

## COMMUNITY

## Meetings

• **UNION** — The Union Rural Fire Protection District will have its monthly board meeting Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting is open to the public. Email union.rfpd@outlook.com or call 541-910-3114 for access to the meeting.

• **LA GRANDE** — The Cook Memorial Library Advisory Commission will meet in regular session Thursday, Feb. 18, at 4 p.m. via Zoom. The public is invited. Email libdirector@cookmemoriallibrary.org for the meeting link.

## Briefs

## Volunteers welcome at woodlot work day

LA GRANDE — The Neighbors Together emergency woodlot is having a work day Saturday, Feb. 13, from 9 a.m. to noon. Neighbors Together needs volunteers to come and help get firewood ready to give away. The lot is at 3309 N. Umatilla St., La Grande. For more information go to [www.neighbors-togetherofunioncounty.org](http://www.neighbors-togetherofunioncounty.org) or call 541-963-9126.

## COVID-19 vaccination clinic held for vets at

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — The Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center, which serves veterans in Northeast Oregon, is holding a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at its main Walla Walla campus Saturday, Feb. 13, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The clinic is open to enrolled veterans age 60 and older from any of the clinic areas, including Union County.

Call 509-525-5200 to schedule an appointment. The clinic will accept appointment requests Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Walk-ins will not be allowed.

The medical center is at 77 Wainwright Drive, Walla Walla; enter the facility via the Poplar Street entrance. The center plans to schedule 500 appointments that day, according to a press release.

## Make a plan for produce this season

COVE — Learn how to plan your garden for less work, less weeds and more produce during Nella Mae's Farm's one-hour online gardening class Tuesday, Feb. 16, beginning at 6 p.m. "Making a Garden Plan & Planting Schedule" will help you plan your garden and your planting so you can enjoy a continuous supply of produce this season.

Whether you are a lifelong gardener or a new COVID gardener, the ongoing gardening classes will cover garden planning information such as scheduling, weed control and management, trellising and pruning, and soil and water considerations.

Class fees are on a sliding scale and all are welcome. To register or for more information, go to [www.nellamaesfarm.com/events/](http://www.nellamaesfarm.com/events/) or visit Nella Mae's Farm on Facebook or Eventbrite.

— The Observer

## Joseph to mull involvement panel

JOSEPH — The Joseph City Council could establish a citizen involvement committee when it meets Thursday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Joseph Community Events Center. The committee was the subject of much discussion at the council's January meeting, receiving strong support from Mayor Belinda Buswell. Former Mayor Peggy Kite-Martin, who served from 2005-09, said in January she is interested in starting a "citizen involvement committee" to provide a forum for public input and a source of education on city matters for residents.

The council also plans to discuss the business registration proposal. This is not a business license but merely an informational registration to keep city government informed of which businesses are operating.

— Wallowa County Chieftain

## Lottery

**Megabucks:** \$1.6 million  
9-19-27-33-38-45

**Powerball:** \$30 million  
1-16-48-49-65 — PB 8 x2

**Mega Millions:** \$68 million  
7-18-21-31-40 — MB 9 x4

**Win for Life: Feb. 8**  
21-63-69-73

**Pick 4: Feb. 9**

• 1 p.m.: 2-2-0-9

• 4 p.m.: 3-8-6-6

• 7 p.m.: 7-6-1-4

• 10 p.m.: 9-1-6-3

**Pick 4: Feb. 8**

• 1 p.m.: 6-4-3-8

• 4 p.m.: 5-7-3-3

• 7 p.m.: 7-2-2-7

• 10 p.m.: 9-0-4-2

## DELIVERY ISSUES?

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

## Anthony 'Tony' R. Boesch

1962-2021 • Summerville

Anthony "Tony" Ray Boesch, 58, of Summerville, died Jan. 29.



Known as Tony, he was born Nov. 20, 1962, in Vancouver, Washington, where he was raised and attended Minnehaha Grade School and Hudson's Bay High School.

Tony married Nicole Raley on July 11, 1993. Coming into the marriage they each had one child. Tony had a daughter, Tiffany, and Nicole had a son, Joshua. Together they had a son, Tristan. The marriage ended in divorce. Later Tony met Sailor Templar and gained another son, Travis.

Growing up Tony loved to trail ride and game on horses (pole bending, barrel racing, keyhole, scurries, etc.). He loved adventuring and grew up loving the outdoors. As an adult he rode snowmobiles, Jet Skis and four-wheelers, and recently he took up riding his Harley with his best friend,

Bryan Wollenweber.

