

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• LA GRANDE — The city of La Grande’s Urban Renewal Agency and Urban Renewal Advisory Commission will meet Wednesday, July 29, beginning at 6 p.m. The meetings will be available for viewing via the city’s scheduled Charter Communications channel 180; on the La Grande Alive website, www.lagrandealive.tv/city-events; or on the Eastern Oregon Alive.TV Facebook page, www.facebook.com/EasternOregonAliveTV. This is a joint special session of the URA and the advisory commission for the sole purpose of considering funding applications submitted by Dry Creek Capital, Hines Meat Company, Raul’s Taqueria and the Voelz property. Public comments will not be entertained regarding items not on the agenda.

Briefs

Translation District board seeks members

LA GRANDE — Blue Mountain Translator District anticipates needing to fill two seats on its board of directors in September. Board members must either be registered to vote in district boundaries or live in a city surrounded by the district and verified to have paid the service charge.

The board is the governing body of BMTD, elected by the people with the powers to direct district activities and oversee staff. Directors usually attend one board meeting per month, assist staff when necessary, and advocate for the district in the community and in Salem. These positions were elected at a special election in 2019 to complete a term ending June 30, 2021. Individuals appointed to these seats will serve until that time, and elections for full four-year terms will be held in May 2021. For more information, contact Alex McHaddad, 541-963-0196 and bmtd.org@gmail.com.

Coronavirus test site locator available in English and Spanish

SALEM — Oregon Health Authority has published a COVID-19 test site locator to help Oregonians find testing sites in their communities. The interactive map is available in both English and Spanish and can be toggled into multiple other languages: go to www.healthoregon.org/covid19testing or www.healthoregon.org/pruebasde-covid19 (Spanish). Oregonians should call the COVID-19 testing site before they go to learn about testing criteria, availability and hours. People who experience COVID-19 symptoms, including fever, cough or shortness of breath, should contact a health care provider to discuss testing.

Menus

Union County Senior Center lunch menu

Pickup 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande. For delivery, call 541-963-7532 before 10 a.m. Age 60+, \$3 suggested donation; all others, \$5.

JULY 28-31

Tuesday: chicken noodle casserole, broiled tomatoes, salad greens, freshly baked wheat bread, fruit, cobbler.

Wednesday: roast beef with horseradish and au jus, mashed potatoes and brown gravy, salad greens, rolls, cake.

Thursday: Philly sandwiches, pasta salad, fresh fruit, oatmeal bars.

Friday: fish and chips, baked beans, fruited slaw, fresh fruit, lemon mousse.

Union County kids free grab & go lunch menu

Pickup 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Riveria Activity Center, 2609 Second St., La Grande. Free for age 1-18; all others, \$4.

JULY 28-31

Tuesday: chicken casserole, veggie sticks, rolls, fresh fruit, ice cream.

Wednesday: ravioli, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, rolls, Jell-O.

Thursday: turkey sandwiches, pasta salad, fresh fruit, Jell-O.

Friday: fish and chips, fruit salad, veggie sticks, cookies.

Caroline ‘Carrie’ (Dillon) Hall

1936-2020 • La Grande

Caroline “Carrie” Hall, 83, of La Grande, died March 23 at Grande Ronde Retirement Residence. She was interred April 1 at Grandview Cemetery in La Grande.

Known as Carrie, she was born Nov. 29, 1936, in Boise, Idaho, to Earl Warren and Hazel (Porter) Dillon. She attended Nyssa High School. After high school, she was enrolled at Boise Junior College and what is now Eastern Oregon University and became an elementary teacher in Eastern Oregon schools.

On June 24, 1964, Carrie married Orel Vern Hall in Nyssa. They eventually went their separate ways.

Carrie enjoyed gardening, bowling, reading and taking walks.

Surviving relatives

include her brother, George Dillon, and her sisters and brothers-in-law, Dorothy and Bob Elmore of Boise and Hazel and Earl Anderson of Shaker Heights, Ohio.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Earl and Hazel Dillon, and brother, John E. Dillon.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice in care of Gray’s West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City 97814.

To light a candle for Carrie or leave a condolence for the family, visit www.grayswestco.com.

Lorna Hearing

La Grande

Lorna Hearing, 83, of La Grande, died July 18 at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

Keith W. Walker

1958-2020 • La Grande

Keith Wayne Walker, 62, of La Grande, died July 19. An outdoor memorial service will be held Aug. 2 at 1 p.m. at Spring Creek. His final resting place will be with his parents in the Island City Cemetery.

