

COMMUNITY

Meetings

• UNION — The Union City Council will meet Monday, March 8, at Union City Hall. A work session will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. Water and sewer rates will be discussed.

• LA GRANDE — Health Care for All Oregon-Union County invites the public to a virtual meeting Tuesday, March 9, at 6 p.m. via Zoom. The program will provide information for voicing your opinion on current state and federal legislation for single-payer health care. For more information email unioncounty@hcao.org.

• LA GRANDE — The La Grande Planning Commission will meet Tuesday, March 9, at 6 p.m. by electronic communication and may be viewed on Facebook (www.facebook.com/LaGrandeCityManager). The meeting will include a public hearing on conditional use permit application for Airbnb rentals on H Avenue. Community members may submit comments or questions in writing in advance of the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to mboquist@cityoflagrande.org and must be received by 5 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Briefs

Parents of LHS seniors invited to meeting

LA GRANDE — A meeting for the parents of La Grande High School students will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 11, in the LHS Auditorium. This meeting is for parents only (no students). The purpose of the meeting is to update families about upcoming senior activities and events and parent volunteer opportunities.

Lottery

Megabucks: \$2.6 million
6-9-30-36-45-47

Powerball: \$123 million
21-40-44-50-55 — PB 16 x3

Mega Millions: \$43 million
4-8-13-34-64 — MB 18 x2

Win for Life: March 3
46-53-60-72

Pick 4: March 4
• 1 p.m.: 8-9-3-6
• 4 p.m.: 3-3-9-2
• 7 p.m.: 3-2-0-3
• 10 p.m.: 4-5-1-0

Pick 4: March 3
• 1 p.m.: 4-8-9-9
• 4 p.m.: 6-9-5-8
• 7 p.m.: 0-7-6-8
• 10 p.m.: 2-1-1-1

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

Pat Lynn

1947-2021 • Enterprise

Pat Lynn, 73, of Enterprise, died Feb. 21.

Pat was born April 3, 1947, in Texarkana, Texas, to Benjamin James and

Beatrice Merle (Ward) Lynn. He attended Compton High School in California until he enlisted in

the U.S. Air Force at the age of 17. He attended boot camp in Chicago and was then stationed at March Air Force Base in California.

Pat was involved in a tragic car accident in 1966 when he was only 19 in Riverside, California, suffering serious burns on more than half of his body. Over the next few years he was hospitalized in Fort Sam Houston and Lackland, Texas, and then to California.

Pat later moved to Paramount, California, where he then married a former classmate from Compton, Peggy Shingleton. Their daughter, Tracy Lynn, was born Oct. 7, 1968. Pat and Peggy divorced a few years later but remained close friends and copar-

ents until Peggy's death in 2014.

In 1979 Pat married Lori Nickell. They lived in Sacramento, California, with their daughters, Tracy and Mandy, and sons, Sean, Michael and Patrick, until the family relocated to Wallowa County in 1985. Pat and Lori were married for 16 years.

Pat enjoyed golfing, storytelling, 1950s music and watching his grandchildren play sports, perform in plays and music programs. He loved his family dearly and especially loved attending birthday parties, holiday parties and family barbecues.

Pat volunteered for Meals on Wheels and coached boys Little League for several years. He was known to many people as the "sweetest man in the world."

He was kind and offered his wisdom to anyone who asked for it. He will be missed by all who love him, but he has left behind precious memories, funny antics and a knowledge that if he liked you, he loved you.

He was preceded in death by his mother,

OBITUARIES

Beatrice Merle Ward; father, Benjamin James Lynn; stepfather, Lino Montoya; daughter, Tracy Lynn; brother, Denver Arnold; and sisters, Carolyn Trujillo and Joanne Gallegly.

Lori Greenway

Joseph

Lori Greenway, 61, of Joseph, died Jan. 10 at her home. A memorial service will be held March 13 at 3 p.m. at the Enterprise First Baptist Church. Arrangements are by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

Raymond M. Johnson

La Grande

Raymond M. Johnson, 89, of La Grande, died March 1 at a local care facility. A graveside service will be held March 19 at 11 a.m. at the Summerville Cemetery. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Agnes (Wilson) Sudway

1933-2021 • Elgin

Agnes Sudway, 87, of Elgin, died Feb. 26 at a local care facility. At her request, there

Upcoming local services



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

March 13 — LORI GREENWAY: 3 p.m. memorial service, Enterprise First Baptist Church.
March 19 — RAY-

MOND JOHNSON: 11 a.m. graveside service, Summerville Cemetery.

