

OBITUARIES

Steven R. King

1959-2021
La Grande

Steven Richard King, 62, of La Grande, died Aug. 17, 2021, at his home. At his request, there will not be a service.

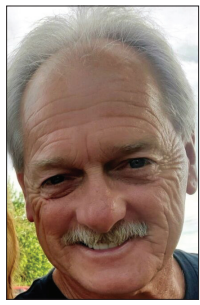
Steven was born June 1, 1959, in Wisconsin, to Judith Phillips. He graduated from Brookings Harbor High School and resided in Brookings until moving to La Grande in 2017. He married Molly Ann McVay on June 29, 2016.

Steven was employed with Island City Public Works and was part-owner of Countryside

Kennels in La Grande. His life passion was caring for dogs. He treated all dogs as if they were his own.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Molly Ann McVay King of La Grande; step-children and spouses, Paul and Allesha Swigert of La Grande and Ashley and Max Ecroth of Florence; and five grandchildren.

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



King

Thomas J. Collins

1971-2021
Enterprise

Thomas James Collins, 50, of Enterprise, died Aug. 11, 2021, at La Grande Post Acute Rehab. A private family gathering will be held.

Also known as Tom, he was born Jan. 21, 1971, in Lebanon, to Thomas Ray Collins and Barbara Ann (Stroope) Collins. He attended school in Silverton.

Tom married Christy on May 4, 2002, and they had two daughters, Emma and Zoey, whom he loved with all his heart.

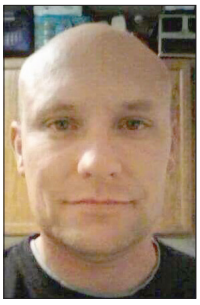
Tom worked for Total Coating Systems as a painter. He enjoyed being outside and fishing. He loved his dog, Bendi, and enjoyed any time he could

spend with family.

Surviving relatives include his daughters, Emma and Zoey Collins; parents, Tom and Barbara Collins; brother, Billy Collins; sisters, Rebecca Sanchez and Terri Tripp; and grandparents, John Stroope, Roxie Godwin, Pauline Yocum and Thomas J. Collins.

Memorial donations may be made to the Wallowa County Humane Society in care of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway 97834.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.tamis-pinevalleyfuneralhome.com.



Collins

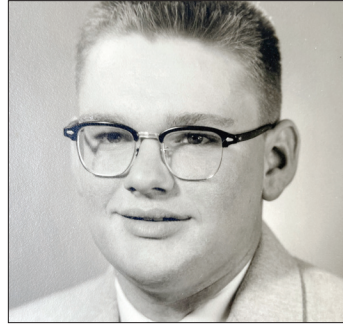
MILESTONE

Gary Kellar to celebrate 80th birthday on Aug. 28

Gary Kellar will be celebrating his 80th birthday Saturday, Aug. 28, with an open house birthday party from 1-5 p.m. at 1402 W Ave., La Grande.

Friends are invited to come celebrate and say hello.

No gifts, please.



PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 18

12:04 a.m. — A La Grande police officer observed a transient camp at Monroe and Island Avenues and warned one person for trespass.

6:39 a.m. — La Grande police took a report for offensive littering on the 2100 block of Adams Avenue.

9:18 a.m. — A caller on the 62500 block of Mount Glen Road, La Grande, asked to speak to someone about finding kittens. An animal enforcement officer made contact and explained options.

10:25 a.m. — A caller reported a disturbance on the 1000 block of Jackson Avenue, La Grande, involving juveniles. Officers responded and separated the parties.

3:01 p.m. — Oregon State Police assisted the Union County Sheriff's Office in Baker County with the arrest of Aubrey Scott Fryman, 35, for felony and misdemeanor fleeing, reckless driving, reckless endangering, driving while suspended and resisting arrest.

7:04 p.m. — La Grande police took a report of a sex crime.

11:42 p.m. — A caller reported a disturbance involving a juvenile on the 1000 block of Jackson Avenue, La Grande. Officers responded, resolved the situation and explained options.

ON THE MENU

Union County Senior Center takeout lunch menu

Served 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.

Aug. 23-27

Monday: sweet and sour meatballs over egg noodles, garden salad,

fresh fruit, pudding cup.

Tuesday: pork fried rice, egg roll, cabbage slaw, fruit, fortune cookie.

Wednesday: cheesy shrimp pasta with white sauce (alternate entree: BBQ chicken), salad greens, homemade bread, fresh fruit.

Thursday: beef taco salad, quacamole, tortilla soup.

Friday: beef stroganoff over rice pilaf, spinach salad, fruit salad, veggies sticks, chocolate mousse.

THURSDAY, AUG. 19

9:13 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2300 block of Adams Avenue on a report of a fraud and took information.

12:28 p.m. — A caller reported an injured deer on the 400 block of F Avenue, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer responded and disposed of the deer.

1:32 p.m. — La Grande police arrested Albert Jared Horne, 23, on a Union County warrant charging probation violation. Police also arrested Horne for vehicle theft, two counts of escape and disorderly conduct.

2:10 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1900 block of Penn Avenue on a report of gunshots. Police did not locate any shooting.

3:32 p.m. — Union County sheriff's deputies responded to the 300 block of North First Street, Union, for a residential burglary. Deputies checked to make sure no suspects were in the house and took a report.

10:37 p.m. — A caller reported a disturbance on the 90 block of West Hawthorne Drive, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and arrested a 35-year-old man for fourth-degree assault.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Take a moonlight bicycle ride tonight

LA GRANDE — La Grande Parks and Recreation invites everyone to the annual Moonlight Ride on Saturday, Aug. 21.

