

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• **IMBLER** — The Imbler School District Board of Directors will meet for a regular session Tuesday, June 16. This meeting will immediately follow the budget hearing, which begins at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend all open sessions of the Imbler School District.

Briefs

City's playgrounds are open again

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Parks and Recreation Department announced that playgrounds at all parks reopened June 10. The city has outlined some suggestions to help those who visit these areas where the risk of contracting the coronavirus is more likely.

In accordance with Oregon Health Authority guidance, Parks and Rec advises people to continue to maintain a distance of 6 feet, wash hands frequently and before and after using playground equipment, and those who can wear face coverings. Playgrounds will not be disinfected by park staff.

More campgrounds opening

LA GRANDE — The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest began opening campgrounds Monday, including the following campgrounds on the Whitman and La Grande districts: Frog Heaven, McCully Forks, Miller Lane, North Fork Catherine Creek, Oregon, South Fork, Southwest Shore, Umapine, Union Creek, Wetmore and Yellow Pine.

Services such as trash collection, potable water and toilets may be limited or unavailable.

Campers should come prepared to be self-sufficient and practice "leave no trace" ethics, including packing out everything they pack in.

A chart of the status of all Wallowa-Whitman recreation facilities is available at www.fs.usda.gov/recremain/wallowa-whitman/recreation.

GRSA plans virtual membership meeting

LA GRANDE — Grande Ronde Symphony Association's annual membership meeting will be held virtually. The Board of Directors of the Grande Ronde Symphony Association will conduct the meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, June 16, beginning at 5 p.m. Those who are interested in attending may call Alice Trindle, GRSA president, at 541-519-7234 for instructions and an invitation.

Births

Grande Ronde Hospital

ANDERSON: To Lana Anderson and Micah Anderson, of La Grande, a son, Nicolai "Nico" Anderson, May 23 at 1:40 p.m. Grandparents are Bruce Anderson, Katy Anderson and Reed Stewart.

DETHLOFF: To Vicky Dethloff and David Dethloff, of Haines, a daughter, Kennedy Grace Dethloff, May 26.

LEGGETT: To Kimberly I. Leggett and Nathan B. Leggett, of La Grande, a daughter, Lucille Grace Leggett, May 22 at 3:10 a.m.

MASSI: To Stephanie Jo Sanders and Michael Vincent Massi, of Elgin, a son, Ryker Vincent Massi, May 28 at 3:53 p.m. Grandparents are Paul Sanders, Billie Jo Roper, Jeff Scott Towell and the late Lorraine Kathleen Canahan.

STEBBINS: To Carrie Kristen Stebbins and Tyson Gerald Stebbins, of La Grande, a son, Ryker John Stebbins, May 20 at 7:17 p.m. Grandparents are John and Teresa Stebbins, Teresa Stratton, and Mike and Kimberly Stratton.

SWALBERG: To Katelyn Rose Davison and Cody Russel Swalberg, of La Grande, a son, Levin Russel Swalberg, May 31 at 7:48 a.m.

Honors

Carolyn Castro awarded local PEO scholarship

LA GRANDE — Carolyn Castro, La Grande High School, has been selected as the recipient of the 2020-21 Union County P.E.O. Tri-Chapter Scholarship.

This \$3,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a graduating senior girl who will be attending Eastern Oregon University, La Grande. Scholarship applications are evaluated for academic achievement, community service, financial need and commitment to higher education.

The scholarship is funded by the three local chapters of P.E.O., a philanthropic organization dedicated to the education of women.

Commission names winners of spring beautification awards

The Observer

LA GRANDE — The residence of Dawn Guentert and C's Storage were chosen as the spring recipients of the city of La Grande Community Landscape and Forestry Commission's beautification awards.

At 1305 Ninth St., Guentert has transformed the space between the sidewalk and the curb into a colorful planting bed. Previously a plain grass lawn, the space is now a charming collection of perennial plants, shrubs and garden accents. The landscaping at the front of the home extends around the corner and along the public access alley. Guentert said her garden is as much for her neighbors as herself, and she enjoys sharing her beautiful yard with passersby.

C's Storage, 3107 Cove Ave., received the commercial award. Members of the selection committee were impressed with both the quality and quantity of the landscape work done on the property — including effective

use of hardscaping, new shrubs and trees, the retention of more mature trees, and overall outstanding maintenance of the property. Owner Steven Hogan said he loves La Grande and is committed to making a positive contribution to the city and its environment.

The city commission recognizes efforts to maintain and improve the beauty and diversity of La Grande's environment through outstanding landscape maintenance and design. Seasonal awards are given to residential and commercial properties that have been carefully landscaped and attract the viewer. These landscapes must be seen from public access and can include one or more of the following criteria: integrating colors and textures of plants, appropriate use of hardscapes, the care and planting of trees in our community forest, good use of space, resource conservation, wildlife habitat, seasonal diversity, food production, owners who have overcome



Submitted photo

The home of Dawn Guentert, 1305 Ninth St., La Grande, was the spring recipient of the residential beautification award from the city's Community Landscape and Forestry Commission.

special circumstances.

Nominations for beautification awards are accepted spring, summer and fall from members of the commission, city employees, neighbors and citizens.

Nominations are now being accepted for the summer beautification awards. Send them to trees@cityoflagrande.org or call the Urban Forestry Division at 541-663-1952.



Submitted photo

C's Storage, 3107 Cove Ave., La Grande, received the spring commercial beautification award from the city's Community Landscape and Forestry Commission.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY

6:54 a.m. — La Grande police took a report for the theft of a gun on the 1800 block of 26th Street.

