

OBITUARIES

Ronald L. Miller

1951-2021

Union

Ronald Lynn Miller, 70, of Union, died Aug. 4, 2021, at his home. A celebration of his life was held Sept. 11 at Catherine Creek State Park.

Also known as Ron, he was born March 31, 1951, in La Grande, to Bryce E. “Doc” Miller and Pearl L. (Wright) Miller. He lived in Summer-ville, Island City and Union. He attended school in Union and gradu-ated from Union High School in 1969. Fol-lowing graduation, he entered the Oregon Army National Guard. He married Kathleen Smith and three children were born to that union. The marriage later ended in divorce.

During Ron’s high school years, he lettered in football, basketball and track. He was offered a scholarship to play the position of punter as an Eastern Oregon Mountie but decided college was not for him. Many people will recall that Ron had a beau-tiful corner shot in bas-ketball. He was also very active in livestock 4-H, showing sheep for 10 years.

Ron worked for Bronson Lumber and then Boise Cascade, where he was employed for 38 years. He

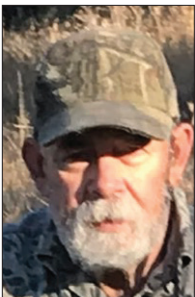
was proud that he never called in sick to work.

Ron had a great love of the outdoors, enjoying mushrooming, gathering firewood, fishing and especially hunting. He was very happy to share that passion with his children and grandchil-dren, particularly in recent years. He assisted sev-eral of his grand-children in suc-cessful hunts. He very much enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren participate in sports. He also enjoyed listening to, and singing with, country music.

Surviving relatives include his children and their partners, Ryan and Melea Miller, Amanda and Jeff Lippold, and Kellee and Misty Miller; mother, Pearl Miller; sisters, Cindy Carper, Patsy Wichman and Sandi Norton; 12 grand-children; one aunt; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bryce; brother, Charles “Eddie”; granddaughter, Shanyin; and niece, Anna Wichman.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneral-chapel.com.



Miller



Doris I. (O’Dell) Rhoads

1930-2021

Formerly of Union County

Doris Irene Rhoads, 91, formerly of Union County, died July 21, 2021, at her daughter’s and grandson’s home in Weston. A memo-rial service will be held Oct. 2 at 11 a.m. at the Summerville Cemetery Chapel.

Doris was born June 4, 1930, in Milton, to Wil-liam O’Dell and Amanda Jane (Jordan) O’Dell. She graduated from La Grande High School in 1948 and married Charles E. Rhoads on Oct. 17, 1948, in La Grande.

Doris was a stay-at-home mother until her chil-dren were school age and then she worked various jobs in John Day until 1973 when they moved back to La Grande. In 1974 they moved to Milton-Free-water. She became a hair-dresser and worked at sev-eral different salons before working at Headline Salon for more than 20 years. She moved to Summerville in 1990.

She was a member of the First Christian Church, Past Matron of the Order of Eastern Star, a life member

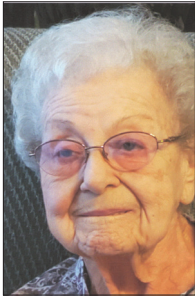
of more than 65 years in Elgin and Milton-Free-water, and Daughters of the Nile. She was a life member of Jewel No. 96 Lodge of Summerville and was the president of the Rebekah Assembly of Oregon in 2011-2012.

Surviving rel-atives include her children C. Alan Rhoads of Salem, A. Leigh Rhoads of Sacramento, California, Charles A. Rhoads of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, MaryAnn Rhoads of Weston, and Kathy L. Williams of Milton-Freewater; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles E. Rhoads.

In lieu of flowers, memo-rial donations may be made to the Order of Eastern Star, Jewel No. 96 Rebekah Lodge, or the Shriners Hos-pital for Children in care of Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater 97862

To leave an online con-dolence, visit www.mun-sellerhodes.com.



