

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• UNION — The Union City Council will meet Saturday, Jan. 23, at 9 a.m. for a goal-setting session. On Monday, Jan. 25, the council will have a work session. One of the work session topics will be vacant position on the city council. Both meetings will be at the Union City Hall.

Briefs

RSVP for next Cove senior meal

COVE — The Cove senior meal program is offering takeout lunches on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, meals are picked up in front of Founders Hall. The lunch will be handed out from noon to 12:30 p.m. Enter the driveway in front of the Ascension Founders Hall on Church Street from the north.

The menu for the Feb. 2 meal is chicken fettuccine alfredo, roasted zucchini with parmesan, green salad, French bread and an oatmeal-raisin cookie. There is a \$5 charge per meal. If you haven't been contacted, call Imie Bristow at 541-568-4545 by Wednesday, Jan. 27, to order your meal.

Honors

La Grande student earns academic honor

SAINT PETER, Minn. — Anna Gambill, of La Grande, earned a place on the Fall 2020 Dean's List at Gustavus Adolphus College. The academic honor is awarded students who have earned a 3.7 grade point average (based on a scale in which 4.0 = A) or higher for the semester ending in December 2020.

Gustavus Adolphus College, a private liberal arts college in Saint Peter, Minnesota, was founded in 1862 by Swedish immigrants and named for Swedish King Gustav II Adolf.

Lottery

- Megabucks: \$72 million 1-9-19-26-30-45
- Mega Millions: \$865 million 10-19-26-28-50 — 16 x2
- Powerball: \$640 million 14-20-39-65-67 — PB 2 x3
- Win for Life: Jan. 18 30-49-61-74
- Pick 4: Jan. 19
 - 1 p.m.: 1-1-6-5
 - 4 p.m.: 5-7-3-6
 - 7 p.m.: 3-5-3-9
 - 10 p.m.: 2-5-6-7
- Pick 4: Jan. 18
 - 1 p.m.: 7-7-3-5
 - 4 p.m.: 5-9-6-5
 - 7 p.m.: 6-9-6-0
 - 10 p.m.: 4-9-7-7

DELIVERY ISSUES?

If you have any problems receiving your Observer, call 541-963-3161.

Freida 'Gail' (Perrine) Atwood

1947-2021 • Island City

Freida Gail Atwood, 73, of Island City, died Jan. 10 at Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande. A celebration of her life will be held at a later time.



Known as Gail, she was born May 25, 1947, in La Grande, to Alfred and Leora (Fulp)

Perrine. She was raised in La Grande and graduated from La Grande High School. She spent her grade school years at Mt. Emily Lumber Camp until the school closed.

Gail was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling and loved playing bingo. She was a member of the American Legion, Eagles Lodge, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Oregon Hunters Association. She served as president of the Woodburn Eagles Lodge and La Grande Eagles Lodge and as State Mother for the Eagles Auxiliary.

Surviving relatives include her husband, John Atwood; son, Kyle Atwood and fiancée Staci Ellis of Wichita, Kansas; daughter and son-in-law,

Kimberly and Joe Rachau of Island City; and three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Leora; brother, Michael Perrine; and sister, Aileen Cooper.

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

Susan M. (Willis) Schmittle

1946-2021 • La Grande

Susan Marie Schmittle, 74, of La Grande, died Jan. 17. A graveside service will be held Jan. 21 at 2 p.m. at the Summer-ville Cemetery. Attendees must wear a mask and practice social distancing to meet COVID-19 guidelines. Casual dress is preferred by the family. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Susan was born July 20, 1946, in Wichita, Kansas, to William Willis and Pauline Shipman. The family lived in Wichita until moving to Eastern Oregon. Susan was married to Richard Schmittle and retired from Grande Ronde Hospital. She loved going to Wildhorse, and if she won she would sneak money into your hand and whisper,

OBITUARIES

"Shhh, don't tell Papa." She also enjoyed playing bingo and bunco.

Susan loved to read and watch sci-fi movies. She loved going to lunch with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed going on long drives with her husband, bowling and playing softball. She also loved to hunt and fish. She loved camping and anything else that allowed her to spend time with her family.

Susan had a way of making people feel warm, welcome and loved. She impacted many lives by just simply being Granny.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Richard Schmittle of La Grande; children and their spouses, Rick Schmittle of La Grande, Michelle Schmittle Watson and Douglas Watson, and Mark and Allison Schmittle, all of La Grande; stepmother, Roberta Willis of Boise, Idaho; siblings and their spouses, Jessica Dockweiler, James and Maggie Willis, Barbara and Danny Gilmore, Carl Willis, and William and Melody Willis; and nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her sisters, Pattie and Linda Willis; mother and stepfather, Pauline and

Sid Hamblen; father, William Willis; in-laws, Bill and Atla Schmittle; and brothers-in-law, Carl Schmittle and Alvin Dockweiler.

Jeanine M. Trotter

Island City

Jeanine M. Trotter, 82, formerly of La Grande, died Jan. 18 at a care facility in Walla Walla, Washington. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Edcil J. Bright

La Grande

Edcil J. Bright, 89, of La Grande, died Jan. 20 at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Frank Archambeau

Enterprise

Frank Archambeau, 86, of Enterprise, died Jan. 20 at Wallowa Memorial Hospital. Arrangements are by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

Fern Witherrite

Enterprise

Fern Witherrite, 95, of Enterprise, died Jan. 19 at Alpine House Assisted Living in Joseph. A graveside service will begin at 11 a.m. Jan. 23 at the Joseph Cemetery, with interment to follow. Arrangements are

Upcoming local services



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

Jan. 21 — SUSAN SCHMITTLE: 2 p.m. graveside service, Summerville Cemetery; casual dress preferred.

