

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• ISLAND CITY — The Island City Budget Committee will meet Monday, May 11, at 6 p.m. at Island City City Hall. Draft budgets will be available at city hall on Friday, May 8, for anyone interested. Following the committee meeting, Island City City Council will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m. The public may submit written comments or attend via telephone conference. For instructions, contact Karen Howton, city recorder, at 541-963-5017 or karen@islandcityhall.com.

• LA GRANDE — The La Grande Rural Fire Protection District will have a budget committee meeting Tuesday, May 12, at 6 p.m. at the fire hall in Island City.

• LA GRANDE — The Board of Directors of the La Grande School District will convene for a regular board meeting on Wednesday, May 13, at 7 p.m. The board meeting will be accessible by phone (call: +1 732-400-5816; PIN: 517 843 779#) or at <https://meet.google.com/ixa-zhdn-dxj>. Meeting access information and links are also available at [www.lagrandesd.org](http://www.lagrandesd.org) under the "School Board" tab. The board will also be meeting in executive session, pursuant to ORS192.660(2)(b), to hear a complaint brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or agent.

• UNION — The Union Soil and Water Conservation District will hold a board meeting Wednesday, May 13 to discuss financial statements, staff reports and partner agency reports. The call-in-only meeting begins at 7 p.m. To join call 1-877-309-2073 (Access Code: 840-782-405). For instructions and more information, click on the "About Us" tab at [www.unionswcd.org](http://www.unionswcd.org).

Rescue team reunites family

The Observer  
LA GRANDE — A father and son who set off on Monday to canoe the Grande Ronde River required some help to get to safety. The 49-year-old man and his 11-year-old son were to arrive at Hillgard State Park for pickup but did not show, according to the Union County Sheriff's Office. The family contacted police at 10:11 p.m. The sheriff's office, the county's search and rescue team and Oregon State Police responded. A state trooper heard the pair calling from a hillside across the river from the highway near Red Bridge State Park at 11:49 p.m. The search and rescue reached the pair on foot to assist getting back to the road, and the pair reunited with family around 1:55 a.m. Tuesday morning.

Joy Ann (McCullough) Smith

Union • 1928-2020

Joy Ann Smith, 91, of Union, died April 29 at her home. A memorial service will be held at a later date.



Joy Ann was born Sept. 30, 1928, in Boise City, Oklahoma, to Clifford and Geneva (Cross) McCullough. She lived in Elgin during her elementary school years until the family moved to Vancouver, Washington. She graduated from Vancouver High School and Clark Junior College. After graduation she moved back to Elgin, where she worked for Dr. Miller as a dental assistant in both Elgin and Union.

Before Ken Smith had even met Joy Ann, he said "I am going to marry that girl!" They were married June 30, 1951, at the ranch in Elgin. They built a home in Union next to Ken's dad and resided in that home for the remainder of their lives.

Together Joy Ann and Ken raised four children: Kenna, Mike, Sue and Janice. Joy Ann was involved in Home Extension, Cub/Boy Scouts and 4-H. Any activities the kids were doing she was always the first to volunteer to help. As with her own kids, she had a huge part in helping raise her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Joy Ann was civic minded and helped the community. Most recently she had volunteered with senior meals at the church and was involved in the Methodist Church preservation. She was also involved in the ranger station preservation and an active member of the Union County Museum. She was a firm believer in "if you don't like the way something is, you should make an effort to change it."

Surviving relatives include her children and their spouses, Kenna Jo and Rod Panches of Boardman, Mike and Virginia Smith of Yuba City, California, Sue Ann and Charles Hill of The Dalles, and Janice and Dave Meheen of Pasco, Washington; sister, Kay Miller of Bend; 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ken E. Smith.

Memorial contributions may be made to the City of Union Ranger Station Fund, P.O. Box 529, Union 97883; Friends of Historic Union Hall (Meth-

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odist Church Preservation), P.O. Box 184, Union; 97883; Union County Museum; or a charity of your choice.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.lovelandfuneral-chapel.com](http://www.lovelandfuneral-chapel.com).

