

COMMUNITY

Briefs

Wallowology reopens Saturday

JOSEPH — The Wallowology Discovery Center, 508 N. Main St., Joseph, is reopening Saturday, June 27. During the summer, the center will be open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. C.O.D.E. Green (Children Outdoors Discovering & Exploring) and Preschool Science Playtime activities are on hold but the center’s website offers online activities.

Discovery Walks are planned for Saturdays throughout the summer. The two-hour, family-friendly walks are led by Judy Swank and range from easy strolls to difficult hikes. The June 27 walk is moderately difficult and will follow the East Moraine Trail. Registration is required, with each walk limited to no more than 10 people. To register, call 509-923-1965. For more information go to www.wallowology.org.

Recommended Phase 1 guidelines outlined on county website

LA GRANDE — The Union County Board of Commissioners voted last week to recommend citizens voluntarily return to Phase 1 guidelines. This is not a mandate, but a recommendation that the community implement mitigation measures consistent with Phase 1. This decision was made due to the significant rise in confirmed COVID-19 case numbers, concerns for the protection of the community, and concerns for impacts to Grande Ronde Hospital. Voluntary adherence by citizens will apply to individuals, businesses and organizations. The guideline specifics can be found at www.union-county.org/voluntary-return-to-phase-1.

The commissioners also passed a recommendation to urge Union County citizens to adhere to Oregon Health Authority guidance that cloth face coverings or masks should be worn when physical distancing guidelines cannot be observed.

Volunteer opportunities available

LA GRANDE — According to the Northeast Oregon Joint Information Center, many individuals are interested in volunteer opportunities to assist the community through the COVID-19 pandemic. A variety of options are available through the American Red Cross. To apply, go to www.redcross.org/local/oregon.html. Questions can be emailed to heather.stanhope@redcross.org or you may leave a message at the local office at 541-962-0952.

Locally, Union County Community Connection is in dire need of volunteers to assist with the food bank and in the kitchen for a variety of duties. For details on volunteering in Union County, call 541-963-7532; for volunteering in Wallowa County, call 541-426-3840.

Behavioral health webinars held weekly

PORTLAND — The Oregon Health Authority’s Office of Consumer Activities is hosting one-hour webinars for behavioral health consumers and family members every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. Join OCA Director Brandy Hemsley, along with other members of the OHA team, to hear updates and ask your questions.

If you registered before June 2, you will need to re-register and use a new link to access the presentations. Sign up at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1862763319982022158>. After registering, you will get an email with information about how to join using your computer, tablet, or telephone.

For questions or additional support, email brandy.l.hemsley@dhsola.state.or.us.

Glenn ‘Dale’ Clark

1929-2020 • Elgin

Glenn “Dale” Clark, 91, of Elgin, died June 11 at his residence. At his request, there will not be a service.



Known as Dale, he was born May 24, 1929, to Thomas “TB” Butler and Flora Clark.

He was raised alongside his two sisters, Deva and Helen, in Elgin. In 1947 he graduated from Elgin High School.

Dale married Julianne Dunn in 1949. In 1957, they moved to a ranch on Cricket Flat where they raised their four children: Vickie, Galen, Valerie and Jodi.

In addition to being a lifelong rancher and farmer, Dale was a tractor salesman at Baileys Farm Equipment. He and Julianne owned the

D/J restaurant for 20 years and then owned the Sears store in Elgin. Later in life, he worked at RC Liquidators until he was in his late 80s.

Family was very important to Dale. He loved following his grandchildren in all their sports and activities as they were growing up. Baseball was his favorite sport, both playing and watching. He especially loved family baseball games and watching the World Series. He also enjoyed playing card games such as poker, pinochle, tripoley and Shanghai rummy.

Family gatherings happened often. Dale’s favorites included yearly branding, holiday get-togethers and fried chicken dinner on Sundays. He looked forward to his annual family/friend elk

OBITUARIES

Upcoming local services



June 26 — ELAINE BAUM: 2 p.m. graveside service, Hillcrest Cemetery, La Grande.

June 27 — EUNICE SKILLINGS: 11 a.m. funeral, Bramlett Cemetery, Wallowa; 1 p.m. potluck, Wallowa Lions Park.

— *Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande*

camp, which he continued doing into his mid-80s. His grandchildren will

remember him for his sweet nature, big hugs and his never-ending love and support.

Dale had many friends and rarely knew a stranger. He was loved by many in the community who felt he was like one of their own. He never struggled to strike up a conversation or put a smile on someone’s face.

Dale was always giving people a hard time and making jokes and will be remembered for his ornery behavior. He loved to give people nicknames and once he came up with one, he never forgot it.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Julianne; sisters, Deva Spikes and Helen Hargett; daughters and sons-in-law, Valerie and Mike Koller and Jodi and Randy Burgess; 15 grandchildren; 19

great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Flora, and his children, Vickie Clark and Galen Clark.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Dale’s church, which was very important to him, Homestead County Gathering, in care of Tracy Cook, P.O. Box 1237, La Grande 97850.

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

Amanda Smith

La Grande

Amanda Smith, 37, of La Grande, died June 23 at her residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY

7:34 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office responded to a burglar alarm at 10300 S. D St, Island City, and found workers in the building.

1:32 p.m. — A La Grande-area resident reported receiving harassing phone calls. A Union County sheriff’s deputy explained options to the person.

6:43 p.m. — A loud motorcycle on the 1200 block of Hall Street, La Grande, drew a noise complaint, but the machine was gone before police arrived.

10:21 p.m. — La Grande police and fire responded to the Foley Building, 206 Chestnut St., on a fire call. Firefighters checked the building and made sure it was safe.

