

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• **COVE** — The city of Cove will hold a work session and special council meeting Tuesday, June 9, at 6 p.m. at Cove City Hall, 504 Alder St. The purpose of the meeting is to review the city's charter and rules of council. Virtual attendance of the meeting is encouraged. For instructions, go to www.cityofcove.org.

• **UNION** — The Union School Board will convene Wednesday, June 10, at 6 p.m. for its regular monthly meeting. The meeting will be held at the high school athletic complex.

Briefs

City announces specifics of pool's reopening

LA GRANDE — The city of La Grande Parks & Recreation Department released a media announcement regarding the restrictions that will be implemented at Veterans' Memorial Pool when it reopens June 15. The pool received permission to reopen under the state's Phase 2 guidelines.

The known details are as follows:

- Hours will be Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 - Lap swimming will be available with one person per lane and the therapy pool available for physical therapy clients and senior exercise participants.
 - Showers and locker rooms will be closed with the exception of the restrooms. Come to the facility in your suit already showered.
 - Entry will remain at the front entrance, but one-way directional signage will guide you after you enter. Exit will be out the east door.
 - Distancing requirements of 6 feet between people will be in place and no spectators will be allowed.
 - Face masks are required but are to be removed and placed in a sealable bag while swimming with face in the water.
- This is the first step of the pool's reopening. Expanded hours and services will be announced and implemented no sooner than July 1.

Due to the evolving nature of the situation, protocols are subject to change with little to no notice.

Stay informed on the pool's Facebook page or at www.lagrandedeparks.org.

Relearn the fundamentals of health at free class

Nature's Pantry, La Grande, is hosting a free class, "Fundamentals to Health: Simple and Powerful Tools for Covid and for Life," Tuesday, June 16, at 6 p.m. Led by

Naturopath John Winters will lead the class, which will be livestreamed from the Nature's Pantry Facebook page.

According to promotional materials, participants will be "reminded of the proven foundational elements of health that we all need now as much as ever."

Food samples will be served.

Registration is required; stop by Nature's Pantry, 1907 Fourth St., or call 541-963-7955.

Creating fun from afar

Potential EOU Resident Advisors go virtual for events

By **Sabrina Thompson**
The Observer

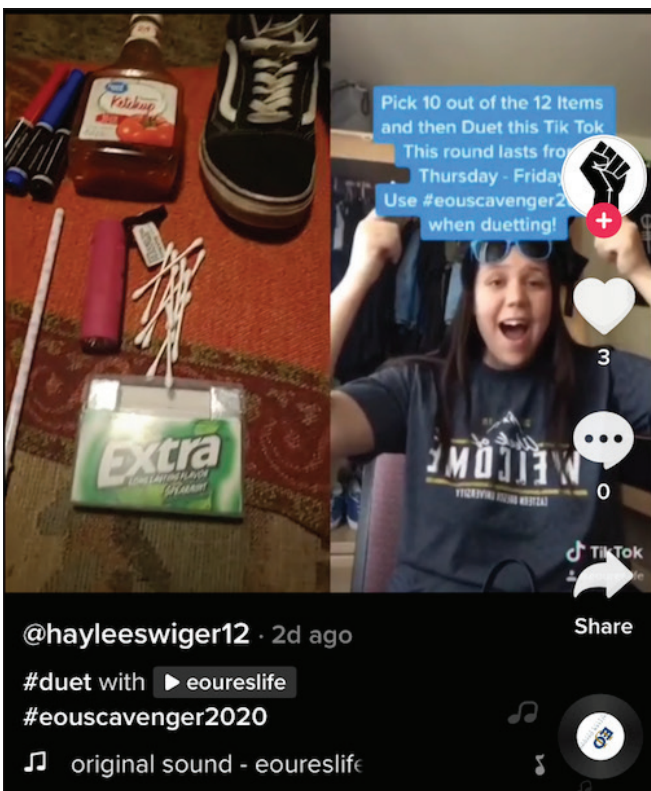
LA GRANDE — Most students from Eastern Oregon University went home when the coronavirus pandemic hit the area. However, events for students have not stopped — they just went virtual.