Jan. 23 — FERN WITHERRITE: 11 a.m. graveside service and interment, Joseph Cemetery.

— calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

Clista 'Chris' Ward

La Grande

Clista "Chris" Noveta Ward, 94, of La Grande, died Dec. 24 at her residence. A graveside memorial service will be held Feb. 5 at 11 a.m. at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Baker City. Arrangements are by Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, Baker City.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY, JAN. 18

8:24 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2300 block of Q Avenue on a request to help with a person experiencing mental illness. The officer contacted the Center for Human Development.

10:57 a.m. — A caller on the 600 block of Albany Street, Elgin, reported fraud. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and explained options.

12:32 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 900 block of 14th Street for a theft and took a report.

5:41 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1600 block of Adams Avenue on a report of a careless driver. Police arrested Damian A. Bernard, 56, of La Grande, on accusations of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

9:31 p.m. — A caller reported a disturbance on the 200 block of West Bryan Street, Union. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and counseled the subject.

TUESDAY, JAN. 19

7:08 a.m. — A caller reported a dog at large on the 1200 block of South Main Street, Union. The animal enforcement officer responded and issued a warning.

9:05 a.m. — A caller at Oregon Department

of Transportation, 3014 Island Ave., La Grande, asked police for assistance regarding COVID-19 guidelines. An officer made contact and gave options.

9:59 a.m. — A caller reported finding a chicken on the 2000 block of Cove Avenue, La Grande. The animal enforcement officer made contact and provided options.

1:28 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the area of Union Street and Harrison Avenue on a report of a careless driver. Police warned one person for reckless driving.

2:42 p.m. — A caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on the 2000 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande. Police responded and counseled the subjects involved.

4:04 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report from Pasco, Washington, of the possible recovery of a stolen firearm. A deputy made contact and will follow up.

5:47 p.m. — Local law enforcement and medics responded to a traffic crash at Island and Monroe avenues, La Grande.

9:20 p.m. — An Elgin resident on the 100 block of South 11th Avenue reported a burglary. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and took a report.

Coming into town for outdoor dining



Dick Mason/The Observer

Mule deer cross Aquarius Way in south La Grande on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021. Mild weather conditions are making it easier for deer to feed on La Grande lawns this winter.

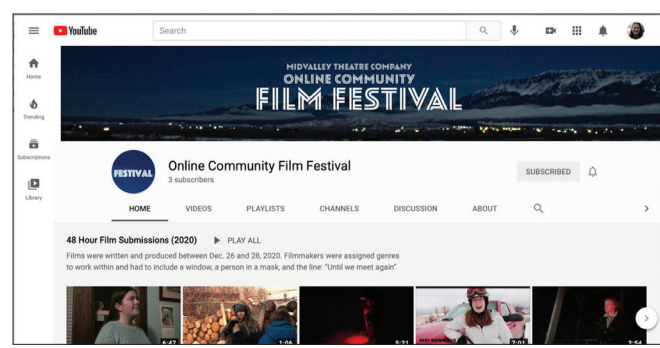
Online film fest draws robust response

Wallowa County Chieftain

LOSTINE — Results from the recent online Mid-Valley Theatre Co. community film festival indicate theater and creativity are absolutely alive and well in Wallowa County, according to a press release.

A bevy of prizes for the event came from Copper Creek Mercantile in Joseph, and included best cinematography for Madison Falk, best direction for Anna Moholt, best script for Foster Hobbs and many more.

Designed as an alternative while live performances are not an option during the coronavirus pandemic, the event drew short films and photographs



MidValley Theatre Co./Screenshot

The MidValley Theatre Co.'s online film festival is free to view online. The inaugural event took place in December 2020.

from all over the county. Released on New Year's Eve for public viewing, the festival offers a little taste of everything, with fantasy, sci-fi, mystery, mockumentary, action, music videos,

landscapes, mixed media and vignettes among the entertainment.

The family-friendly festival gallery remains open and includes seven 48-hour film challenge shorts, 11

open-submission films, a slideshow of selected pictures from six photographers, one audio-only song and a brief awards video, all produced by people in Wallowa County ranging in age from 12 to 77.

Each 48-hour film had to include a window, a person in a mask and the line "until we meet again." Genres for each of those teams were drawn out of a hat. Open submissions drew entries including stop-motion, tutorial, art, documentary, stories and music.

"It is so inspiring and fun to see what people came up with," event organizer Jennifer Hobbs said. "The quality and variety of submissions is wonderful."

Joseph Center extends call to artists

Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — The annual women's exhibit at the Joseph Center for Arts and Culture, Joseph, has extended its call to artists to Monday, Jan. 24, at midnight for its exhibit "Motherhood."

The exhibit is intended to focus on the spiritual, psychic, visceral and

transformative relationship between a mother and child, according to a press release from the center, and will be on display Feb. 26 to April 6.

Anyone who is interested can email submissions to coordinator@josephy.org.

All artwork is welcome. The Joseph Center

also is planning upcoming sessions of spring and summer youth art and is urging youths to sign up now on its website because classes fill up fast.

For more details about the exhibit or classes, call the center at 541-432-0505 or visit its website, josephy.org.

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