

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23**

6:41 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a complaint about a possible restraining order violation on the 68600 block of Highway 82, Imbler. Deputies resolved the situation.

8:59 a.m. — A caller reported cattle on the loose in the area of 68800 Craig Loop, Summerville. An animal enforcement officer made contact, and the owner responded to pick up the animals.

9:51 a.m. — A caller reported animal neglect on the 71800 block of Palmer Junction Road, Elgin. An animal enforcement officer planned to follow up.

11:32 a.m. — A resident on the 1800 block of 26th Street, La Grande, asked to speak to law enforcement about an ongoing issue with someone trapping cats. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and will follow up.

2:11 p.m. — A caller reported possible animal neglect on the 2000 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy arrived and warned the owner of the animal.

3:48 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a suspicious person at Walmart, 11625 Island Ave., Island City. A deputy responded and arrested Kyle Christopher Blom, 27, on a Union County warrant for failure to appear, two Malheur County warrants for failure to appear and on a Washington State Department of Corrections warrant charging escape from community custody.

4:26 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence for a person threatening self-harm and notified the Center for Human Development for mental health services.

8:46 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office on a follow-up cited a Union juvenile for fourth-degree assault.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 24**

2:25 a.m. — A caller reported a possible burglary at a home on the 1200 block of Alder Street, La Grande. Officers responded and instead of a burglar found an elderly neighbor, who walked home.

8:53 a.m. — A traffic stop at Island Avenue and Riddle Road, La Grande, led to the Union County Sheriff's Office arresting Dalton Chase Tanzey, 26, for felon in possession of a restricted weapon and on a Umatilla County warrant for failure to appear for a weapon offense.

11:13 a.m. — A caller reported a possible game law violation at Morgan Lake, La Grande.

12:45 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 2200 block of Fir Street on a report of a disturbance. Officers separated the parties.

5:17 p.m. — A caller reported a car prowler on the 1500 block of 21st Street, La Grande. An officer took down information.

5:43 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1400 block of V Avenue on a report of a domestic disturbance. Officers arrived and gave options.

**BIRTHS**

**GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL**

**BARTOV:** Noah Michael Bartov, June 13, 2021, son of Michelle Bartov and Jonathan Bartov, of La Grande.

**FARMER:** Neveah Simane Farmer, June 16, 2021, daughter of Keana Obechou Remoket and Kentrell LaVan Farmer, of La Grande.

**RAINSBERRY:** Beckham Scott Rainsberry, June 16, 2021, son of Marissa Vaye Rainsberry and Kaleb Thomas Rainsberry, of La Grande. Grandparents are Amy and Klel Carson and Scott and Nicole Rainsberry.

**SAIN-PARSONS:** Greycelynn Sain-Parsons, June 13, 2021, daughter of Alicia Parsons and Shane Sain, of La Grande. Grandparents are Angela Parsons and Robert Parsons.

**SIMONS:** Rowyn Rae Simons, June 14, 2021, daughter of Tierra Lynn Simons and Nicholas Ray Simons, of La Grande.

**DEATH NOTICE**

**Nellie A. Thompson**  
Union

Nellie A. Thompson, 86, of Union, died June 23, 2021, at her residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

**Eagle Cap Excursion Train returns July 3, complete with train robberies**

ELGIN — After a year's reprieve due to COVID-19, the Eagle Cap Excursion Train returns this summer on Saturday, July 3. The 2021 schedule is full of opportunities for a train ride beside the Grande Ronde and Wallowa rivers on the Wallowa Union Railroad, historically known as the Joseph Branch Railroad. Further Saturday excursions in July are planned for July 17, 24 and 31, plus a mid-week train on Wednesday, July 21.

Season highlights include train robberies by mounted bandits, a few mid-week runs and many wonderful chances to enjoy the colorful fall foliage. The round-trip excursions depart from the Elgin Depot. To book a ride on the train and excursion description, go to [www.eaglecaptrainrides.com/ridethetrain](http://www.eaglecaptrainrides.com/ridethetrain).