TUESDAY

7:52 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2100 block of Second Street on a complaint about vandalism to a vehicle. Police took a report.

11:31 a.m. — A caller reported ongoing issues with people living in a travel trailer and motorhome blocking the alley at Lane Avenue and Cedar Street, La Grande.

1:26 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office received a report about juveniles jumping from a bridge at Hu-Na-Ha RV Park, Elgin. A deputy responded and talked to the youth.

8:06 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1800 block of 26th Street for a person suffering a mental health crisis.

Officers provided assistance.

8:58 p.m. — A 911 hangup prompted law enforcement to respond to a possible domestic disturbance on the 3000 block of Q Avenue, La Grande. Union County sheriff’s deputies separated the parties and determined the circumstances did not warrant a mandatory arrest.

Recent Oregon State Police citations and arrests:

Travis Hugh Hickman, 28, of Brogan, on accusations of felony failure to report change of residence as a sex offender, failure to report employment status as a sex offender and failure to provide report on annual basis as a sex offender.

Unearthing history through glass

Baker Valley man digs up handmade beer bottle while excavating stump

By Jayson Jacoby

EO Media Group

PINE CREEK — Phil Reindl was maybe one shovel thrust away from transforming an interesting artifact into a pile of pretty, colored glass shards.

But the sound the blade made on his previous blow prompted him to pause in his excavation.

Reindl, who lives near Pine Creek, at the base of the Elkhorn Mountains about a dozen miles northwest of Baker City, was digging out the stump of a thick old maple tree on June 15.

“It’s a plot I’m making into a garden spot,” Reindl said.

The site is beside Spring Creek, a small tributary of Pine Creek.

He was about 2 feet down when his shovel struck something he initially thought was a rock.

There were plenty of those mixed into the soil caked around the tree’s roots.

But before he raised the tool for another whack, Reindl, still curious about the timbre his shovel had made, recognized the object as glass.

But not the flawless glass of a modern container.

This was a bottle.

And after Reindl had prised the bottle from the dirt and washed it off with water, he could tell, from the air bubbles and some apparent stretch lines on its



Submitted photo

Phil Reindl of Pine Creek found this old beer bottle while digging out a stump. The air bubbles are typical of handmade glass.

neck, that this was a handmade item, crafted before machines churned out perfect clones of such containers by the thousands every day.

He was fascinated. “I thought, ‘holy cow, that’s been there as long as that tree’s been growing,’” Reindl said. “It was amazing it was in such good condition.”

Particularly after he banged it with his shovel.

“It’s really stout,” Reindl said.

He and his partner, Cindy Birko, went online to do some sleuthing.

They were not without clues.

The base of the bluish-green bottle is emblazoned with “A.B.G.M. Co.” arrayed in a rainbow shape around the numbers “4” and “5.”

Reindl and Birko quickly learned that the bottle was likely made by the Adolphus Busch Glass Manufacturing Company, and probably in the late 1800s or early in the 1900s.

Busch was a co-founder, with his father-in-law, Eberhard Anheuser, of perhaps the most famous beer-brewing outfit in history.

Anheuser-Busch created the Budweiser brand, and the bottle’s original contents might well have been about a pint of that very beer.

“It’s really fascinating,” Birko said. “We think it’s tied into the mining history of the area.”

Birko said the first structure on the 5-acre property where she and Reindl have lived since 2017 was a miners’ cabin, although they don’t have any detailed information about the cabin or when it was built.

Reindl said he has found one other artifact, a rusty gold pan, in the creek.

Reindl said he’s thankful the blow that revealed the bottle was made with the shovel rather than with the other tool with which he was battling the roots.

That’s a pulaski — a firefighting tool that has an axe on one side of its head and an adze on the other.

Either implement would have been more likely to shatter the bottle.

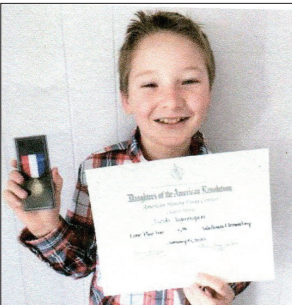
Reindl and Birko plan to keep the bottle, at least for now. They said they might consider donating it to a museum, such as the Baker Heritage Museum.

Wallowa fifth-grader wins state essay contest

EO Media Group

WALLOWA — Jacob Journigan, a fifth-grader in Jennifer Gibbs’ class at Wallowa Elementary, not only won the Daughters of the American Revolution essay contest at the local level (Lone Pine Tree Chapter), but went on to win at the very challenging state level.

The contest topic was to imagine if you were a pilgrim sailing on the Mayflower. For his winning essay, “The Voyage of the Mayflower: The Journey,” Jacob received



Submitted photo

\$50 and a medal.

Had the COVID-19 pandemic not intervened, he would have been invited to attend the state conference.

EOU graduation draws thousands of views

EOMG staff

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University held a virtual graduation on June 13. Pre-recorded speeches were edited together and viewed on a livestream by 700 people. Since then the stream has been watched over 7,000 times, according to the university.

“This was our first time attempting something like this and our staff went above and beyond to put it together over the last

couple of months.” EOU president Tom Insko said in a press release.

The university awarded 343 degrees with more to be given as faculty review graduation applications. If all applications are approved, the university will award 641 undergraduate degrees and 87 master degrees.

EOU anticipates that students will return in the fall for classes and an in-person ceremony is in the works.

MILESTONE

Charlotte Rankin — 90th birthday



Submitted photo

Charlotte Rankin, of Island City, will celebrate her 90th birthday June 28.

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Sandwiches Roast Beef Dip \$14 Hawaiian Chicken Sandwich \$12	Sunday Pie Time Strawberry Gala Pie \$4

Blue Plate Special \$12
Snapper with Mango Salsa,
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