

COMMUNITY

Briefs

Regional DAR chapter in-person gathering set

BAKER CITY — The regional Lone Pine Tree Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution will resume in-person meetings Friday, March 12, at noon at the Sunridge Inn, Baker City. The group alternates meetings between Baker City and La Grande. Visitors are welcome. A no-host lunch is offered prior to the meeting. All health-safety precautions will be followed regarding face masks and social distancing.

Island City will resume water and sewer service disconnection

ISLAND CITY — The city of Island City will resume the practice of disconnection of utility services for unpaid water and sewer bills beginning Wednesday, March 17.

The city temporarily suspended disconnections due to COVID-19. To avoid disconnection, delinquent residents must contact city hall immediately to pay their past due amount or set up a repayment plan to avoid disconnection. Call city hall at 541-963-5017 for information.

Meals on Wheels needs drivers

LA GRANDE — Community Connection of Northeast Oregon Inc. seeks volunteers to be Meals on Wheels drivers. For more information, call Sydney Gleeson at 541-963-7532, ext. 1104.

Honors

Union County students earn collegiate honors

Klancy E. Poor, of Union, earned a place on the University of Wyoming honor roll for the fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year. To qualify for this distinction, students must have been enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours and earned a 3.4 or better grade-point average. The University of Wyoming, in Laramie, provides undergraduate and graduate programs to 12,249 students.

James Thurman, of La Grande, ranks among the top 2% of students in his college at Iowa State University. Thurman is a freshman enrolled in the College of Engineering. The university was founded in 1858, in Ames, as the Iowa Agricultural College with classes in agriculture and mechanical arts, now called engineering.

— The Observer

Lottery

- Megabucks:** \$2.7 million
11-13-18-24-27-35
- Powerball:** \$138 million
11-31-50-52-58 — PB 18 x4
- Mega Millions:** \$55 million
10-11-17-27-54 — MB 20 x2
- Win for Life: March 6**
14-44-46-52
- Pick 4: March 7**
• 1 p.m.: 5-3-7-0
• 4 p.m.: 1-1-0-8
• 7 p.m.: 1-9-8-4
• 10 p.m.: 0-0-5-3
- Pick 4: March 6**
• 1 p.m.: 5-9-9-2
• 4 p.m.: 3-2-7-6
• 7 p.m.: 6-6-3-4
• 10 p.m.: 3-6-2-0
- Pick 4: March 5**
• 1 p.m.: 0-0-8-5
• 4 p.m.: 4-3-6-6
• 7 p.m.: 4-6-8-2
• 10 p.m.: 7-8-6-0

DELIVERY ISSUES?

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

Patricia C. (Hill) Greene

1927-2021 • La Grande

Patricia Caroline Greene, 93, of La Grande, died March 1 at a local care facility. At her request, there will not be a service.



Patricia was born Sept. 5, 1927, in La Grande, to Benjamin and Marion (Barnes) Hill. She married Clayton Loyd Briggs and later divorced. She then married Ken Greene.

Patricia was a devoted mother. She enjoyed gardening, knitting, sewing and reading. Her greatest joy was being a volunteer grandparent at the Union Elementary School.

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-

Surviving relatives include her children and their spouses, Anne and Gene Tro-

OBITUARIES

of Ave Maria, Florida, Ken Briggs of Union, Tony and Lisa Briggs of Union, and Kit and Ron Blevins of Newport; daughter-in-law, Sandra Briggs; 15 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her son, Bob Briggs, and parents Benjamin and Marion.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Shriner's Children Hospital, 3101 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, OR 97239-3095

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.

Meri L. Olmstead

La Grande

Meri L. Olmstead, 75, La Grande, died March 7 at her home. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Grant G. Tsiatsos

La Grande

Grant G. Tsiatsos, 68, of La Grande, died March 6 at Wildflower Lodge. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory.

James 'Jim' Romine

La Grande

James "Jim" Romine, 63, of La Grande, died March 4 at his home. Arrangements are by Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Halfway.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

10:02 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a possible drug law violation on the 1500 block of 21st Street. An officer made contact and will follow up.

11:44 a.m. — An Imbler resident on the 1000 block of Crescent Lane reported the theft of a license plate. A deputy made contact and explained options.

5:04 p.m. — A caller reported a domestic disturbance on the 3000 block of Walnut Street, La Grande. An officer responded and determined there was a disagreement over property. The officer will follow up.

9:56 p.m. — La Grande police responded to Bud Jackson's Eatery & Taps, 2209 Adams Ave., La Grande, on a report of a fight. An officer took a report.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

12:31 a.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about noise on the 600 block of 12th Street. Officers warned tenants to keep it down.

10:37 a.m. — A caller reported possible animal neglect on the 62300 block of Leffel Road, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer will follow up.

11:02 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a possible sex crime in Elgin.

4:24 p.m. — Local law enforcement received a complaint about parking on the 2700 block of Cherry Street, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and told the subject to move the vehicle.

7:53 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1700 block of

Walnut Street on a report of possible gunshots. Officers resolved the situation.

