

OBITUARY

Wayne E. Gorham

1939-2021
Formerly of Union County

Wayne Edward Gorham, 81, formerly of Union County, died Aug. 8, 2021, at his home in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho,

after a long battle with cancer. A private ceremony will be held at the Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery in Missoula, Montana.

Wayne was born Oct. 14, 1939, in Eugene, and grew up in North Powder and Summer-ville. He left home in 1960 to serve in the U.S. Army and spent much of that time stationed in France.

After his military service, Wayne moved to Montana, where he met his future wife, Judy, and began a long career as a heavy equipment operator and in agriculture equipment sales, living in the Montana towns of Bozeman, West Yellowstone, Drummond and Missoula.

Wayne rode broncs on the Montana rodeo circuit and raced snow-mobiles until his sons, Michael and Kelly, were young children. He went

on to be an avid skier and continued to ski at age 80 with his friends at Lookout Pass in Idaho.

Wayne was recognized by the FFA for his contributions to agriculture in Montana and he supported many ag organizations. He also contributed to the early success of the Northern Division free-style skiing organization in Montana. In his later years, Wayne enjoyed boating on Lake Coeur d'Alene

in Idaho and tending to his garden.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Judy; sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and LaFonda, and Kelly and Gwen; three grandchildren; brothers and sisters-in-law, Weldon and Janet, Merrill and Kathy, and Mark and Leslie; brothers-in-law Dan, Jim and Bob and his wife, Tana; sister-in-law, Tanja; and nieces and nephews and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Orvan; brother, Darrell; and mother, Dorothy.



Gorham



DEATH NOTICE

LaVon K. Johnson

La Grande

LaVon K. Johnson, 77, of La Grande, died Aug. 15, 2021, at home. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



Aug. 18 — ROSE MOORE: 12:30 p.m. memorial service, Haines Cemetery.

Aug. 21 — MARY BROWN: 11 a.m. celebration of life, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, La Grande.

Aug. 21 — WES KILGORE: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Joseph Methodist Church; a remembrance get-together for family and friends follows at the Joseph Community Center.

Aug. 27 — HER-SHELL PARKER:

10 a.m. graveside service, Cove Cemetery (casual dress preferred).

Aug. 28 — RODNEY PAYANT: noon to 3 p.m. celebration of life, Pendleton Eagles Lodge.

Aug. 28 — SHIRLEY KUNKEL: 1:30 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Sept. 18 — JAMES YOST: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Cloverleaf Hall, Enterprise.

Sept. 26 — DEBBIE RACHAU: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Elgin Community Center.

— *calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande*

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, AUG. 13

6:01 a.m. — A resident on the 100 block of Oak Street, La Grande, complained about a barking dog. An animal enforcement officer responded, explained options and took down information.

10:30 a.m. — A La Grande police officer gave information about mental illness resources to a person at a residence on the 2300 block of Q Avenue.

11:51 a.m. — La Grande police responded to a traffic crash at 13th Street and Washington Avenue. Police arrested Michael Nearl Warner, 65, for driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless driving.

2:08 p.m. — A caller reported subjects were carelessly riding dirt bikes in the area of Ramo Flat Road and Highway 337, Union. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded but did not find the subjects.

5:07 p.m. — A caller reported a juvenile was causing a disturbance on the 1600 block of Russell Avenue, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact.

9:23 p.m. — Local emergency services responded to milepost 17 near Highway 237, Union, for a rollover crash.

11:05 p.m. — Local law enforcement responded to the 2100 block of Adams Avenue on a report of an intoxicated driver. Police arrested Jonathan Allen Barnhart, 46, of La Grande, for DUII and recklessly endangering another person.

SATURDAY, AUG. 14

1:50 a.m. — One arrest was not enough for Barnhart. La Grande police at a traffic stop at 26th Street and Mulholland Drive arrested him again — this time for DUII, reckless driving, reckless endangering, and violation of a jail release agreement.

6:37 a.m. — La Grande police responded to Island and Adams avenues on a noise complaint. An officer counseled one person.

10:28 a.m. — A resident on the 1500 block of Monroe Avenue, La Grande, reported the theft of a rabbit. Later, the owner found the rabbit.

1:20 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2100 block of Adams Avenue for a domestic disturbance. Officers warned the

parties for disorderly conduct.

5:22 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to the 100 block of North Main Street, Union, for a juvenile disturbance and separated the parties involved.

8:14 p.m. — A caller at a residence on the 2100 block of Adams Avenue reported an animal bit a person. An officer responded and took a report.

8:53 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office responded to the area of 64700 Webster Road, La Grande, on a report of a disturbance. The sheriff's office arrested Tanner Ryan Johnson, 22, for fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence.

11:08 p.m. — Local law enforcement responded to the area of 62100 Gaertner Lane, La Grande, on a report of a domestic disturbance. Officers separated the parties.

SUNDAY, AUG. 15

4:31 a.m. — A caller complained about a transient sleeping near a mailbox on the 200 block of Cherry Street, La Grande. An officer responded and cited and released a 49-year-old man on a Union County parole violation warrant.

6:48 a.m. — A caller on the 1900 block of Cedar Street, La Grande, reported a disturbance. Officers responded and cited one person for harassment.

9:47 a.m. — Local emergency services responded to a residence on the 1000 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande, for an accident with an injury. Police took a report.

2:30 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the intersection of Island and Adams avenues for a male in traffic.

6:09 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to a residence in the area of 10800 South Walton Road, La Grande, on a report of a trespasser. The deputy determined the subject was having mental health issues and gave options.