Janet R. (Hibbert) Buss

Formerly of La Grande • 1939-2020

Janet Rae Buss, 80, formerly of La Grande, died April 22 due to complications of diabetes. A family memorial service and interment was held at Hillcrest Cemetery in La Grande.

Janet was born Dec. 21, 1939, in La Grande, to Leo Eugene and Gertie (Nebeker) Hibbert. She was the third of eight children. She lived in La Grande; Provo, Utah; Ames, Iowa; Walla Walla, Washington; Dubuque, Iowa; and Aurora, Illinois.

Janet attended La Grande High School and what is now Eastern Oregon University, where she played bassoon. She also played in the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra. She earned a bachelor's degree in dance and physical education at Brigham Young University.

On June 11, 1962, Janet married Paul Adelbert Buss Jr. in the Logan, Utah, Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Paul was at her side for almost 58 years. She was the proud mother of 10 children. Family and her faith were the most important things in Janet's life. She was active in church and served in many capacities, including Roadshow Director multiple times. This was especially suited to her many talents as she would write, direct, choreograph, design and paint the sets, and even won best show twice.

Janet loved serving and talking to people. She was a master storyteller, whether it was family history or one she made up on the spot.

Janet served as president of the PTA and was active in the Dubuque County Republican Women's Association in Iowa. She had many interests including dance, music, art, drama, musicals, horseback riding and softball. She sang baritone in Sweet Adelines for many years.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Paul; children and their spouses, Kevin and Arlette Thompson Buss of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Vincent and Heather Torrie Buss of Woodridge, Illinois, Yolanda and Kenneth Fisher of Aurora, Illinois, Debbie and

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

Clinton James of Woodridge, Illinois, Tricia Buss of Payson, Utah, Preston Buss of Springfield, Utah, Nanette and Todd Sparks of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Alicia and Rainer Ahlfors of Provo, Utah; 34 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; siblings and spouses, Larry and Janet Hibbert, Dallas and Cheri Hibbert, Karan and Jim McDaniel, Ivan and Lynette Hibbert, Milo and Kathy Hibbert, and Dixie and Leon Hendrickson; sister-in-law, Debbie Hibbert; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Gene and Gertie; infant sons, Brent and Nathan Buss; brother, Ritchie Hibbert; and daughter-in-law, Heather Adams Buss.

Janet made more than 1,000 quilts during her lifetime for friends and organizations, so in lieu of flowers donations may be made to Humanitarian Services at <https://philanthropies.churchofjesuschrist.org/humanitarian-services>.

Northeast Oregon Housing Authority receives \$158,000 in COVID-19 funding

Umatilla County housing agency gets \$45,000 in aid

EO Media Group

LA GRANDE — U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley announced Monday that 21 public housing authorities throughout Oregon will receive more than \$5.7 million in grants to help with tenant-based rental assistance needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, including La Grande-based Northeast Oregon Housing Authority.

The local housing assistance organization received \$158,000 in funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act.

"Oregonians battling the multiple economic challenges triggered by this public health crisis need to know there's support available when they're staying at home and fighting to keep a roof over their heads," Wyden said in a press release. "I am gratified these local housing authorities are receiving this much-needed assistance to help the renters counting on them in

Oregon."

Merkley agreed: "Oregon's housing crisis is being made all the more urgent by a public health emergency, during which Oregonians are facing economic uncertainty and should stay home as much as possible to keep our communities safe," Merkley said. "I'm glad we're getting these grants out to help renters keep roofs over their heads during this pandemic, but let's make no mistake — this problem predates the pandemic and will be with us until we put in place bold solutions that ensure every Oregonian has a decent place they can afford to live."

"These funds will be greatly appreciated by landlords, tenants and all agencies working to assist those who are displaced or financially strapped because of this public health crisis," NEOHA Executive Director Dale Insee said in the press release.

The Umatilla County Housing Authority, which provides public housing for Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wheeler counties, will receive more than \$45,000 in aid.