March 20 — CHARITY HENRY: 11 a.m. memorial service, La Grande Church of Christ.

April 24 — BECKY ROBERSON: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Elgin Community Center.

— calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

will not be a service.

Agnes was born Aug. 26, 1933, in Death Valley, California, to Tom and Susie (Bilson) Wilson. She resided in Death Valley for 32 years, then lived in Gemmel, Minnesota, for nine years until moving to Elgin, where she lived for 46 years.

Agnes attended schools in Death Valley and graduated from Death Valley High School. On Sept. 30, 1964, she married Edward Sudway in Goldsfield, Nevada.

Agnes was a devoted mother and loving wife. She enjoyed oil painting

and received many awards and ribbons. She also was an avid reader.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Edward; son, Charles Sudway of Pahrump, Nevada; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one niece and one nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Susie; brother, Clyde Wilson; son, Tom Sudway; and nephew, Walkeen Wilson.

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

UNION COUNTY SENIOR CENTER TAKEOUT LUNCH MENU

Pick up 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. Public is welcome. Inquire about family meals and prepackaged sides.

MARCH 8-12

Monday: chef salad, soup, bread, fruit, dessert.
Tuesday: Swedish meatballs over egg noodles, salad greens, fruit, dessert.

Wednesday: fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, steamed vegetables, salad greens, cake.

Thursday: BLT sandwich, steak fries, fruit, brownie.

Friday: beef wrap, steak fries, fruit.

CHILDREN'S FREETAKEOUT BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENU

Free breakfast and lunch for anyone age 18 and younger. Pick up 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Central, Greenwood or Island City elementary schools, La Grande. Fresh vegetables, seasonal fruit and 1% milk are offered daily in addition to the menu items. Served at La Grande schools for on-campus students.

MARCH 8-12 Central and Island City Elementary schools

Monday: BREAKFAST: strawberry toaster pastry, cheese stick, canned fruit; LUNCH: turkey deli sandwich, potato chips, baby carrots.

Tuesday: BREAKFAST: mini waffles, orange juice; LUNCH: crispy chicken sub, French fries.

Wednesday: BREAKFAST: apple frudel, fresh fruit; LUNCH: yogurt pak with bagel, red peppers.

Thursday: BREAKFAST: strawberry yogurt with graham crackers, orange juice; LUNCH: chicken Caesar wrap, corn.

Friday: BREAKFAST: cinnamon-cream-cheese-filled bagel, fresh fruit; LUNCH: walking taco, baby carrots.

Greenwood Elementary School

Monday: BREAKFAST: oatmeal-chocolate chip bar, cheese stick, fruit or juice;

LUNCH: crispy chicken sub, baby carrots.

Tuesday: BREAKFAST: breakfast burrito, fruit or juice; LUNCH: ham deli sandwich, broccoli florets.

Wednesday: BREAKFAST: strawberry toaster pastry, cheese stick, fruit or juice; LUNCH: Italian meatball sub, red peppers.

Thursday: BREAKFAST: mini pancakes, fruit or juice; LUNCH: soft beef taco, corn.
Friday: BREAKFAST: long john, fruit or juice; LUNCH: hot dog, tator tots.

La Grande middle and high schools

Monday: BREAKFAST: oatmeal-chocolate chip bar, canned fruit; LUNCH: BBQ chicken sandwich, potato chips, baby carrots.

Tuesday: BREAKFAST: yogurt pak with bagel, orange juice; LUNCH: ham deli sandwich, goldfish crackers, radishes.

Wednesday: BREAKFAST: waffles, fresh fruit; LUNCH: chicken taco, red peppers.

Thursday: BREAKFAST: bacon, egg and cheese on a biscuit, orange juice; LUNCH: walking taco, corn.

Friday: BREAKFAST: cinnamon roll, fresh fruit; LUNCH: BBQ meatball sub, green peppers.

Diaper drive benefits CASA

The Observer

LA GRANDE — The local chapter of Court Appointed Special Advocates is partnering with Icon Credit Union in a diaper drive to benefit local families. Collection efforts include five diaper drop-off locations and two "Fill the Car" events.

The goal is to collect 50,000 diapers, but CASA also will accept cash donations at Icon Credit Union, 209 Depot St., La Grande. According to a press release, a \$5 donation can provide 23 diapers for local children in need.