Information is also available by calling the Elgin Depot at 541-437-3652 or emailing [tickets@eaglecaptrainrides.com](mailto:tickets@eaglecaptrainrides.com). According to the website, business hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the season, plus Saturdays when there is a train ride.

**Volunteers sought for junior golf tournament in Union, set June 28-July 2**

UNION — Oregon Junior Golf is coming to Northeast Oregon for the first time, with a tournament set for June 28-July 2 at the Buffalo Peak Golf Course in Union. More than 100 of the best junior golfers in Oregon will participate, and organizers are seeking volunteers to help the event run smoothly and support the local golf course.

Anyone interested in volunteering for roles such as walkers, scorers, spotters, greeters and parking assistants are asked to contact Dana at 541-562-5527 or [dana@buffalopeakgolf.com](mailto:dana@buffalopeakgolf.com) as soon as possible.

**Two Thursday concert series kick off next week in Northeast Oregon**

LA GRANDE, ENTERPRISE — The Riverside Concert Series returns this summer beginning July 1 at La Grande's Riverside Park. Enjoy free live music from local artists in the park every Thursday from 6-8 p.m., rain or shine (if the weather is bad, the concert will move to inside the pavilion). The series is organized by La Grande Parks and Recreation and sponsored by the La Grande Arts Commission.

The July 1 concert will feature JoJo Mac. There are a few spots left in the schedule. Local musicians interested in playing during the series can call La Grande Parks and Recreation at 541-962-1352 for more details.

In Wallowa County, the long-running Courthouse Concert Series also kicks off July 1 on the Wallowa County Courthouse lawn in Enterprise. Featuring local and regional musicians, these free concerts begin at 5:30 p.m. and are sponsored by the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners, Wallowa County Cultural Trust Coalition and the city of Enterprise. The schedule is posted at [www.wvmusicalliance.org](http://www.wvmusicalliance.org).

— The Observer

**MILESTONE**  
**Reggie Gibson to celebrate 100th birthday June 27**



Contributed Photo

Reginald "Reggie" Gibson will celebrate his 100th birthday with a party Sunday, June 27, from 2-4 p.m. at the Catherine Creek Community Center, housed in Union's historic Methodist Church. Friends are invited to stop by and wish Reggie a happy birthday. A light meal, cake and ice cream will be provided.

**ON THE MENU**

**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.

**Union County kids free grab-and-go lunch menu**

Free grab-and-go lunch for anyone ages 1-18, served Monday-Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Riviera Activity Center, 2609 Second St., La Grande. Lunch for adults is \$4.

**June 28-30**

**Monday:** tomatoes filled with chicken salad, fresh fruit, bread, cobbler.  
**Tuesday:** bacon cheese-burgers, steak fries, fresh fruit, ice cream.  
**Wednesday:** almond chicken, rice pilaf, salad greens, fresh fruit, dessert.

**June 28-30**

**Monday:** mini Joes, steak fries, veggies sticks, fresh fruit, Jell-O, milk.  
**Tuesday:** chicken pot pie, celery sticks, fresh fruit, ice cream cup, milk.  
**Wednesday:** orange chicken, rice, green salad, fresh fruit, fortune cookie, milk.

**FAMILY OWNED**

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**UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES**



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

**June 26 — TED VANDENBERG:** noon to 4 p.m. celebration of life gathering (lunch provided), Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

**June 26 — DAVID COUNCIL:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, North Powder City Park.

**June 26 — SALLY TOUCHE-MOSER:** 1-3 p.m. celebration of life open house, 404 Depot St., Enterprise.

**June 27 — MERI OLMSTEAD:** 1 p.m. memorial service, Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

**July 3 — GERALD CRAWFORD:** 2 p.m. celebration life and pot-luck gathering, behind Enterprise Community Church.

**July 5 — JAMES MAXWELL:** 10 a.m. graveside memorial service with Air Force Military Honors, Haines Cemetery.

**July 10 — CAROLE HALVORSON:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, Carole and Bob's Starkey ranch (RSVP to 58310 Grande Ronde River Road, La Grande 97850; [icyriverranch@gmail.com](mailto:icyriverranch@gmail.com); or 541-428-2139).