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Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

<p><b>Services This Week</b></p>		<p><b>First Christian Church</b> (Disciples of Christ)</p> <p>901 Penn Avenue 963-2623 lgdisciples@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Worship 10:00 a.m.</b></p> <p>~Join us at The Lord's Table~</p>		<p><b>FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>1812 1st St. La Grande Pastor Dave Tierce • 541-605-0215 We use the King James Version Bible</p> <p>Sunday School - 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday Evening Bible Study - 3:00 pm (Effective June 10) Wednesday Evening - 6:30 pm "Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures" <a href="http://www.flmbclagrande.com">www.flmbclagrande.com</a></p>			
<p><b>Zion Lutheran Church</b> (an ELCA church)</p> <p>902 Fourth Street, La Grande, OR (541) 963-5998</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Fellowship &amp; Refreshments 10:30 am - Classes Pastor: Roberta Smythe <a href="http://www.zionlagrande.org">www.zionlagrande.org</a></p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b></p> <p>SIXTH &amp; SPRING, LA GRANDE</p> <p>541-963-3911</p> <p>All services have been temporarily cancelled. Live-streaming Sunday mornings at 10:00 am. People can watch at: <a href="http://lagrandefbc.org">lagrandefbc.org</a></p>	<p><b>UNION BAPTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>1531 S. Main Street, Union 541-562-5531</p> <p><a href="http://www.UnionBaptistOregon.org">www.UnionBaptistOregon.org</a></p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am Thursday AWANA 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>Birthing, Building and Being the Body of Christ</b></p>	<p><b>LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"</p> <p>1612 4th Street - 963-2498 Pastor Taylor Gould lgume@eoni.com <a href="http://www.lagrandeumc.org">www.lagrandeumc.org</a></p> <p>Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon <b>Worship 10:00 am</b> Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am - Nursery provided -</p>	<p><b>Amazing Grace Fellowship</b></p> <p>1316 T St., La Grande, OR 541-568-4567 Sunday 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>2 Cor 12:9 My Grace is sufficient for you.</p> <p>IS 40:31</p>	<p><b>COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR</p> <p><b>NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 390 E. St., North Powder, OR</p> <p>JOIN US... Catch the Spirit! Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder</p>		
<p><b>St. Katherine's Catholic Church</b></p> <p>Fr. Thomas Puduppulliparamban 301 E Garfield Enterprise Mass Schedule Sundays: St Pius X, Wallowa - 8:00 am St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 10:30 am Saturdays St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 5:30 pm Weekdays St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 8:00 am (Monday - Thursday and First Friday) All are welcome</p>	<p><b>La Grande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p>109 18th Street • 963-3402</p> <p>Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH</b></p> <p>The Place 62848 Philynda Loop in Island City "We are called to Serve"</p> <p>Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Phone: 541-568-4230 <a href="mailto:grace.lutherancove@gmail.com">grace.lutherancove@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b></p> <p>440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201 <a href="http://www.imblerchristianchurch.org">www.imblerchristianchurch.org</a></p> <p><b>Sunday Services</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>	<p><b>SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>Sunday Services: Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes 9:45AM Children's Church &amp; Worship Service 11:00AM Family Worship Service 6:00PM</p> <p>Wednesday: Prayer Mtg. Children's Bible Club, Youth Group 7:00PM</p> <p>A church for your whole family Visit us at <a href="http://summersvillebaptistchurch.org">summersvillebaptistchurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church</b> A Place where hope is found in Jesus</p> <p>Join us in Fellowship &amp; Worship Every Saturday</p> <p>9:30 a.m. - Bible Study/Fellowship 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service 2702 Adams Avenue, La Grande • 963-4018</p> <p>Pastor: Mike Armayor <a href="http://www.lagrande.adventistchurch.org">www.lagrande.adventistchurch.org</a> Learning for Today and Eternity</p> <p>Little Friends Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390 La Grande Adventist Christian School Christian Education K-8th Grade 963-6203</p>		