Cyclists of all ages are welcome to gather in the Bi-Mart parking lot at 7:30 p.m. for a guided ride on Foothill Road under the moonlight. Helmets and lights are required. If you have any questions, contact the Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Jessie Wilson, at srts@cityoflagrande.org or 541-962-0514.

Optimist football gear checkout will be on Aug. 23

LA GRANDE — La Grande Parks and Recreation announced that Optimist football gear checkout will now take place on Monday, Aug. 23, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. For questions or scheduling a time for checkout, call J.D. Standley at 541-910-4207.

Optimist football registration

closed on Aug. 16, but registration for youth flag football is open until Aug. 23.

Flag football is open for pre-K through 6th grade, while Optimist football is for 5th and 6th grade. Optimist football practice starts Aug. 24, and games begin on Sept. 16.

For additional information, Recreation Supervisor McKayla Rollins can be contacted at 541-962-1352 and mrollins@cityoflagrande.org.

Lodge hosts midweek live music

WALLOWA LAKE LODGE — Next week, the Wallowa Lake Lodge will offer two midweek evenings of live music. On Tuesday, Aug. 24, Seth Kinzie and Bart Budwig will present a unique performance beginning at 7 p.m. Kinzie is a modern, impressionist piano composer from Joseph, and Bart Budwig is a local singer-songwriter of psychedelic Americana.

On Wednesday, Aug. 25, come to

the lodge to enjoy live music by Steve and Leslie Ide and a special guest, their granddaughter. The Ides are part of Old West Trio, a staple in Western music for more than 25 years. They will be joined by their granddaughter, Alice, a talented singer and budding performer. The evening's musical selection will run the gamut from folk and traditional to country, Western and jazz.

Bard in the Blues festival canceled

LA GRANDE — The Bard in the Blues Renaissance Festival, which was to be held Sept. 4 at Riverside Park, La Grande, has been canceled due to concerns surrounding COVID-19 in Union County. Sponsored by La Grande Parks and Recreation, the family-friendly event is set to return in the fall of 2022 with Renaissance-themed vendors and performers, live blacksmithing, a kids zone, games and local vendors.

— *The Observer*

DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Pamela Clark
La Grande

Pamela Clark, 73, of La Grande, died Aug. 18, 2021. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Patti Comstock
La Grande

Patti Comstock, 68, of La Grande, died Aug. 16, 2021. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Debra K. Davis
Island City

Debra Kay Davis, 57, of Island City, died Nov. 1, 2020. A celebration of her life will be held Sept. 18 at 2 p.m. at the Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

Shirley F. Kunkel
La Grande

Shirley Faye Kunkel, 80, of La Grande, died July 6, 2021. A memorial service and celebration of her life will begin at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 28 at the La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Contributed Photo

John Combe Wellness Center, 1002 Fourth St., La Grande, won the summer beautification award for a commercial property.



Contributed Photo

Receiving the summer residential property beautification award was the home of Merle and Bertha Feik, 1015 Benton Ave., La Grande.

Two honored with summer beautification awards

The Observer

LA GRANDE — The home of Merle and Bertha Feik received the city of La Grande summer beautification award for a residential property. The announcement said the lot at 1015 Benton Ave. is "beautifully landscaped and diverse, providing a feast for the eyes and a haven for native pollinators." Also noted were the containers adding more color and texture to the colorful flowers and shrubs bordering the front of the house.

Also featuring a colorful shrub border, the John Combe Wellness Center, 1002 Fourth St., was the winner of the summer's commercial award. The property is "immaculately tended by the owners," according to the award announcement, and "powerline-friendly flowering crabapple trees in the right-of-way provide year-round habitat, nectar for pollinators in the spring, and food for the birds in summer, fall and winter."

The Beautification

Awards Program, sponsored by the La Grande Landscape and Community Forestry Commission, recognizes and honors residential and commercial properties that add to the beauty and diversity of La Grande's environment. Nominations for this award are made by members of the commission, city employees, neighbors and property owners.

Nominations are now being accepted for the fall awards. Landscaping must be visible from the street. Nominations may be emailed to trees@cityoflagrande.org or submitted via the La Grande Parks and Rec Facebook page.

For more information or to make a nomination, call the

Urban Forestry Division at 541-663-1952.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



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. 23 — ELAINE STEIN: 11 a.m. burial, Enterprise Cemetery.

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 — DEBRA DAVIS: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

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.

Oct. 16 — MEL ELDER: 10 a.m. memorial service, La Grande First Christian Church. — *calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande*

Everett "Butch" Eugene Hancock

January 9, 1948 - August 10, 2021

Everett "Butch" Eugene Hancock, 73, of La Grande, passed away on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at his residence. At his request, there will not be a service.

Butch was born on January 9, 1948 in Carthage, Missouri, to Clem and Anna Mae (Murray) Hancock. He resided in Troutdale, Oregon, and La Grande, Oregon. He graduated from Reynolds High School with perfect attendance and attended Eastern Oregon State College, Mt. Hood Community College, and Central Oregon Community College. He was married to Claracy Hartzell for 40 years.

Butch was employed with the U.S. Forest Service and Buffalo Peak Golf Course. He also worked in security. He was a baseball umpire and football and basketball referee for 30 years. He enjoyed fishing, watching football and baseball games, and spending time on Facebook. Football, baseball, and golf were his favorite sports. He holds the high school state record for most strikeouts in baseball.

Butch is survived by his sons, Brian Hancock of La Grande and Tyson Hancock of La Grande; ex-wife, Claracy Hartzell of La Grande; and one grandchild, Kyleene Simmons. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clem and Anna Hancock.

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



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