Pet pageants, scavenger hunts and more have helped students feel connected to the university.

"Events bring connections to one another and gets people out of their dorms and their buildings and see one another and it gives them a break," EOU freshman and potential resident advisor Mandy Fetters said.

Potential RAs are testing their event-planning skills by creating the virtual events. Traditionally, a requirement to become an RA at Eastern is to be a part of group planning a large-scale event. With the unprecedented nature of spring quarter being online, student leaders had to make events available from afar.

Fetters said while the process for becoming an RA was different than her friends' experiences, she was still able to get to know other students in her class, just in a different way. But



Contributed image

Eastern Oregon University freshman Mandy Fetters directs a virtual scavenger hunt for fellow students. Resident life at the La Grande campus moved to online events due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Fetters said even though the event couldn't be large scale, such as a water day, she was happy with her event.

The first event was a virtual talent show, where students could submit live or prerecorded footage showcasing a talent. Winners were awarded a movie gift basket via mail. Other events included a pet pageant over Zoom and a scavenger hunt over TikTok,

where students had a week to find items in their home and upload a video showing their finds.

"We did it during dead week for a reason," Fetters said about her event. "As people are studying and cramming they tend to get lost and we saw it as a way to take a break. I have gone to events because they are fun or social and a great way to escape from homework and the athlete life."

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY

8:52 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a possible abuse situation in Cove. A deputy began looking into the matter.

10:43 a.m. — A La Grande caller asked about options to deal with feral cats on the 2000 block of Oak Street.

11:35 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of possible sexual abuse at a residence outside La Grande.

3:51 p.m. — An Elgin resident reported being the victim of harassment. A Union County sheriff's deputy followed up and planned to warn a person for telephonic harassment.

9:43 p.m. — La Grande police and medics responded to a vehicle crash with an injury at Riverside Park. Police took a report.

SATURDAY

11:39 a.m. — Law enforcement responded to the 2600 block of Bearco Loop, La Grande, for a person suffering mental or emotional duress. Police also contacted the Center for Human Development Inc. to assist.

2:36 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2300 block of Spruce Street for a juvenile involved in a disturbance. Police returned the youth to his residence and counseled him.

8:38 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of juveniles possessing marijuana on the 1500 block of Walnut Street. An officer arrived and talked to the youth.

10:25 p.m. — A caller complained about possible fireworks going off at Jackson Avenue and Pine Street, La Grande.

SUNDAY

7:09 a.m. — Emergency services responded to Fox Hill Road, La Grande, for a vehicle crash with an injury. A Union County sheriff's deputy took a report.

2:14 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a residential burglary

on the 300 block of South Fifth Street, Elgin. A deputy responded and determined this was a civil matter.

8:19 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office served a restraining order to a person on the 500 block of D Street, North Powder.

9:42 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a domestic disturbance on the 200 block of Fir Street. Police cited a 26-year-old man for harassment.

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North Powder schools make plans to expand summer education

Will now also serve middle and high school students to help them catch up

By **Dick Mason**
The Observer

NORTH POWDER — A bonus opportunity. This is what North

Powder School District students in middle school and high school, who were hurt by the sudden closure of schools in mid-March due to the coronavirus outbreak, are receiving this summer. The district is expanding its annual summer school to include instruction for students in middle school and high school.

Previously the summer school program, which started about a decade ago, served only elementary school students. But this summer it will be open to students in all grades. The four-week summer school starts June 15.

Superintendent Lance Dixon said the addition gives students the opportunity to complete semester classes they may not have due to the mid-March closure, after which only distance education was available. Dixon explained that some students did not complete semester classes following the closure for a variety of reasons, including the fact that some do not excel in distance education settings.

"We wanted to give them the chance to get their semester credits," Dixon said.

Seniors will not be among the students who

will be attending summer school. Dixon said all Powder Valley High School's seniors graduated Saturday.

Dixon anticipates the summer school program will have about 10 middle and high school students and 30 elementary school students. The school will operate Monday-Thursday from 8-11:30 a.m. The district will prepare breakfasts and lunches for free for all students.