Rhoads

DEATH NOTICES

Joshua Burright

Summerville

Joshua Burright, 41, of Summerville, died Sept. 24, 2021, at OHSU in Portland. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Judy Culp

Cove

Judy Culp, 69, of Cove, died Sept. 25, 2021, at her home. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crema-tory, La Grande.

Icey R. Hewitt

La Grande

Icey Robert Hewitt, 81, of La Grande, died Sept. 25, 2021. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cre-mation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Robert Niswender

La Grande

Robert Niswender, 84, of La Grande, died Sept. 25, 2021. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Phyllis Walch

La Grande

Phyllis Walch, 84, of La Grande, died Sept. 25, 2021, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, SEPT. 24

8:03 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office received a report of a restraining order violation at a residence on the 1300 block of Beverly Terrace, Elgin. A deputy made contact.

10:14 a.m. — A caller reported a domestic disturbance at a residence on the 800 block of North 15th Avenue, Elgin. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and separated the parties.

2:14 p.m. — La Grande police responded to Gekeler Lane and 20th Street on a report of a suspicious person and arrested a 22-year-old man for disorderly conduct.

3:44 p.m. — A Union County sheriff’s deputy conducted a field interrogation at French and Hibbler Streets, Cove, and arrested Glen Eymard Thibodeau, 34, for reckless driving, crim-inal mischief, a restraining order violation, resisting arrest, disor-derly conduct and harassment.

4:23 p.m. — A caller reported animal cruelty on the 2900 block of Third Street, La Grande. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and took information.

7:21 p.m. — Emergency services responded to a vehicle crash in the area of 63900 High Valley Road, Cove. The Union County Sheriff’s Office arrested Justin Lee Marshall, 29, for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

10:24 p.m. — A caller reported possible gunshots in the area of the 100 block of Fir Street, La Grande.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25

6:35 a.m. — La Grande police responded to Dairy Queen, 2312 Island Ave., on a report of indecent exposure and arrested Corey Eugene Windham, 51, for assault on a public safety officer.

8:11 a.m. — A caller reported a deer stuck in a fence on the 500 block of 16th Street, La Grande. An animal enforcement offi-cer responded but did not find the deer.

4:48 p.m. — A caller complained about littering on the 200 block of 16th Street, La Grande. An officer made contact and

took information.

6:36 p.m. — A caller reported the theft of a vehicle from a res-idence on the 1200 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande. An offi-cer responded and explained options.

8:47 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a male walking in and out of traffic at Fir Street and Washington Ave-nue. Officers searched the area but did not find the person.

8:47 p.m. — At the same time as the above call, La Grande police received a report of a male going door to door on the 2700 block of Gekeler Lane. An officer responded, took informa-tion and arranged for an extra patrol.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 26

1:41 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1100 block of Adams Avenue on a report of suspicious circumstances. An offi-cer made contact with three people, counseled them and told them to move along.

2 a.m. — A caller reported a loud party on the 1700 block of Russell Avenue, La Grande. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and found the party was shutting down.

9:28 a.m. — A caller on the 600 block of West Delta Street, Union, reported a dog bit someone. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and took a report.

1:29 p.m. — A caller reported a burglary at a residence on the 1400 block of T Avenue, La Grande. An officer responded and would follow up.

5:51 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 1800 block of 26th Street for an assault. The officer found this did not rise to a level of mandatory arrest.

9:03 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff’s Office received a report of a disturbance in the area of 73800 Palmer Junction Road, Elgin. A deputy responded and separated the parties.

11:17 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about noise on the 2200 block of Adams Avenue. An officer responded and resolved the situation.

Soroptimist celebrates a century of service

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Soroptimist International is marking 100 years this year, and the Wallowa County club celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2017, according to a press release.

With no big-box stores in Wallowa County, vol-unteerism is how things get done. The local Sorop-timist membership has grown by more than a dozen new members since July, mostly because those who share the club’s ideals see the value of what the group does for the com-munity and want to be a part of it. The club is thriving with a total mem-bership of 52 women, local Soroptimist Carolyn Gilbert said.

