable eBooks and eAudiobooks.

Hoopla: Thousands of free streaming movies, TV shows, music, eBooks, eAudiobooks and comics.

Kanopy: Film streaming service features classic and world cinema, the Criterion Collection and more.

Freeding: A collection of eBooks from small and independent publishers for all ages. The titles are available with no holds, no wait.

Freegal: Enjoy up to three hours of streaming

music each day. You can download three free songs each week.

MyHeritage: Discover your roots with this genealogy database and start growing your family tree today.

Check out our YouTube channel, Cook Memorial Library-La Grande, Oregon, for Storytime with Alicia, presenting stories and a craft. Another new offering is Miss Carrie Reads. Our children's librarian is recording Bruce Coville's series, "Moongobble and Me," accessible on our website. Click on "Things to do When Bored" on our website for links to art projects, science resources and more.

The library's book

returns are closed. Patrons need to keep all library materials safely in their possession until we reopen. Any library account that was suspended for reaching the fines and fees threshold has temporarily eLibrary access. The library's WiFi (LGPLWiFi) has been turned on for 24-hour access. The signal reaches to the building's entrances and the parking lot and does not require a password.

Find out more on our Facebook page: Cook Memorial Library-La Grande, OR.

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

OBITUARIES

Beverly G. (Case) Hays

Elgin • 1932-2020

Beverly Grace Hays, 87, of Elgin, died April 14 at her home. Private interment was held at the Elgin Cemetery.



Beverly was born Oct. 2, 1932, in Umapine, to Lucian Holmes and Verna Lucele

(Townsend) Case. The family moved to Elgin, where Beverly was educated, graduating with the class of 1950. On Sept. 2, 1951, she married Clarence E. Hays.

Beverly was a member of the VFW Auxiliary and was a 4H teacher. She enjoyed quilting, gardening, crocheting, camping, picking huckleberries and spending time with family. She was the matriarch of a

Upcoming local services are pending due to efforts to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

large family with many traditions.

Surviving relatives include her children and their spouses, Jerry and Tammy Hays of Williston, North Dakota, Dee Dee McClune of Elgin, Gail and Eddie Toney of Elgin, Denise and Don Ludwig of Elgin and Jennifer and Rick Smith of Elgin; brother-in-law, George Smith of Elgin; brother

and sister-in-law, Ben and Betty Hays of Elgin; brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Corky Hays of Elgin; sister-in-law, Bertha Stephens of Grangeville, Idaho; and 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence; parents, Lucian and Verna Case

and Luther and Ellen Hays; son-in-law, Duke McClune; grandson, Ryan Toney; and siblings and spouses, Les and Nancy Case, Clarence and Patty Southard, Sharon Smith, Joe Stephens, Oliver Hays and Larry and Beatrice Shaffer.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Elgin Quilting Club in care of

Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, 1502 Seventh St., La Grande 97850.

Greta J. Guilinger

Island City

Greta J. Guilinger, 76, of Island City, died April 18 at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory.

Wilfred Arthur Hamann

September 3, 1923 - April 2, 2020



The Hamann house is a very fine house with many cats, a few dogs, 4 daughters, seven grandchildren, and many wonderful memories. Willie was preceded in death by his infant brother Leland, his parents, Clara and Arthur Hamann, and his wife Delpha Morehead Hamann (12/10/2019).

Willie was born September 3, 1923 on the family farm near Island City where he spent most

of his life. He was a premature baby, so the doctor placed him in a cardboard boot box on the wood stove's open oven door as a way of helping him begin his life. At age 5, the family moved to Island City and began a seed cleaning and selling business. Fumigating furniture was also a sideline at the site. Willie attended Island City School for eight years, before graduating from La Grande High School in 1941.

During his school years, he was active in a 4-H livestock club, showing at the Union County Fair and traveling by train with other club members and their animals in box cars to the Pacific International Livestock Exposition (PI) in Portland, Oregon. The livestock owners were not allowed to ride in the boxcars with the stock, but that rule was not always followed. Most of the exhibitors were never caught riding in the boxcars with their animals, but if they were, they were set off the train and had to buy tickets for regular train rides.

After graduating from high school, Willie helped his father in the seed business before enlisting in the Army in February of 1943 in Spokane, Washington. He served with the 529th Engineers Light Ponton Company in Patton's Army.

The company took the Queen Elizabeth liner to an area near Shenstone and Tamworth, England. From there, the company landed on Utah beach three days after the invasion. Towards the end of the European war, Willie was in Austria and was assigned hay hauling duty to the rescued Lipizzaner horses brought back to the Spanish Riding School's summer pastures by General Patton. Willie never told his horse-loving daughters about this until they were watching a Disney movie about it. Willie said the horses he rescued did not look as good as the ones in the movie. They were bags of bones much like the survivors at Dachau, the concentration camp he was at soon after the war ended, processing survivors and covering the open pit graves.

Before shipping home, he was a crane operator in Belgium when he broke two ribs, incurring his only war injury caused by the ball falling and wrapping a chain around his ribs.

After returning home on December 27, 1945, he began farming. He played City League baseball where he met Delpha Morehead, building a house in Island City, and marrying Delpha on December 3, 1950. Willie's father Arthur Hamann, Claude Anson, and Willie started the "Hamann and Anson

Ski Shop" in a part of the seed cleaning warehouse in Island City. It was a good winter business for these farmers. This ski shop also had a satellite store at "Little Alps Ski Area," Oregon's first ski area east of the Cascades. The shop's big wood stove was a wintertime gathering spot for farmers to catch up on valley gossip and a fun place for the 4 daughters to walk

to after school. The girls remember re-boxing ski boots and dusting skis (to this day, none of the girls like to dust).

Willie began farming in earnest in the 1950's. He and Delpha bought more land around the original farm where he was born. The Eisenhower years were good to farmers and the 4 daughters were born in that decade. The girls attended the same Island City School their father attended and loved their years there. Willie was an Island City volunteer fireman and chief in those years, as well as serving on the Island City School board, then an independent school district.

In 1963, Willie and Delpha built their house on the farm and moved in to it during the flood of '64, a "flood of the century." Willie was 1986 conservation farmer of the year and was pleased to be recognized. As a farmer, he was successful in diversifying the crops he raised. He was not afraid to try new crops and techniques. He loved his registered Angus cows (most of the time) and was a 4-H livestock leader for several years when his daughters were showing Angus cattle and sheep. The girls made some of their college money by raising and selling their cattle.

Willie planted mint and he and his son-in-law Pete Nilsson built a mint still to process the oil from their mint, and other farmer's mint crops, too. Eventually, Willie's daughter Becky and son-in-law Pete Nilsson took over the farming. At some point, Willie retired after a long and successful run as a farmer. He truly enjoyed farming and liked nothing more than driving his tractors and other machinery on his land. If Willie had not lost most of his eyesight, he would still be farming.

After he retired, he spent his energy babying his lawn. He drove his riding mower keeping the grass trimmed short enough to putt on (pasture pool he called it), although he never did. But since he used to caddy at the country club as a kid, we guess he could have.

In 2019, the farm was designated as a "Century Farm." Some of the grandkids had been helping with the farm for many years and are running it now. It is in good hands.

We would like to thank daughter Brenda for taking care of both Mom and Dad in their twilight years. Thanks also to caregiver Georgia James and the Heart and Home Hospice employees for their care during the last months of Dad's life.

If anyone would like to donate to the local 4-H program or the Oregon Talking Books Library, it would bring a smile to his face.

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