

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• LA GRANDE — The La Grande Planning Commission meets Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. The agenda lists public hearings on conditional use permits. The meeting will be held by electronic communication. To listen to the meeting or give public comment on agenda items, call 253-215-8782 (meeting ID 895 5777 4409, password 424419). Public comment may also be submitted by emailing mboquist@cityoflagrande.org prior to the meeting.

• LA GRANDE — The La Grande Rural Fire Protection District meets Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. at the fire hall in Island City.

• UNION — The Union Soil and Water Conservation District board meets Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. via phone. Go to unionswcd.org to view the call-in details. Agenda includes monthly financial statements, staff reports and partner agency reports.

Briefs

Celebrate La Grande goes on — on wheels

LA GRANDE — The 25th annual Celebrate La Grande Community End-of-Summer Block Party will go on this year — with a twist. The free celebration will be a socially distanced drive-thru party held at the Union County Fairgrounds Thursday, Sept. 10, from 5-7 p.m.

Come in your vehicle, wear a mask and take advantage of free hot dogs, bottled water, ice cream, chips and crafts for kids. All items will be individually wrapped and handed to you by volunteers.

Cove senior lunch program begins again

COVE — The Cove senior meal program is starting up again this month. Meals will now be in takeout containers to be picked up in front of the Founders Hall instead of being served inside due to the coronavirus pandemic. The lunch will be ready beginning at noon and can be picked up until 1 p.m. Enter the driveway in front of Founders Hall on Church Street from the north and after picking up your meal exit to the south. Patience is requested as any kinks are worked out for the new procedure.

The menu for the first meal will be meatloaf, potatoes and gravy, green beans and salad with applesauce cake for dessert.

Those on the list will be called beginning Monday, Sept. 7. If you are not contacted, sign up by calling Imie Bristow at 541-568-4545.

Menus

Union County Senior Center takeout lunches

Pickup 11:30 a.m. to 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.

SEPT. 7-11

Monday: closed, Labor Day
Tuesday: mac and cheese with ham, garden salad, sliced melon, bread, sherbet.

Wednesday: fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, spinach salad, rolls, dessert.

Thursday: beef taco salad, chips and salsa, flan.

Friday: Mandarin orange chicken with almonds, rice pilaf, rolls, light dessert.

La Grande School District free takeout lunches

Pickup 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Central, Greenwood or Island City elementary schools, La Grande. Free for age 18 and younger. School ID not required. Includes 1% milk.

SEPT. 7-11

Monday: Labor Day, lunch not served.
Tuesday: chicken and cheese quesadilla, refried beans, salad greens.

Wednesday: popcorn chicken, dinner roll, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn.

Thursday: turkey sub sandwich, steamed carrots, cucumber slices.

Friday: chicken Caesar wrap, broccoli, red peppers.

Program teaches teens how to run a business

By Katy Nesbitt

For the EO Media Group

ENTERPRISE — If small business is the backbone of rural communities, the future lies in entrepreneurship. For a decade, Wallowa County teens have had the opportunity to learn how to run their own business through the Mentor Match program.

Marketing whiz Stacy Green of Enterprise said shortly after she moved to Wallowa County in the early 2000s she saw a mass exodus of young families. Meanwhile, her children's babysitters all wanted to study early childhood education, but Wallowa County school enrollment was plummeting and teachers were being laid off.

"The message to teenagers was the place was dying and it wasn't going to change," she said.

When it came to careers, Green said many youths on a college path considered education, while others looked into fields such as health care, auto and truck repair or beauty school. Occasionally a kid would look at becoming an engineer, but no one was considering computer science, business or marketing.

Yet local businesses were looking for people to fill human resources, accounting, management and sales positions. It became evident, Green said, that more teens needed to get interested in business and entrepreneurship because that's where most of the career opportunities in Wallowa County were.

"We need to change what we say to kids, show them what opportunities are here and help them plug into them," she said.

The teens who have completed Mentor Match ranged from valedictorians



Stacy Green of Enterprise developed a Mentor Match program for Wallowa County teenagers to learn how to run their own business.

Photo contributed by Ashley Burton

PROGRAM DETAILS

• Mentor Match Youth kicks off Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 p.m. with an introductory meeting at Building Healthy Families, 207 Park St., Enterprise. The 10-month program is restricted to 12 participants and all guidelines for COVID-19 will be strictly followed. For more information, call or text Green at 541-398-2314.

to those struggling academically. What Green said she instills in them is there is a whole world out there and great opportunities if they have a competitive spirit and the ability to adapt.

Mentor Match does not use grades, so it removes that fear, and no theory or business principles are taught. Green said the teens learn skills a business or organization wants to "buy."

"We are trying to put them in an experience of owning and running their

own business so it will click for them," she said.

Green said in today's business climate, dominated by restrictions in place to slow the COVID-19 pandemic, adaptability is essential.

"Adapting to changing circumstances is a critical skill needed to survive over the long term and we teach that by having the kids start their own businesses," she said. "They learn they have to deal with a situation or obstacle by removing it or adapting it."

For instance, Green said, when Mentor Match students develop their business ideas they have to keep in mind barriers, such as whether or not they can drive or will have access to a vehicle. Having to adapt is a requirement for an entrepreneur, Green said.

"I ask them, 'How do you pivot when things aren't working or you are hit with a crazy situation?'"

When adaptive measures don't work, sometimes a business completely fails. Green said the teens learn how to fail fast, fail forward and fail successfully.