The diaper drop-off locations are: Icon/Horizon Credit Union, 209 Depot St., Brother Bear Cafe, 1009 Adams Ave., Union County Chamber of Commerce, 207 Depot St., Elkhorn Media Group in La Grande and Main Street Motors, 311 W. Main St., Enterprise.

The "Fill the Car" events are March 25-26, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Main Street Motors, Enterprise, and March 29-31, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Icon/Horizon Credit Union, La Grande.

C. Gene Hand III

April 13, 1940 - February 19, 2021

C. Gene Hand III, of Eugene, OR, passed away at age 80 on February 19, at his home surrounded by family.

Gene was born on April 13, 1940 in Walla Walla, WA, to Claude Eugene Hand II and Erillean Hand. He was raised and educated in Walla Walla and La Grande, OR, graduating from Eastern Oregon University in 1962 where he won racing awards on the competitive ski team and served as a ski instructor.

After spending six months traveling in Europe, he later married Patsy Hutchinson in La Grande.

Gene served as a sergeant/specialist 5 in the U.S. National Guard and active army reserves for several years and he shared fond, yet scary memories of training at Fort Ord in California and standing guard all night during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

After working as a top sales agent and staff manager at American National Insurance Company in Eugene, he founded C. Gene Hand & Company in 1971, a solo and joint investment venture focusing on nursing homes, skilled nursing and residential care facilities in the Northwest.

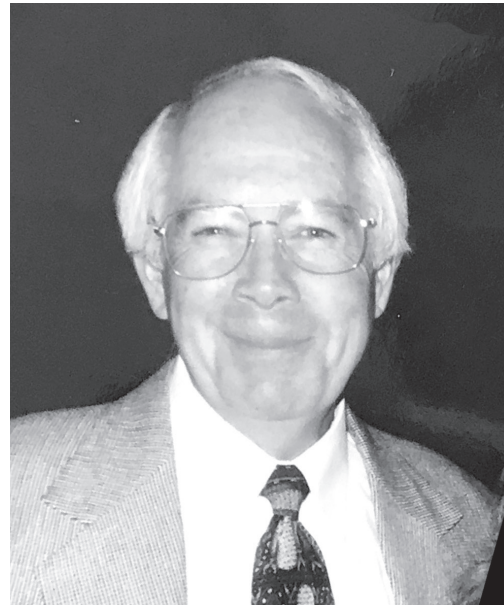
With an Oregon principal broker real estate license, Gene also arranged multi-state financing for commercial real estate with an emphasis on the senior housing market.

A dedicated member for more than 30 years of the Eugene Executives Association (EEA), Gene also served on many boards of directors over the years, including for the Eugene Hotel Retirement Center, Payless Longterm Care Pharmacy and The Salvation Army.

A true renaissance man, he couldn't imagine ever being bored. He was an avid reader with a curious mind, with many skills and passions including playing classical and jazz piano, archeology and geology. He was involved in a family gold mining project with a hard rock claim near Halfway, Oregon, producing a grapefruit-size sample of white quartz and gold currently at the Smithsonian Museum.

Gene had a lifetime fascination with cars and engines since growing up working at his father's Ford dealership. That's where he learned to build cars, including a cherry red and chrome 1927 Model T Roadster which was shown on the national hot rod circuit and featured in the February 1966 issue of Hot Rod magazine.

He earned his pilot's license, enjoyed hiking and backpacking on Steens Mountain and sold his metal sculptures in Ore-



gon and California in his 20s. He amassed an impressive Lionel train collection that he kept in mint condition until selling it a few years ago.

Gene's daughters have fond memories of him coaching their t-ball and softball teams. He was also a great dancer, especially of the tango, much to his wife's amazement.

His family was particularly proud when he decided in his 60s to completely rebuild and restore two Gar Wood antique mahogany speedboats including creating custom engine parts and doing the same for a Chris-Craft antique speedboat while a member of the Antique & Classic Boat Society. His artistry and attention to detail created beautiful, one-of-a-kind masterpieces.

Around this same time, Gene also restored and rebuilt a 1948 Hudson with a flathead V-8 engine which he raced at the Bonneville Salt Flats, winning two land speed racing world records, one which still stands today.

His warmth, steadfast support and hilarious sense of humor will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy of Eugene; daughter Andrea Hand of Portland; daughter Stephanie Hand & son-in-law Scott Goldstein of Eugene; daughter Erica Hand & son-in-law Shem Malone of Portland; four grandchildren: Zachary and Riley Goldstein, Navarre and India Malone; sister and brother-in-law, Cheryl and John Howton of La Grande.

