

## COMMUNITY

## MEETINGS

• **PENDLETON** — The Board of Directors of the InterMountain Education Service District will meet for a work session Wednesday, March 17, at 4 p.m. at the IMESD office, 2001 S.W. Nye Ave., Pendleton. A regular board meeting will follow at 4:45 p.m.

• **LA GRANDE** — The Union County Fair Board will hold a virtually public meeting Thursday, March 18, at 6 p.m. For instructions on how to join, contact fair association secretary Heather Rajkovich at hrajkovich6212@outlook.com or 541-910-0234.

• **LA GRANDE** — The Northeast Oregon Economic Development District Board of Directors will meet online Thursday, March 18, at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Items on the agenda include election of officers, an audit report and discussion on a needs assessment. For connection information, email lisadawson@neoedd.org or ir call 541-426-3598.

## BRIEFS

## BIG READ 2021 CONCLUDES WEDNESDAY

ENTERPRISE — This year's Big Read, hosted by Fishtrap of Enterprise, concludes Wednesday, March 17, when Fishtrap's executive director, Shannon McNerney, sits down with author Nathaniel Philbrick for an in-depth discussion about the people, times, and themes in "In the Heart of the Sea." View it online at [www.fishtrap.org](http://www.fishtrap.org) or on YouTube, along with all of the month-long virtual festival's events. Visit [www.fishtrap.org](http://www.fishtrap.org) for a full list of this year's Big Read events, resources and videos.

## HONORS

## LA GRANDE STUDENT EARNS ACADEMIC HONOR AT UW

LARAMIE, Wyo. — Brianna Blythe Reeves, of La Grande, secured a place on the University of Wyoming's 2020 fall semester Provost's Honor Roll by earning a grade-point average of at least 3.50. Established in 1886, UW, in Laramie, provides undergraduate and graduate programs to 12,249 students from all 50 states and 88 countries.

— *The Observer*

## LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$3 million  
**10-14-31-33-34-38**  
 Powerball: \$169 million  
**5-11-51-56-61 — PB 2 x2**  
 Mega Millions: \$79 million  
**2-24-25-31-65 — MB 18 x4**  
 Win for Life: March 13  
**16-29-42-71**  
 Pick 4: **March 14**  
 • **1 p.m.:** 9-4-2-6  
 • **4 p.m.:** 9-6-0-4  
 • **7 p.m.:** 0-8-0-4  
 • **10 p.m.:** 6-6-1-8  
 Pick 4: **March 13**  
 • **1 p.m.:** 2-3-7-9  
 • **4 p.m.:** 5-6-5-6  
 • **7 p.m.:** 3-6-0-2  
 • **10 p.m.:** 1-5-0-0  
 Pick 4: **March 12**  
 • **1 p.m.:** 4-6-6-2  
 • **4 p.m.:** 8-9-3-3  
 • **7 p.m.:** 4-9-6-2  
 • **10 p.m.:** 8-0-6-9

## DELIVERY ISSUES?

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

## EOU prof Ryan Scariano gives online reading

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Art Center East, La Grande, is hosting an online reading with local poet Ryan Scariano at the next virtual ACE Writing Project gathering, Wednesday, March 17, at 7 p.m.

Scariano is the author of two poetry collections, "Smithereens" and "Not Your Happy Dance." He lives in La Grande and works at Eastern Oregon University.

Paulann Petersen, Oregon poet laureate emerita, said, "In the infectious music of Scariano's

## Max Moffit

Lostine

Max Moffit, 92, of Lostine, died March 11 at Providence St. Mary Medical Center in Walla Walla, Washington. A graveside service will begin at 11 a.m. March 20 at the Lostine Cemetery with vault interment to follow. A reception will be held at the Lostine Grange Hall after the service. Arrangements are by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

## Elma E. (Conrad) Sherwood

1921-2021 • La Grande

Elma Elise Sherwood, 99, lifetime resident of the Grande Ronde Valley, died



March 12 in La Grande. A family graveside service will be held at Grandview Cemetery,

where she will be laid to rest next to her husband, Thomas Vernon "Skip" Sherwood. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cre-

## 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-**

mation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Elma was born Nov. 18, 1921, in Summerville to Heber Wells and Elma Irene (Wagoner) Conrad. In 1946 she met and married Thomas Vernon "Skip" Sherwood. They enjoyed many happy years together on their farm on Foothill Road until Skip's death in 1984. In 1994, Elma was reintroduced to Lyle

## OBITUARY

**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*

"Sandy" Sanderson, her companion until his death in 2007. They enjoyed traveling worldwide and spending winter months in Arizona.