11:46 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 800 block of Main Avenue on a report of a suspicious female. She left, but police later found her and took her to Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande, for mental health reasons.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

7:39 a.m. — A caller reported possible animal neglect on the 900 block of Crescent Road, Imbler. An animal enforcement officer made contact and will follow up.

2:05 p.m. — Union County sheriff's deputies responded to Walmart, 11619 Island Ave, Island City, for a domestic disturbance. Subjects stated they were arguing. The deputies determined the situa-

tion did not rise to the level of mandatory arrest.

2:40 p.m. — A caller reported juveniles shooting a BB gun on the 1200 block of Hall Street, La Grande. An officer made contact and will follow up.

5:30 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a malfunctioning traffic light at Portland Street and Island Avenue. The dispatch center notified the Oregon Department of Transportation about the light.

9:59 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1300 block of Pratt Street on a report of a trespass. Police arrested Fram Sion, 43, of La Grande, for two counts of unauthorized entry into a vehicle, two counts of attempted unauthorized entry into a vehicle and two counts of criminal trespass.

Cook Memorial Library shelves overdue fines

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Cook Memorial Library, La Grande, no longer will assess overdue fines on any library materials effective April 1 and will forgive all outstanding overdue fines patrons may have accrued.

Upon the recommendation of the Cook Memorial Library staff and the Library Advisory Commission, the La Grande City Council passed a resolution Wednesday, March 3, abolishing library overdue fines, the library announced in a press release.

"The library is committed to providing equal access to every member of our community and eliminating fines offers all of our patrons a fresh start to rediscover the library and all that it has to offer," Cook Memorial Library Director Kip Roberson said in the release. "By eliminating fines, the library is removing barriers and making access easy, equitable and enjoyable for everyone."

The release stated that by eliminating overdue fines, the library aims to employ more effective methods to encourage the return of items, reengage patrons



Ben Lonergan/EO Media Group, File

Effective Thursday, April 1, 2021, Cook Memorial Library, La Grande, will cease assessing overdue fines on any library materials. The city council agreed to the recommendation, which furthers the library's goal of providing equal access to every member of the community.

"By eliminating fines, the library is removing barriers and making access easy, equitable and enjoyable for everyone."

— Kip Roberson, Cook Memorial Library director

who may have stopped using the library due to outstanding overdue fines, and more creatively use staff time and resources.

The elimination of overdue fines does not include charges — past or future — for lost or damaged items. According to

the library's announcement, patrons with fees for lost or damaged items must return the items or pay for their replacement

or face possible collection attempts.

Along with more than 35,000 books, Cook Memorial Library also has DVDs, audiobooks, Wi-Fi hotspots and laptops, STEM kits and other items available for check out. The library also gives patrons access to multiple digital services that stream movies and TV shows, eBooks, eAudiobooks and digital magazines.

The Cook Memorial Library building, 2006 Fourth St., La Grande, reopened Monday, March 1. The library limits patrons to half an hour for browsing and checkout or one hour for library computer use. Patrons also must wear masks for entry.

The library is open on weekdays. On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, the doors open to at-risk and older patrons at 10 a.m., to all patrons at 11 a.m., and the building closes at 5:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, the library is open to all patrons from noon to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call the library at 541-962-1339 or visit the library online at www.cookmemoriallibrary.org.

EOU education department offers hybrid learning, extends application deadline

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Working educators have a new path to a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Eastern Oregon University, La Grande.

In addition to on-campus and onsite cohorts, the College of Education at EOU has developed a hybrid cohort open to students throughout the region, the university announced in a press release. This format allows students to complete most of their coursework online and engage in practicum placements

without relocating.

Matt Seimears, dean of the College of Education, in the release said the idea was born last spring when remote learning tools became prevalent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. That first cohort proved the innovative platforms could deliver high-quality teacher training remotely.

"This will allow students from all over the state and beyond the opportunity to pursue this program," Seimears said. "You get the flexibility of remote education with

the stability of in-class instruction."

Students interact with peers from a variety of contexts and locations, expanding discussion and building a professional network along the way. Students who already work in schools as paraprofessionals or in other roles can complete their practicum requirements at their current site and maintain employment while progressing toward a degree.

The release emphasized that two-year program pri-

oritizes equity and access, with tailored pathways for transfer students. Undergraduates can qualify for elementary-level endorsements in Multiple Subjects and English for Speakers of Other Languages. Faculty members partner with school districts to provide ongoing support while developing a teacher-to-teacher network.

"The one-on-one guidance our staff and faculty offer students is one-of-a-kind," adviser Kylie Evans said in the release. "The College of Educa-

tion programs at EOU are grounded in theory and industry-based experiences."

She said the new hybrid cohort is to provide the same initial teacher preparation found on campus in a synchronous, online or hybrid-remote format. Growing interest in the hybrid model led administrators to extend the application deadline from March 1 to April 1.

Contact Kylie Evans at krevans@eou.edu for more information or visit [tary-education. Applicants begin by submitting an EOU application for admission at \[eou.edu/admissions/apply\]\(http://eou.edu/admissions/apply\).](http://eou.edu/undergraduate-elemen-</p>
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