In lieu of funeral services due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the family will hold a private memorial later in the year.

James Elbert Thompson

March 8, 1941 - October 23, 2020

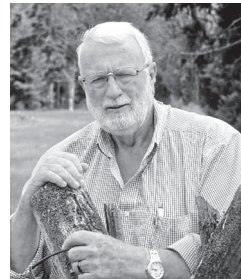
Jim Thompson, of Cove, passed away October 23, 2020 at his home with his family near his favorite elk-viewing spot. Jim was 79. A family graveside service was held at the Cove Cemetery on October 30, 2020.

James Elbert (Jim) Thompson was the youngest of three children born to John Elbert Thompson and Mary Dickerson Thompson on March 8, 1941 in Butler, Missouri, on the family dairy farm. Jim moved westward with his family to the Parma, Idaho, area in 1945 and eventually, in 1950, to the Thompson farm near the Big Bend of the Snake River area not far from Adrian, Oregon. Growing up on the farm, Jim learned the value of hard work from his parents.

While attending high school, Jim was a member of student government, the Adrian Antelope Letterman's Club and the school's FFA program. It was in high school that Jim's love of athletics grew. Jim excelled in football, basketball and baseball for the Antelopes earning many district, regional and state honors. Highlights included the Antelopes 1958 and 1959 Oregon high school baseball titles. Jim graduated with the Adrian class of 1959. After high school, football led Jim to Boise Junior College (now Boise State University) before eventually continuing his education at Eastern Oregon College (now EOU) graduating in 1963 with a degree in education.

That same year, Jim married Barbara (Bobbi) Johnson on June 16, 1963 in Vale, Oregon, beginning a 57-year marriage. Later, in December, Jim was hired by the La Grande School District to teach fifth and sixth grade at the old Island City School. In all, Jim spent 32 years working for the school district with additional stops at Central Elementary School, the old La Grande Junior High School and in 1976, Jim became the first principal of the new La Grande Middle School. Jim's many years in the school district resulted in many close relationships with staff members and students and their families. After retirement, Jim always looked forward to the next conversation he'd have with someone he'd worked with or had as a student in school. These moments were especially treasured by Jim!

In 1990, Jim and Bobbi purchased a small acreage in Cove, Oregon. Working tirelessly but cherishing every moment, they would plant a large garden each year, tend their many fruit trees and maintain several trout ponds. When not keeping the place up, Jim would enjoy watching the deer,



elk and turkeys that frequented his home. Jim was involved in the Cove Sportsman Club and a supporter of the Cove School District. Jim's love of athletics continued throughout his lifetime as he could frequently be spotted near a playing field or seated courtside for ballgames in La Grande, Cove or Imbler where he enjoyed rooting for his grandchildren at their events and games.

Through the years, Jim enjoyed coaching his sons' Little League teams, restoring and driving classic pickups and Mustangs, hunting and fishing with treasured friends and family, gun collecting and enjoying the splendor of all that nature provided. But Jim's greatest love was that for his family, their accomplishments and their endeavors. He was a trusted source of advice and a giver of encouragement. Jim's love for his family was unconditional. He was loyal, generous and caring and worked to instill confidence into others through his words and actions.

Jim seemingly never met a stranger and could find something to visit about with nearly anyone. Jim was known to never be at a loss for words - for very long! Jim was a keeper of treasured stories and memories and a teller of a good hunting or fishing tale. His kindness and generosity will be remembered by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Jim is survived by his wife, Bobbi, of Cove, Oregon; son Todd and wife, Sophia Thompson, La Grande, Oregon; son Troy Thompson and wife, Jody Fife, Roseburg, Oregon; granddaughter Demetria Thompson, La Grande, Oregon; grandson Nick and wife, Holly Thompson, Imbler, Oregon and two great-grandchildren, Ava and Taysom Thompson; stepsister Margy Thompson and her family; stepbrother Win Ludy and family; sister-in-law Ginny Johnson and family; and numerous other extended family members. Jim also is survived by many dear, long-time friends.

Jim was preceded in death by his father John Thompson; mother Mary Ludy; twin sisters Arlene and Alice Thompson; step-father Reginald Ludy; in-laws Bill and Frances Johnson; and brother-in-law Bill Johnson.

A celebration of Jim's life is planned later this year. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to make a donation in Jim's memory may choose The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Imbler Education Foundation, or a charity of choice.