Tony played hard and worked hard. He was a premier brick and stone mason of the Northwest. He was the owner of American Eagle Masonry and went on to own American Eagle Sunrooms. His work was showcased several years in a row in the Parade of Homes. He built the Welcome to Vancouver sign as you enter Washington. One of his latest undertakings was the mill in Whipple Creek Park in Ridgefield, Washington. He took pride in his work and settled for nothing less than perfection. Later he went to college and earned an associate's degree in carpentry.

Surviving relatives include his daughter, Tiffany Vara; sons, Tristan Boesch and Travis Templar; mother and stepfather, Joan and Elvin Peters; stepmother, Sandy Boesch; sister, Joni Billups; brother and sister-in-law, David and Cricket Christianson; and six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harold Boesch, and brother, Rick Haycock.

## OBITUARIES

Memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice in care of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, PO Box 543, Halfway 97834.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.tamispi-nevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispi-nevalleyfuneralhome.com).

## Chauncey E. Doty

1965-2021 • La Grande

Chauncey Edward Doty, 55, of La Grande, died Jan. 31 at his residence. At his request, there will not be a service. Chauncey was born April 18, 1965, in Richland, Washington, to Robert and Linda (Wine-land) Doty. He graduated from high school and attended college for two years.

Chauncey was a devoted and loving husband and father. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, swimming and being outdoors.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Erin; children, Tycie Green, Chauncey Doty Jr., Isaiah



## Upcoming local services



FUNERAL CHAPEL AND CREMATORY

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

**Feb. 12 — JAMES JONES:** 1:30 p.m. rosary and 2 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, La Grande; view the livestream at [www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com](http://www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com) (click on "Funeral Videos" near bottom of home page).

**Feb. 20 — HARRY BIGLER:** 2 p.m. military honors ceremony, Union City Park.

**Feb. 20 — LORI GREENWAY:** 3 p.m. memorial service, Enterprise First Baptist Church.

— calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

## Forrest Green

North Powder

Forrest Green, 76, of North Powder, died Feb. 3 at Life Care Center of Treasure Valley in Boise, Idaho. Arrangements are by Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Halfway.

## Linda McEntarffer

La Grande

Linda McEntarffer, 64, of La Grande, died Feb. 9 at her home. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

## MONDAY, FEB. 8

7:46 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a possible sex crime.

9:48 a.m. — A caller reported a theft of an item from a vehicle on the 300 block of 12th Street, La Grande. An officer made contact, and the caller said the item had been found.

12:54 p.m. — A caller reported two dogs were chasing horses on the 300 block of Church Street, Summerville. The animal enforcement officer responded, found the dogs and returned them to their home.

9:37 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about loud noise from a residence on the 200 block of Gekeler Lane. An officer responded and advised the subjects of the local noise law.

9:56 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office

received a report of an assault that occurred in Union and the victim was at Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande. A deputy responded and took a report.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 9**  
6:30 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a suspicious male on the 2100 block of Adams Avenue. An officer responded and the subject moved on.

10:03 a.m. — An Elgin

resident on the 71500 block of Valley View Road reported their 4-month-old puppy was missing.

11:30 a.m. — La Grande police responded to Ash Street and W Avenue for a two-vehicle collision. Officers took a report.

2:14 p.m. — A caller reported harassment in the 600 block of Third Street, La Grande. An officer responded and counseled the subjects, who left.

3:04 p.m. — A resident on the 1100 block of Willow Street, La Grande, reported burglary to a shed. An officer responded and took a report.

6:03 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a dog biting someone on the 62200 block of Dove Lane, La Grande. The victim was at Grande Ronde Hospital. A deputy responded and took a report.

## RIVERS

Continued from Page 1A

impact to private land owners in the Crow Creek-Chesnimmus drainages," he said. "Private landowners should be compensated if they can't develop. I'm not in favor of putting undue burdens on private property owners in (agency-developed) management plans."

The specific protections for each designated stream-reach will be determined by a management plan developed by the U.S. Forest Service or other agency the bill designated. The vast majority of the proposed designations are on federal lands. The bill has language to ensure nothing in the bill would affect private property rights on the short stretches on private lands, according to Wyden spokesperson Hank Stern.

The new legislation includes the requirement that federal land managers assess wildfire risks in the stream corridors, implement a plan to reduce wildfire risks to homes and businesses near Wild and Scenic Rivers, assist local governments mitigate wildfire risks and restore water quality should a fire strike near a Wild and Scenic River.