Failing fast, Green said, is acknowledging something isn't going to work. Failing forward means applying the experience to the next effort. Failing successfully means to keep trying until a business

model works.

"Most people give up and say, 'I wasn't cut out to be an entrepreneur,'" Green said. "We help them retrace their steps and teach that failing is part of the process."

Showing the success of the program, Green said more than 30% of past participants are back in Wallowa County, most working in the business community.

Shelby Graning Eggart is a former Mentor Match participant who owns her own business, Roots Salon in Joseph. She said the program allowed her to be creative.

"I learned that no matter how big or small your business is, it is stressful, it takes a lot of planning and hard work and determination to make your dream a reality," she said. "But every second and action put into it is worth it when you get to see your name on the business you created from the ground up."

As for starting her own salon, she said Mentor Match laid the foundation.

"I don't think there is anything more powerful than knowing the ups and downs in life have brought you to becoming a business owner due to lessons learned and hard work, putting in the time was definitely worth it," she said.

The Wallowa County Mentor Match program will be in-person this year, but the isolation due to the pandemic and dependence on the internet prompted Green to develop an online version for other counties to use.

"The internet is how information is being delivered," she said. "The virus forced me to adapt and quickly. I think it will permanently alter the way we do business."

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2

8:46 a.m. — A caller reported vandalism to a vehicle on the 1400 block of Jackson Avenue, La Grande. An officer responded and took a report.

10 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of possible child abuse. An officer followed-up and passed the information to Oregon Child Protective Services.

3:15 p.m. — Multiple agencies responded to a wildfire off the eastbound side of Interstate 84 near exit 259.

The Oregon Department of Forestry reported crews from the La Grande Rural Fire Protection District, La Grande Fire Department as well as a team from the Wallowa Whitman National Forest assisted in extinguishing the 1/4-acre size blaze that burned in grass and timber outside of La Grande. The state forestry department also reported the cause of the fire is under investigation.

3:21 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a residential burglary on the 74500 block of Highway 82, Imbler.

4:13 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office arrested Todd Wayne Young, 61, for reckless burning and felony failure to report as a sex offender. State court records show he has convictions in the early 90s for sexual abuse. The reckless burning charge stems from an allegation he used fire to damage Oregon Department of Transportation Property the day of the arrest.

8:17 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office responded to the 900 block of Brooks Road, Imbler, on a report of a possible assault and menacing. Deputies arrived and determined the problems were about a tres-

passing situation.

10:53 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2200 block of Jacobs Avenue on a report of vandalism. An officer found people were playing a game and said they would clean up the mess when they finished.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

7:32 a.m. — A caller reported cattle were loose near milepost 8 on Highway 203, La Grande.

8:16 a.m. — A dog chasing chickens on the 64900 block of Sammyville Lane, Elgin, prompted a complaint. The caller said this was an ongoing issue.

10:49 a.m. — A caller on the 500 block of Gale Street, Union, reported speeding vehicles were creating a hazard to pedestrians.

2:59 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report about a burglary of a garage on the 100 block of South Third Street, Union.

5:05 p.m. — An ambulance and law enforcement responded to the 500 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande. Officers and sheriff's deputies assisted medics. Police also took a report for domestic violence.

5:50 p.m. — La Grande police arrested Latarbria Alexandria Ferguson, 29, of La Grande, for unlawful use of a weapon and second-degree assault.

7:16 p.m. — A La Grande resident reported receiving annoying or obscene phone calls. Police warned three people for telephonic harassment.

10:21 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1300 block of Eighth Street on a report of a disturbance. An ambulance transported one person at the scene to Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande.

Man, child, dog rescued after 48 hours in Mount Hood ravine

Associated Press

MOUNT HOOD — A man and his young daughter, along with their dog Buck, were rescued Thursday, Sept. 3, from a ravine where the man had been injured and stuck for more than 48 hours without supplies, officials said.

Peter Munro, a 37-year-old Canby resident, had gone to Kinzel Lake in the Mt. Hood National Forest to set up camp on Tuesday. Munro's wife, Camille Munro, arrived that evening, but found the camp empty.

She figured the rest of the family had gone for a hike, but when no one returned by Wednesday morning, she began searching and found their truck at a nearby trailhead.

Camille Munro called 911 and reported them missing.

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office dispatched a search-and-rescue team and with help from other rescue teams including the Air National Guard, people scoured the remote terrain overnight for any sign of the child and her father.

Around 6 a.m. Thursday, teams found the lost hikers, along with their dog Buck, in a ravine. Peter Munro was hurt and unable to walk. They were found about 1,200 feet below where they had begun hiking roughly two days before. Leila Munro and Buck were uninjured.

Peter Munro was strapped into a basket and carried to a waiting medical crew and transferred to a hospital, officials said.

Leila Munro and Buck were reunited with Camille Munro.

Upcoming local services



Please follow guidelines regarding face coverings and social distancing at all services.

Sept. 5 — CAMILLE HAWKINS: 11 a.m. graveside service, Hillcrest Cemetery, La Grande; watch the livestream at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com (click on "Funeral Videos" near bottom of home page).

Sept. 5 — JOY SMITH: 5 p.m. graveside service, Summerville Cemetery. — *Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande*



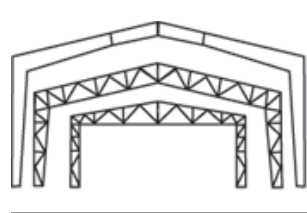
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