

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• **IMBLER** — The Imbler School District Board of Directors will meet for a regular session on Tuesday, May 19. This meeting will be held virtually following the Budget Committee meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend all open sessions of the Imbler School Board. For instructions for accessing this meeting, call the district office at 541-534-5331.

Briefs

Union's eateries offer takeout

**UNION** — The Observer in GO magazine recently published listings of the restaurants and other eateries in Baker, Union and Wallowa counties that are offering takeout services during the stay-home restrictions. These lists also are accessible to all on our website under the "coronavirus" tab.

The businesses in Union mistakenly were not included in the edition of GO magazine that announced the Union County listings. The Observer regrets the error. These business in Union offer takeout:

• **LJ Brewskis:** 267 S. Main St.; 541-562-6286, Facebook; 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday; call ahead or walk in for pickup (\$1.50 Taco Wednesdays still happening)

• **The Union Fountain:** 105 N. Main St.; 541-562-1617, Facebook; 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday; call ahead for curbside pickup, walk in and drive-through for takeout

• **Union Spotlight:** 126 S. Main St.; 541-562-5700, Facebook; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; call in for takeout.

City announces cuts to summer programs

**LA GRANDE** — According to the May 11 Northeast Oregon Joint Information Center Daily update, the city of La Grande announced the cancellation of the following programs based on guidance received from the governor's office: Kick It Into Gear, Grande Tour Annual Bike Ride, Moonlight Tournament, Movies in the Park, Adult Co-Ed Softball, Riverside Concerts, Morgan Lake Regatta, End of Summer Party and Bard in the Blues Renaissance Festival.

Guidance has not yet been received from the governor regarding summer camps, youth programs and summer sports such as Little League and youth soccer.

Oregon State Parks has begun opening some parks to limited daytime use, stated the JIC update. The park system will be closed to overnight camping through at least May 25. Park status and availability can be found at [https://oregonstateparks.org/index.cfm?do=v.dsp\\_parkstatus](https://oregonstateparks.org/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_parkstatus). It is recommended to check the link regularly as new park openings are occurring daily.

Births

GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL

**JOHNSON:** To Kiko Kabua and Branny Johnson, of La Grande, a daughter, Bina Lina "Kony" Johnson, 6 pounds, April 29.

**REIDY:** To Sara Josephine Reidy and Christopher Joseph Reidy, of La Grande, a daughter, Sylvie June Reidy, 8 pounds 1 ounce, April 25 at 3:52 a.m. Grandparents are Matt and Brenda Reidy, Carol Doherty and Sherman Reese.

Glennis J. (Fahsholtz) Phillips

Union • 1948-2020

Glennis Jean Phillips, 71, of Union, died May 9 at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are entrusted to Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

Glennis was born July 23, 1948, in Clovis, New Mexico, to Edwin and Hope (Reed) Fahsholtz. The family came to Union from New Mexico when Glennis was a freshman in high school. She graduated from Union High School in 1965.

In 1966, Glennis married John Phillips on the ranch outside of Union when he was home on leave from the Navy. They lived in Pendleton, La Grande and Union, then Garibaldi and back to Union.

Glennis challenged all her nursing courses and passed her exam in New York to become a nurse. She worked at Saint Joseph Hospital then Grande Ronde Hospital and later was an ombudsman for nursing homes.

Glennis was an accomplished potter and a talented photographer. She loved art and made baskets and stained glass.

Surviving relatives include her husband of 54 years, John Phillips of Union; children, George of Union and Cathy of Boise, Idaho; siblings, Wayne Fahsholtz of Wyoming, Pat Boothman of La Grande and Jacque Fahsholtz of Idaho; nine grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Melissa Michele; and son, Joe.

Condolences may be left at [www.danielsknopp.com](http://www.danielsknopp.com).

Alfred 'Al' E. Johnson

La Grande • 1915-2020

Alfred Edwin Johnson, 105, died May 8 at his home in La Grande. A graveside service and dedication of the grave will be held May 18 at Hillcrest Cemetery.