9:22 a.m. — A caller asked to speak to law enforcement about possible cattle neglect. The animal enforcement officer referred the complaint to Wallowa County.

7:48 p.m. — Law enforcement responded to the 2600 block of Island Avenue for a disturbance and trespassed one person.

TUESDAY

1:09 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office arrested Chucky Eugene Pool, 19, of Elgin, on accusations of second-degree burglary,

second-degree theft, third-degree mischief, second-degree trespass, use of a minor in a marijuana offense and endangering the welfare of a minor.

7:54 a.m. — An Elgin resident reported receiving harassing phone calls.

12:45 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a vandalism to sev-

eral vehicles at East Beakman and East Arch streets, Union. A deputy responded to the scene.

7:41 p.m. — A caller reported a domestic disturbance at Morning Lake outside La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy

responded and separated the parties.

10:16 p.m. — La Grande police responded the 700 block of K Avenue for a loud party. Police counseled juveniles, who said they would keep down the noise.

Group protests in La Grande



Staff photo by Ronald Bond

A small group gathered Tuesday at Cook Memorial Library, La Grande, in the latest protest "in honor of George Floyd and all others" wrongly killed, according to organizer Evelyn Wallace. The group of sign holders and singers grew to about 10-12 people.

OBITUARIES

Santa V. (Veristain) Hill

1924-2020 • La Grande
Santa V. Hill, 96, of La Grande, died June 6 at a local care facility. At her request, there will not be a service.



Santa was born Feb. 13, 1924, in Vale, to Ventura and Rita (Bengochea) Veristain. She resided in Vale and La Grande. She was married to Dr. Gerald M. Hill.

Surviving relatives include her children, Lisa Hill of La Grande and Jerry Hill of Covington, Washington; niece, Kathleen Dawson; and nephews, Fred Crisman and Ralph Bigelow.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Gerald M. Hill; sisters, Filomena Crisman, Juanita Bashford, Avelina Bigelow and Petra McCrary; and brother, Mark Veristain.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Blue Mountain Humane Association, 3212 Highway 30, La Grande 97850.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneral-chapel.com.

Dorothy B. Pope

Elgin
Dorothy B. Pope, 90, of Elgin died June 10 at her home. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory.

Wilma 'Jeane' Nebeker

1927-2020 • Formerly of La Grande
Wilma "Jeane" Nebeker, 92, formerly of La Grande, died June 3 at her home in Winters, California. A graveside service will be held June 12 at 10 a.m. at Hillcrest Cemetery.



Known as Jeane, she was born June 8, 1927, in La Grande. She met her future husband,

Wiley Melven Nebeker, while living in Elgin, and they were married April 9, 1946, in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Salt Lake Temple.

Jeane and Wiley lived on the Nebeker farm in the Mt. Glen area, where they raised their seven children. Jeane was active in the community and in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In 2012, she moved to Winters, California, to live with her daughter.

Surviving relatives include her children, Leland Nebeker, Jan McBride, Kay Padilla, Penny Flory and Scott Nebeker; 34 grandchildren; and 97 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wiley, and daughters, Elayne Nebeker and Jeri DeGagne.

William Wells

Formerly of La Grande
William Wells, 90, formerly of La Grande, died June 5 in Newport.

Upcoming local services



Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel

June 12 — JEANE NEBEKER: 10 a.m. graveside service, Hillcrest Cemetery, La Grande.

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.

Arrangements by Bateman Funeral Home of Newport.

Phyllis Wells

Formerly of La Grande
Phyllis Wells, 90, formerly of La Grande, died May 8 in Newport. Arrangements by Bateman Funeral Home of Newport.

John C. Duffy

La Grande
John C. Duffy, 83, of La Grande, died May 30 at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City. Arrangements by Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel of Baker City.

TEN DEPOT STREET
Open for Take Out Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Appetizers	Entrees
Salmon Cakes \$8 with chipotle mayo	6oz Mushroom Tenderloin \$23
Cheese and Veggie Plate \$5	Shrimp Pasta \$15
Soup	Small Plate
Southwest Chicken	NY Steak Kabobs \$12
Salad	Sandwiches
Taco Salad-beef or chicken \$12	Roast Beef Dip \$14
House Salad \$7	Pulled Pork \$12
Add chicken or shrimp \$3	Desserts
Blue Plate Special \$12	Our Very Best Chocolate Cake \$6
Cioppino	Cheesecake \$6
with salad and sourdough bread	Chocolate Hazelnut Torte \$6
Pie Time	Sunday Night
Strawberry Gala Pie	Family Style Pulled Pork Dinner \$24 with baked beans, fruit salad and cole slaw 4 servings

Market Menu including sides, soups, sauces and dressings @ www.tendepotstreet.com
Pre-Orders Welcome: 541-963-8766

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Gerry Montgomery
90 years old on June 14th -Flag Day

Gerry is truly a gift to the community.

Some brief information about her! She has been volunteering at the Union County Senior Center for the last 20 years. Prior to COVID-19 and when this is all over with: She is currently the Volunteer Coordinator five days a week where she schedules volunteer groups to serve lunch and assist with catering jobs that help support the center. She is also the coordinator of the weekly Bingo Games for the center as well. She teaches water aerobics at Grande Ronde Athletic Club and a stretching class.

She stays very active and enjoys all volunteer commitments that help keep her feeling young at the age of 90. If you ask her she will say "Staying so active has really been a blessing for my health and wellbeing."

Happy Birthday Gerry! We Love you Mike, Carmen & Ashley