"This is a remarkable achievement by Sen. Wyden," said Gregg Haller, executive director of the Pacific Rivers Council. "It's a landmark effort to build climate resiliency into our watersheds, including concerns for drought, increased wildfire, stream temperatures for fish habitat. It's a very forward-looking bill and it makes Oregon the leader in this area."

The list of streams is long. All streams and reaches, and their proposed designations, are listed in the River Democracy Act of 2021, available at [www.wyden.senate.gov/download/river-democracy-act-of-2021-bill-text](http://www.wyden.senate.gov/download/river-democracy-act-of-2021-bill-text).

In Wallowa County, about 440 miles of rivers and streams in the drainages of Joseph Creek and the Imnaha, Grande Ronde and Snake rivers are in the bill. It includes extending



Ellen Morris Bishop/For The Observer

The Grande Ronde River flows here about 8 miles below Troy. A bill from Oregon U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley would expand the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, designating about 42 miles of the Grande Ronde River as Wild where it runs through the Umatilla and/or Wallowa Whitman national forests.

the Snake River's designation in Oregon from the current 66.9 miles to 71.4 miles by including the reach from Cache Creek to the Oregon-Washington border. Portions of previously undesignated creeks that drain into the Snake, Imnaha, Grande Ronde and Wallowa rivers are included. For example, the Snake River tributaries Cache Creek, Knight Creek, Cook Creek and most of Jim Creek would be designated as Wild rivers.

The Imnaha River and its tributaries get an upgrade, with the upper 6 miles of the Imnaha designated Wild, as well as 10 miles from Indian Crossing to Cow Creek designated Recreational, and the last 4 miles, Cow Creek to the Snake River, designated as Scenic. The upper 17.4 miles of Lightning Creek, the upper 16.9 miles of Horse Creek, and the upper 17.1 miles of Cow Creek, all on the Wallowa Whitman National Forest, would be designated Wild.

In Big Sheep Creek, the new legislation would classify as Scenic the 12-mile segment from the Eagle Cap Wilderness boundary to the USFS boundary as well as another lower 3.4 mile stretch that also

flows through USFS management.

Similarly, Joseph Creek and many of its tributaries would receive designations including 38.1 miles of Joseph Creek designated as Wild and 19.5 miles of upper Chesnimmus Creek labeled as Recreational. Devil's Run Creek and Peavine Creek would be designated as Wild, as would portions of Dead-horse and Cottonwood creeks.

The Grande Ronde River Basin includes about 210 miles of newly designated streams. That includes 42.2 miles of the lower river designated Wild, as well as 10 miles of the river's headwaters in the Elkhorn Mountains. The stretch from the confluence with the Wallowa River to the Umatilla National Forest would be designated as Recreational. Grande Ronde tributaries receiving designations include the upper portions of Catherine Creek, 8.7 miles of Lookingglass Creek, and 9.5 miles of Indian Creek.

Additional protection is provided for the North Fork of the John Day River, the South Fork of the John Day River, the Power River and the portions of its tributaries on the Wallowa Whitman National Forest,

including Dutch Flat, Van Patten, Rock and Killamacue creeks.

More than 2,500 individuals and organizations nominated approximately 15,000 miles of streams according to Wyden and Merkley's joint press release announcing the bill.

The Nez Perce Tribe nominated 109.7 miles of streams for inclusion in the new legislation, including 21.05 miles of Joseph Creek owned by the Bureau of Land Management along with the Nez Perce Tribe, and 18.83 miles of Broady Creek on U.S. Forest Service and Nez Perce Tribal land as well as a small amount of private property. These and other nominated streams are important to wild steelhead, providing an estimated 30.7% of these fish within the Grande Ronde River Basin, according to the Nez Perce

Tribe's nominating letter.

"The waterways of the Nez Perce Tribe's homeland, which include what is today Northeast Oregon, hold particular significance for our people. The opportunity to provide additional protections through Wild and Scenic designation to areas, such as the Joseph Creek Watershed in northeast Oregon, that have critical cultural and ecological resources important to our tribal members, is a welcome one and we appreciate Senator Wyden's leadership on this issue," said Shannon Wheeler, chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.

The U.S. Senate's Energy and Natural Resources Committee is reviewing the Rivers Democracy Act. Stern said it is hard to predict when the bill might reach the Senate floor for a vote.

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