A joint memorial service at the LDS Stake Center on Gekeler Lane for him and his wife, Virginia, will be held later. Arrangements are entrusted to Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

Known as Al, he was born March 3, 1915, in Emmett, Idaho, to Lorenzo and Clara Viola (Gilbert) Johnson. He worked in mills before he met his future wife, Virginia Anderson, in Union. On Dec. 24, 1941, they were married by her father. He then went to watchmaking school.

In 1942, Al was drafted into the U.S. Army, and he served until 1945. He was very proud of his military service. After his honorable discharge as a buck sergeant, Al became a watch-

OBITUARIES

maker and then a cobbler at the family business, Anderson's Shoe and Leather Goods, which is still operated by his son Keith. After he retired, Al worked for the U.S. Forest Service in the warehouse and various other jobs around the valley.

Al was a faithful and active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He enjoyed family and gardening.

Surviving relatives include his children and their spouses, Keith of La Grande, Paul and Janet of St. George, Utah, and Russell and Kristy of Salem; 11 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 79 years, Virginia, last month; three brothers; and one sister.

Online condolences may be made at [www.danielsknopp.com](http://www.danielsknopp.com).

Melada L. (Doney) Comstock

La Grande • 1941-2020

Melada Lee Comstock, 79, of La Grande, died May 8 at a local care facility. A private graveside service will be held.

Melada was born Feb. 9, 1941, in La Grande, to Elmer and Zilpha (Allen) Doney. She spent her childhood years attending Greenwood Elementary School and, at times, was home taught by her mother, who was an elementary school teacher. During these years, her mother put her dark hair up in ringlets, which she enjoyed so much. She later attended junior and senior high school in La Grande and graduated in 1959.

Melada was a gifted musician. She took piano lessons for seven years and enjoyed playing the piano with her cousins. She also had a lovely soprano voice. Both she and her cousins loved to sing together at family gatherings.



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

Melada met Chester Comstock in La Grande, whom she dated and eventually married May 10, 1983, in La Grande, where they spent the first years of their marriage. In 1989, they moved to Pendleton and lived there for the next 15 years. They returned to La Grande in 2004. Shortly after, Chester's health failed and he passed away in 2006.

Melada was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and attended the La Grande Third Ward with her husband and mother. After her mother passed away, various sister members took her to church. She served as an accompanist for the Relief Society women's organization.

Melada was noted for her cheerful disposition, her lovely manners and her childlike faith. She never had a bad word to say about anyone. Much of her time in the last few years was spent reading, especially from the Book of Mormon.

When her health failed, Melada moved into a care home. She had no siblings or children and was the last of her immediate family to pass on.

Surviving relatives include her cousins and their spouses, Sue and Richard Rasmussen, Sally and Gary Harville, and Alan Bieckel.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY

9:18 a.m. — A caller reported the theft of a trailer from the 60500 block of Cristad Drive, La Grande.

11:14 a.m. — The Elgin Rural Fire Protection District responded to a field fire off Clark Creek Road. Firefighters extinguished the blaze. The district responded in the evening to another field fire.

2:55 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to the 61900 block of Quail Road, La Grande, for a juvenile causing a disturbance. The deputy separated the parties and determined there was no crime.

7:19 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a report of a domestic disturbance at Y Avenue and Depot Street. Police arrested Zachery Clayton Mulvany, 27, of Cove, on domestic violence charges of menacing, reckless endangering, fourth-degree assault and strangulation.

10:47 p.m. — La Grande

police responded to the 2300 block of Island Avenue on a report of a possibly intoxicated driver. Police cited Wyatt Rankin of Elgin and Logan Butcher of Island City for minor in possession.

TUESDAY

8:59 a.m. — A caller reported two dogs chasing chickens on the 300 block of Polk Avenue, La Grande.

11:52 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a semitrailer parked the wrong way at Fourth Street and Washington Avenue. The rig was gone by the time police arrived.

1:54 p.m. — The city of Elgin towed a vehicle at South Seventh Avenue and Alder Street for an ordinance violation.

3:45 p.m. — An Elgin resident asked to speak to a Union County sheriff's deputy about a civil disturbance.