7:21 p.m. — A caller reported a disturbance on the 59300 block of McNeill Road, Cove. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and separated the parties.

9:20 p.m. — La Grande police conducted a welfare check on a resident on the 300 block of South 20th Street. The person was fine, and police advised the subject to call relatives.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Bike swap includes bike safety course and free helmets

LA GRANDE — La Grande Parks and Recreation and the Safe Routes to School Program are holding the final bike swap of the summer at Pioneer Park Saturday, Aug. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon. The event gives the community the opportunity to buy, sell or trade their used bicycles.

There also will be a bike safety course, free helmets and a limited number of free bicycles.

To preregister, contact Jessie Wilson, Safe Routes to School coordinator, at srts@cityoflagrande.org or 541-962-0514. Registration also will be available at the event.

Watch a free movie in the park Aug. 10 in Pioneer Park

LA GRANDE — La Grande Parks and Recreation and the Safe Communities Coalition partnered this summer to present family-friendly movie nights in Pioneer Park in La Grande. The final film of the summer will be "Doolittle" on Friday, Aug. 20. The free movie begins at dusk. Lawn chairs or blankets are recommended.

Theatre campers perform on outdoor stage in Elgin

ELGIN — The Elgin Opera House's youth theatre camp is taking place this week, culminating in performances of "James and the Giant Peach JR." The productions are put on entirely by youth with special appearances and assistance by the theatre camp participants.

Shows are free and will be performed on the Opera House's new outdoor stage on Friday, Aug. 20, at



Alex Wittwer/The Observer, File

Oliver Fry tests out the fit of a new bike on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at a bicycling event put on by La Grande Parks and Recreation's Safe Routes to School program to provide bicycles to children and promote safety during bike riding. The program is holding a bike swap on Saturday, Aug. 21, that will include free helmets and a bike safety course.

2:30 p.m., and again on Saturday, Aug. 21, at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.elginoperahouse.com or call 541-663-6324.

Weekly lecture series focuses on nature and local history

WALLOWA LAKE VILLAGE — The Wallowa Lake Lodge hosts a free lecture on Thursdays at 7 p.m. with a focus on nature and local history. Rich Wandschneider, local historian and library director for the Josephy Center

for Arts and Culture, will speak Aug. 19 about the history of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce.

The Aug. 26 talk will be given by Brehen Furey, of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, about the big animals that reside at Wallowa Lake.

Learn about the habits and behaviors of the local bear, deer, sheep and cougar populations and how we can safely enjoy the same wilderness on our adventures.

— *The Observer*

Summer campers enjoy bread-making process and results



ANN BLOOM
NUTRITION: IT'S ALL GOOD

If you passed by Building Healthy Families recently you might have thought you were passing a new bakery in town.

In fact, the smell of baking bread was coming from the 12 loaves of bread made by the campers participating in Building Healthy Families summer enrichment program for youth in grades K-3.

The program activity on July 22, was Bread in a Bag and making butter. The instructors were Ann Bloom, Oregon State University nutrition educator, and Katy Nesbitt, a parishioner at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and coor-

dinator of its community garden.

Prior to starting their bread dough, the campers learned about how yeast needs to "eat" sugar while it "grows" after being activated by the warm water. Campers watched as bubbles formed when the warm water touched the yeast. They learned that with the addition of salt, the yeast stopped "growing."

The 12 participants worked in pairs to mix flour, yeast, oil, salt, sugar and water into a gallon plastic bag. Each person took turns working the mixture in the bag until it was thoroughly combined. Then there was a whole lot of kneading going on as each person kneaded his or her own dough until it was smooth and uniform.

The dough was placed in individual aluminum

pans to rise and bake. Each child had their own loaf of bread. While the bread was baking, the pairs worked at shaking heavy cream to turn it into butter for their hot bread.

The OSU Extension Service and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church have worked together to deliver nutrition and gardening curriculums to the alternative education high school and Head Start.

"Ann and I want to make

gardening and cooking fun and accessible to kids of all ages," Nesbitt said. "Everybody eats, but we know healthy minds and bodies begin with healthy food."

Maria Weer, director of Building Healthy Families, said of the activity and the children's response, "They were so engaged. I love it when our partner projects come together for such a success. Hearing a kid shout, 'I make the best

bread ever!' says it all."

Ann Bloom has worked for the OSU Extension Service for 15 years as a nutrition educator. She studied journalism and education at Washington State University. She lives in Enterprise.

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Hershell Ray Parker

April 28, 1943 - August 3, 2021

Hershell Ray Parker, 78, of Cove, passed away on Tuesday, August 3, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. A graveside service will be held at Cove Cemetery on Friday, August 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Casual dress is preferred by the family.

Hershell was born on April 28, 1943 in Hot Springs, Arkansas, to Felton and Dora (Herron) Parker. He resided in Visalia, California, and Cove, Oregon. He attended Union Elementary School and Mt. Whitney High School. He married Maxine King and they were happily married for 57 years.

Hershell was self-employed as a drywalls contractor and general contractor. He was an outdoors man, loved hunting in early years, and in his later years, he loved watching the wildlife, deer, elk, quail, etc.

Hershell is survived by his wife, Maxine; children, Kelly Hackwith (Jordan) and Shawn Parker (Amber) both of Cove, Oregon; 4 grandchildren, Boss Levi, Jaren, Micah Shae and Kendra; 5 great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and many aunts and uncles. He was preceded in death by his parents, Felton and Dora; sisters, Ruby and Myrtle and brother, Furmon. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.



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