Elma was very active. She was a mother and homemaker, helped maintain a dairy farm, and worked at the Tinker Box, a craft store, and Laurence's Jewelry. If it was a hobby, a craft or a volunteer opportunity, she would take it on and perfect

it. She was a past Oregon state president of the UPRR Lady Firemen, taught 4-H classes and was active with the Home Extension Service.

Elma enjoyed painting, cake decorating and making wedding cakes. Many people have told the family she was the nicest person they have ever known.

Surviving relatives include her children, Barbara Sparks and husband, Charles Sparks, of La Grande and Gilbert, Arizona, Thomas Sherwood of Richland, and Cheryl Sherwood Kosta of La Grande; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; and brother, Delmer Conrad of La Grande.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Skip; and companion, Sandy.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Blue Mountain Humane Association, 3212 Highway 30, La Grande, OR, 97850, or the American Cancer Society, 330 S. Curry St., Portland, OR, 97239.

## Gary A. Gaston

La Grande

Gary A. Gaston, 56, of La Grande, died March 13 at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## Crawford J. Bryan

La Grande

Crawford J. Bryan, 85, of La Grande, died March 13 at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## Margey L. Fisher

La Grande

Margey L. Fisher, 88, of La Grande, died March 15 at her residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## Raymond K. Duggins

Cove

Raymond K. Duggins, 82, of Cove, died March 15 at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

## FRIDAY, MARCH 12

8:37 a.m. — A caller reported possible animal neglect on the 1800 block of 26th Street, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer made contact with the caller but did not find the animal in question.

9:33 a.m. — A caller complained about an aggressive dog on the 300 block of D Street, North Powder. The animal enforcement officer checked the area but did not find the dog.

1:26 p.m. — La Grande police and medics responded to N Avenue and Fourth Street on a report of a fight. Police took a report.

2:30 p.m. — A caller reported vandalism to a fence on the 1200 block of Hall Street, La Grande. An officer made contact and will follow up.

5:32 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1200 block of U Avenue on

a report of a juvenile disturbance. Police arrested a 15-year-old male for assault.

9:15 p.m. — A caller reported someone left a child alone in a vehicle at Walmart, 11619 Island Ave, Island City. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded but the vehicle was gone.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 13

8:15 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 300 block of 18th Street for a burglary. Police took a report.

1:17 p.m. — A caller reported a burglary at a residence on the 1200 block of Eighth Street, La Grande. An officer responded and took a report.

5:29 p.m. — A caller reported a transient person was setting up a tent at Pioneer Park, La Grande. An officer searched the area but did not find the tent.

7:30 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy

responded to the area of Hunter Road and Starr Lane, La Grande, for a vehicle that struck an elk. The deputy took a crash report.

10:16 p.m. — A caller reported cattle were loose at Miller Lane and Godley Road, Union. A Union County sheriff's deputy took information and contacted the cattle's owner.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 14

12:36 a.m. — The Union

County Sheriff's Office received a complaint about a disturbance at the Union City Park, Union. A sheriff's deputy responded and found a party in progress. The deputy told the group to keep the noise down.

12:39 a.m. — A caller reported fireworks on the 10400 block of South McAlister Road, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and counseled the parties involved.

10:33 a.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to the 700 block of East Delta Street, Union, after hearing gunshots. The deputy found the gunshots came from a trap club.

11:30 a.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 400 block of Adams Avenue for a disturbance. The subjects left the property, but police warned them for disorderly conduct.