Keith was born May 10, 1958, in Mattoon, Illinois, to Ronald Wayne and Patricia Ann (Neal) Walker. In 1967, the family moved to Union. Keith met his future wife, Holly, on May 12, 1979, in La Grande. They were married four months later, on Sept. 13, in Weiser, Idaho, and on the 14th they held another ceremony for friends and family.

Keith worked for the first 15 years of their marriage as a logger and later



started construction and concrete work. For a few years after that, he operated his own business doing home repairs, then he went to work setting up manufactured homes. In his later years, Keith worked for Mike Hampton Paving.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Holly; son and daughter-in-law, Josh and Megan Walker of La Grande; son, Patrick Walker of La Grande; daughter, Melissa O’Quinn of La Grande; brother, Brian Walker of Elgin; five grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ronald and Patricia “Patty” Walker and sister, Rhonda Roe.

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

Upcoming local services

Aug. 2 — KEITH WALKER: 1 p.m. outdoor memorial service, Spring Creek.

— Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

Judith Blevins

La Grande

Judith Blevins, 80, of La Grande died July 24 at Grande Ronde Hospital. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date. Arrangements are by Tami’s Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Halfway.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY

10:23 a.m. — A resident on the 1800 block of 26th Street, La Grande, asked to speak to an officer about an ongoing problem of dogs at large.

2:51 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 600 block of 12th Street on a report of harassment and trespassed one person from the site.

3:05 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office received a report of vandalism on Hess Cabin Road, Union.

7:45 p.m. — A caller reported an aggressive dog on the 1100 block of O Avenue, La Grande.

8:53 p.m. — The Union Coun-

ty Sheriff’s Office responded to a noise complaint and report of possible illegal fireworks on the 500 block of East Beakman Street, Union. A deputy advised the resident to cease.

10:24 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office received a report from Lowell Road, Union, on a report of a train striking a cow.

SATURDAY

3:13 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2200 block of Adams Avenue on a report of an assault. Officers separated the parties involved.

8:22 a.m. — La Grande police cited a 15-year-old male for mis-

demeanors of criminal mischief and trespassing and unlawful applying of graffiti.

9:34 a.m. — A caller reported a dog was killing chickens on the 64900 block of Sammyville Lane, Elgin.

12:58 p.m. — La Grande police received a report from a resident of possible fraud.

4:23 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 100 block of Harrison Avenue for a dispute between neighbors. Police found no crime and decided this was a landlord/tenant issue.

7:40 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of possible child abuse.

8:49 p.m. — The Union

County Sheriff’s Office arrested a 17-year-old male in Elgin for possession of a stolen firearm.

11:45 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of vandalism on the 900 block of Third Street.

SUNDAY

10:51 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office received a report of a burglary of a structure on the 1100 block of Church Street, Cove. A deputy contacted the caller and logged information.

10:58 a.m. — A customer refused to wear a mask at Bi-Mart, 2510 Adams Ave., La Grande. Staff called the police

to trespass the person. The officer arrived, and the mask refuser decided to wear a mask and continue shopping.

4:13 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a domestic disturbance on the 2400 block of R Avenue. Officers cited Jesse Shodin, 46, no fixed address, on two Union County warrants for failure to appear.

6:54 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office cited a 17-year-old male in Elgin for possession of marijuana and a pipe.

9:40 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of an assault on the 600 block of 18th Street. An officer arrived and resolved the situation.

Bentz stumps in La Grande

By Sabrina Thompson

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Republican Cliff Bentz chatted with locals Monday, July 27, in La Grande during a meet and greet in his bid to become the next U.S. representative of the Oregon 2nd District.

Bentz, a former state senator and attorney from Ontario, looks to be the successor to Rep. Greg Walden. The Republican from Hood River is retiring from Congress after 22 years. More than 20 people gathered to talk with Bentz under the under the pavilion at Riverside Park while afternoon temperatures rose well into the 90s.

Those at the event said they want a candidate who will speak his mind on issues, and Bentz said he stood firm on his support for Union County and Eastern Oregon as he discussed his plans for legislation to protect land and water uses.

“If our president is reelected, if we (the Republican Party) maintain control of the Senate, one of my main reasons for running is to do something in this space and work on forest policy, water issues and BPA issues,” Bentz said. “I am going to do my best to help.”

Bentz said he is pro-Trump, pro-life and pro-Second Amendment. Several attendees brought up issues of race and the



Staff photo by Sabrina Thompson

Republican Cliff Bentz, right, talks with locals Monday, July 27, in La Grande during a meet and greet during his campaign to represent Oregon’s 2nd Congressional District in the U.S. House.

Black Lives Matter movement. Bentz said while he does not agree with the violence in Portland as a result of protests, race is a sensitive conversation

topic that requires good management.

“I will be the first to say when it comes to race we can always do better,” Bentz said.

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