The summer school also represents the first time since mid-March that teachers will be providing instruction to students face-to-face.

"Our teachers are pretty excited about (the chance to again have students in their classrooms)," Dixon said.

The superintendent said this spring's school closure and the distance education that followed were not something teachers welcomed.

"I'm sure nobody went into education (so they could) not be around kids," he said.

Teachers and students at the extended summer school will be required to adhere to the state's COVID-19-driven social distancing rules. This means no more than 10 students in a classroom at a time.

Dixon said rules like this will actually help students because many learn best in small group settings.

Martin Urban Girrard

July 12, 1928 - May 29, 2020



Martin Urban Girrard, passed away May 29, 2020 at Grande Ronde Retirement Center. A Viewing will be held at Loveland Funeral Chapel (a maximum of 50 people in the chapel please) on Thursday, June 11, 2020, 11:00-1:00 pm. The Funeral Service will begin at 2:00 p.m. at Loveland Funeral Chapel. Graveside service will follow at Grandview Cemetery. For those who are

unable to attend the service, and would like to watch it live, please go to our website, lovelandfuneralchapel.com, and click on the "Funeral Videos" button a little before the service starts.

Martin was born July 12, 1928 in Seattle WA, to Harry and Neoma (Thompson) Girrard. Martin grew up in Eastern Oregon (Huntington, Weatherby, Medical Springs and Pondsosa). He graduated from Huntington High School in 1946. He met Harriet Cunningham in Huntington and followed her to Perry. They married in 1948 and celebrated 67 years of marriage together. They raised three sons in La Grande.

Martin was employed by La Grande Fruit, Mt. Emily Lumber Company, Pepsi Cola Bottling Company, and he retired from Borden Chemical, in La Grande, OR. Martin was a hard working, honest, loyal, dedicated man to both his work and family.

Martin enjoyed hunting, fishing, waterskiing, snowmobiling, golfing, gardening and bowling. Martin was one of the top five bowlers at Blue Mountain Lanes for maintaining a high bowling average. He especially enjoyed crappie fishing with his friends and family. He rode many seasons throughout Eastern Oregon on a snowmobile with family and friends. Other favorite activities involved camping, going for rides in the mountains, and enjoying stories and laughter around a campfire.

He was a past member at the La Grande Eagles Lodge, La Grande and Lake Havasu Elks Lodges, and La Grande Country Club.

He spent hours pulling his Grandkids on skies and tubes behind his boat and enjoyed fishing. He celebrated his 75th birthday water skiing at Hells Canyon. He liked growing peaches, apples, green beans, strawberries, cucumbers and tomatoes. Martin had a green thumb, enjoyed gardening and had a beautiful yard with lots of flowers.

He enjoyed traveling to see family in the U.S.; travel to Canada, Mexico, Hawaii, the Caribbean and Alaskan cruises with Harriet and their friends and spending winters in Arizona for many years after retirement.

Surviving sons are Mike Garrard and Rod Girrard (Patti) all of La Grande, OR; grandchildren Katie (Brad) Wright, Rob Garrard, Jamie Garrard, Logan Girrard and Hilary (Brian) Dibble; and 7 great grandchildren. Surviving brothers are Bob and Steve Girrard and 3 nephews of La Grande. He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry & Neoma, his wife, Harriet, and his son, Gary.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made at American Parkinson Disease Association, 135 Parkinson Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305 or go to www.apdaparkinson.org/1907d3/.

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

Upcoming local services



Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel

June 11 — MARTIN GIRRARD: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. viewing, 2 p.m. funeral; Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande (a maximum of 50 people are allowed at a time).

June 12 — MARY McKAGUE: 2 p.m. graveside service; Hillcrest Cemetery, La Grande.

June 13 — RONALD CASWELL: 10 a.m. memorial service and potluck (bring a dish to share); Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

OBITUARIES

Barbara L. Garinger

Summerville
Barbara L. Garinger, 83, of Summerville, died June 7. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Santa Hill

La Grande
Santa Hill, 96, of La Grande, died June 6 at a local care facility. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

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