## Carmella Mae Bourhill

September 19, 1934 - March 8, 2021

Carmella Mae Bourhill, age 86, died March 8, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital of a heart attack secondary to metastatic cancer. "Carmel" was born at home in Odell, OR, outside of Hood River. She was the oldest of seven children of Harry Curtis Sook and Hazel Mae Jett.

She attended a one-room schoolhouse. She may or may not have walked five to 10 miles through the snow one way with her siblings to get to school. The mileage varied depending on when she told the story, but I know it was a long way. Her family moved often. When they lived in Cornelius, she and her siblings picked fruit, including peaches and strawberries.

She graduated from Hillsboro High School, where she played basketball, volleyball and softball. She was baptized at Hillsboro Baptist Church. She attended Portland State University. Among her belongings when she passed were some beautiful sketches she drew for art classes there, but she did not pursue that passion.

Mom was always herself: funny, acerbic, loving. She did what she wanted. She did it "Her Way." I love her for that.

She met Robert George Bourhill when they both worked at Montgomery Ward in Portland. They wrote love letters to each other when Robert worked summers as a forest firefighter. They married in 1957. Their love song was "Unchained Melody," a song that brings tears to me, her daughter, every time I hear it all these years later. They divorced in 1972.

Carmel and Robert moved with their children, Colleen, 6, and Mark, 4, on Colleen's sixth birthday, Aug. 15, 1966. Carmel took a job doing medical transcription for the Fourth Street Clinic, a job she would keep until her retirement in 1997. She retired as office manager for a thriving practice that is now GRH Regional Medical Clinic on 4th Street in La Grande.

Passionate about sports, Carmel excelled in volleyball and softball, amassing shelves full of trophies during the 1970s and 1980s. To say she was passionate about playing is an understatement. She lived for those games and she was seldom happier than when she played.

Many families remember their moth-



er from their favorite recipes. Carmella, my mother, was different. She proudly displayed a sign in her kitchen that said, "I Only Have a Kitchen 'Cause It Came With My House." She loved eating out, and her friends and family loved eating out with her.

When her grandchildren were small, they each spent a week visiting "DeeDaw" in La Grande, where the grandkids could swim, watch as much TV as

they wanted, eat McDonald's kids' meals, and make daily visits to the nearest Dollar Store. Each grandchild would have a dollar bill or some change to buy something special.

She loved the Oregon Coast and Willowa Lake and was always up for a trip there. She went on summer trips with her children and grandchildren to national parks across the West, including Yellowstone, Mount St. Helen, Mount Rainier National Park and Olympic National Park.

Carmel's church family at Faith Center church in Island City was the center of Carmel's life in the many years after her children and grandchildren moved to Virginia. She had a special seat she liked in the back row and she loved to sing - oh, how she loved to sing.

She also loved delivering Meals on Wheels to seniors who want to live independently but have a hard time cooking for themselves. She did that for many years, until she no longer could get out of her car because of advancing rheumatoid arthritis.

A private service was held Friday, March 12, 2021, at Faith Center in Island City. She was a member of the Glorious Grannies group there. Her family misses her more than any words can say. She is survived by her daughter, Colleen LaMay (husband Brian), and grandchildren Kuranda LaMay, Cole LaMay, and Abby LaMay. She is predeceased by her son, Mark, who died of brain cancer in 1998 at age 36.

She is survived by many extended family members, including sisters Virginia Furrow, Mary Stocker, Patricia Stocker and Sara LeBrun and brothers Bud Sook and Tim Sook.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com](http://www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com).

poems, a lilac has 'loamy eyes'; sugar ants are 'little seasonal keystrokes'; vinegar can 'inhale summer's glow / and exhale that long amber breath.'



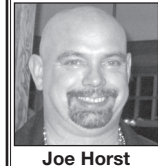
Scariano

The reading will conclude with a community open mic. The moderator will take sign-ups beginning at 6:45 p.m. on a first-come basis (maximum 10 readers, each with a 5-minute reading limit).

This is a free event via Zoom.

For more information and the Zoom link, go to [www.artcentereast.org/calendar](http://www.artcentereast.org/calendar), scroll down and click on the March 17 Writing Project event.

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