**July 18 — RAY STINNETT:** 10 a.m. celebration of life, Ray and Patti's ranch on Morgan Lake Road, La Grande. — calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

**Scott Daniel Baker**

November 2, 1963 - June 20, 2021

Scott Daniel Baker, of La Grande, passed away peacefully, at the age of 57, in his home on Sunday, June 20, 2021, with his mother and his brother at his side. A Graveside service was held at Grandview Cemetery Mausoleum.



Scott was born at St. Joseph's Hospital in LaGrande, Oregon on November 2, 1963, to Sue (Daniels) Baker and Ronald Baker. They soon learned that he was born with an extra chromosome and was a carrier of Down's Syndrome. But a beautiful family bond was forged around their son, grandson, brother, and uncle who was slower and more fragile, but whose kindness and devotion made him the center of the family.

Scott attended Central Elementary School in his youth. When New Day Enterprises was formed in the early 1970s to support families with developmental disabilities, Scott transitioned there in order to continue work on life and socialization skills; it was also a place to work on job skills and employment opportunities. Scott would also take part in holiday parties, dances, and bowling events. Central and New Day gave Scott the opportunity to develop friendships with people at work and in the community.

Scott was well-known in Grande Ronde Valley. At a time when people with disabilities were not seen, Scott was taken into the community and given the opportunity to socialize with and meet new people. He would be often seen with his mother, Sue, who had dedicated her life to him; or with his grandparents, Norman and Ellen Daniels. Scott loved to go up to his grandparent's mining claims in the Mormon Basin. He would learn how to pan for gold, ride horses, and learn how to shoot guns. Scott also enjoyed fishing with his grandfather in and around the Basin.

Scott was baptized in St. Peter's Episcopal Church in LaGrande and attended services with his family. Scott volunteered to clean and take care of the church while his mother served on Alder Guide. Scott also participated in the Special Olympics. When he was younger, Scott participated in track and field events. As he got older, he shifted to bowling, then ultimately golf. He participated numerous times at the State Games of Oregon, where he would become a gold-medalist.

Scott's true passion was cars and trucks. He enjoyed reading car and truck magazines and learning about both old and new cars. He really loved older trucks. Scott had a couple of old junker cars that he enjoyed tinkering under the hood. He also loved listening to music. He especially loved The Beatles, and Elvis.

Scott enjoyed his 57 years living in the Grande Ronde Valley. He appreciated the mountains, the trees, and the wildlife. He also liked to go to the Oregon Coast. Lincoln City was the usual destination. In his youth, Scott loved the coast, especially the Pixie Kitchen and Pixie Land attractions in the early '70s. He would take his younger brother, Tim, on the rides; he especially enjoyed the Log Flume ride.

Scott is survived by his mother, Sue Daniels Baker of LaGrande; his brother, Tim Baker of Aurora, Oregon; his sister-in-law, Sherilyn; his nephew, Caleb, and niece, Samantha; his cousins, Clay and Darcia Throop, also of LaGrande.

Scott was an unwitting pioneer of his time. Scott was born with Down's Syndrome in a time when people with disabilities were institutionalized. In Scott's 57 years, there has been a seismic shift in the philosophy of how people with disabilities should be treated. Because Scott's family chose to raise him in a loving home and gave him opportunities to learn and to grow, he, in turn, made everyone around him, better people. Today, children with disabilities are given the opportunity to go to school and work and truly be a part of the community they live in. Once hidden away from society, people with disabilities now live, work, go to school, and have become fixtures in our society. Scott touched many lives, but many lives also touched him. Scott Baker, and his family, helped to pave the way for today's generations on how to live, love, and accept.

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

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**2021 EASTERN OREGON PHOTO CONTEST**

**Voting for 'People's Choice' NOW OPEN**

Vote online for People's Choice from 12:01 am Monday, June 21 through 11:59 pm Wednesday, June 30.

The winners will appear in the July 8th edition of Go Magazine; the top 25 will appear online.

Gift cards to a restaurant of your choice will be awarded for first, second and third place.

All photos online at: [lagrandeobserver.com/photocontest](http://lagrandeobserver.com/photocontest)