7:11 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of vandalism on the 900 block of N Avenue.

Wallowa will have in-person graduation event May 23

EO Media Group

**WALLOWA** — Wallowa High School has set plans for a unique graduation ceremony May 23.

The class of 2020 graduation will be at 11 a.m. at the Pow Wow Grounds, but due to COVID-19 there will be some changes.

Wallowa High School principal David Howe said social distancing measures shall be strictly observed throughout the event.

Graduates and their families will park in the openings of the Pow Wow Grounds and will be called to receive their

diplomas. Graduates will walk around the inside perimeter after receiving their diplomas and return to their vehicles.

Only district board members and administration will be allowed inside the Pow Wow structure. The district may designate an area for a photographer and videographer to stream the event live on Facebook.

During the ceremony all attendees outside of vehicles must wear face masks. Graduates will have the choice of wearing a face mask when they receive their diploma.

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Anita Raquel (Garcia) Daffer

December 16, 1932 - April 5, 2020



Anita Raquel (Garcia) Daffer 87 passed away unexpectedly yet peacefully in her home early morning on Sunday, April 5th. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

Anita Garcia was born December 16, 1932 at her family's home in Huntington. Anita was the eldest of 6 children and became a kind and

gentle caretaker to her younger siblings. Despite growing up surrounded by challenges, she went on to become Valedictorian of the Class of 1950 at Huntington High School. Being the smart and determined young woman she was, she went on to Nursing School becoming an RN. While working as a nurse at Weiser Memorial Hospital in Weiser, she met the love of her life, Charles "Charlie" Daffer. They were married March 2, 1956. They enjoyed 64 years and four beautiful children together. Though she loved her work, she took time off from her career to raise her children before returning to nursing once they reached school age. She continued nursing at St. Joseph Hospital, Grande Ronde Hospital and Valley View Manor (La Grande). She retired in 1992. Anita was a loved and respected nurse, always putting her love for people and her dedication into action.

Anita was a devoted, generous and deeply loving woman who wrapped all she did in kindness. She was always willing to give her time and her heart to her children Paul, Matt, David and Angie. She volunteered as a Den Mother in Cub Scouts for all three of her boys and then a Troop Leader in Girl Scouts for her daughter, Angie. She continued that same devotion to her family as her grandchildren came and then her great-grandchildren. Each child brought her joy that she shared with them.

Although raised Catholic, Anita joined the United Methodist Church as an adult faithfully attending church in Huntington, La Grande, Weiser (First Presbyterian), then back to La Grande for the remainder of her life. She was also a member of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. She rigorously enjoyed her church and sorority families, and was easily loved by all who knew her.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Avelino and Rose Garcia, sister Ramona Garcia, brother-in-laws Jack Tallent and JC Gordon and sister-in-law Helen Gordon. She is survived by her husband Charles Daffer. By her children Paul Daffer, Matt Daffer, David & Karen Daffer, Angie Arnsen & Nathan Gaarsland. By her siblings Miriam & David Rosera, Carol Lofton, Albert Garfield and sister-in-law Irene Tallent. By her grandchildren Alan & Jessica Arnsen, Teri Arnsen, Marcus & Mariah Arnsen, Sophie Daffer and Isaac Daffer. By her great grandchildren Michael, Luke, Anabella, Annabelle, Elsi, Echo, Charlee, Brielle and Lillian.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, a Celebration of Life will be postponed. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to a charity of one's choice.

Arrangements will be made at a later date.



**WE ARE HERE TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY TODAY AND WE WILL BE HERE FOR YOU TOMORROW. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT.**

**HAPPY NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK!** MAY 10-16, 2020

The outpouring of support from the community we have the privilege to serve has been humbling and inspiring to all of us. Thank you.

Our staff continue to serve with compassion, dedication, teamwork, creativity, and courage during the COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, we want to give our staff an enthusiastic and wholehearted THANK YOU. We honor all of you, and look forward to celebrating with you.

**TO LEAVE A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT OR SUPPORT FOR GRH STAFF, VISIT [GRH.ORG/THANKYOU](http://GRH.ORG/THANKYOU).**