Over the course of the club’s history, the mem-bers have tried many dif-ferent forms of fund-raisers, including candy sales, fashion shows and pie sales. In September 1957 — more than 60 years ago — the local club undertook its largest fundraising project ever, the operation of a thrift shop in the basement of the Enterprise Odd Fel-lows Hall.

The shop is still open.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Volunteers at the Soroptimist of Wallowa County Thrift Shop sort donations Thursday, Sept. 9, 2021. Soroptimist International is cel-ebrating its 100th birthday this year.

Prices have been kept low over the years to allow those in need in the com-munity to clothe their families at prices they can afford. In operation only two days a week, the shop grosses more than \$1,000 per week and earns about \$60,000 a year. Approxi-mately 90% of the shop’s net revenues go back into the community with 10% going to Soroptimist projects.

The shop is open to all on Fridays and Satur-days from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations are accepted only on Mondays.

Each year, the Wal-lowa County Soropti-mist club supports the Live Your Dream Award, confers a Fellowship

Award to a woman pur-suing an advanced educa-tional degree and honors a local woman with a Ruby Award. Internation-ally, members support the December 10th Appeal and have funded the high school educations of five teen girls in El Salvador and a family in Sierra Leone.

Locally, the club pro-vides support to a number of projects and programs. Most notable this year, it provided 12 high school seniors with \$2,000 scholarships and spon-sored a month-long pro-gram on Women in Art. The club also gives to the local food bank, senior meals, libraries and other programs and conducts

SOROPTIMIST OF WALLOWA COUNTY

Where: Basement of IOOF Hall, 202 E. North St., Enterprise.
Phone: 541-263-0674
Online: Facebook (Sorop-timist International of Wal-lowa County) or www.wal-lowacountysoroptimist.org. Thrift Shop online auctions at www.soroptimist-wal-lowacounty-auction.org.
Mail: Submit requests for community projects to SI Wal-lowa County, P.O. Box 127, Enterprise 97828.

three community service projects.

The club also helps sponsor Community Con-nection and various com-munity projects such as Chief Joseph Summer Camp, the Rotary Spelling Bee, school field trips, the Wallowa Summer Reading Pro-gram and the Youth Art Festival.

The club has main-tained high standards as professional women com-mitted to improving the lives of women and girls primarily in the local community but also on an international scale.

“We are proud of our members and our accom-plishments,” the release stated.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Nella Mae’s Farm hosts monthly online ‘Garden Hour’

COVE — “Garden Hour with Nella Mae” is now held on the first Wednesday of each month. The virtual one-hour class will take place via Zoom beginning at 6:30 p.m. Classes will feature gardening presen-tations, Q&A and discus-sion. All are welcome. The Oct. 6 class will be on composting. Join

in to learn why compost is crucial for your garden and soil, how to make good compost and build a new pile and how to care for your compost pile. Other methods of com-posting will be covered including compost tum-blers, compost tea and worm compost.

Nella Mae accepts an \$8 class fee on the honor system. If this is a hard-ship for you, just join the class for no cost.

To sign up or for more

information, contact Nella Mae’s Farm at nellamaesfarm@gmail.com or 541-910-4098 or visit www.nellamaesfarm.com for the link.

Learn about grant writing at online workshop

LA GRANDE — The Union County Chamber of Commerce announced an online grant writing workshop series hosted by NeighborWorks Umpqua and the Ford Institute for Community Building. Designed for nonprofit organizations, the four-part series will be held via Zoom on Thursdays from 2:30-5 p.m. begin-ning Sept. 30. The cost is \$35 per person. For more information contact the instructor, Meredith Howell, at 541-760-6255 or mhowell@nwumpqua.org.

Children’s bike and helmet giveaway set for Saturday

LA GRANDE — La Grande’s Safe Routes to School program is having a Bike Blast Bike Drop this Saturday, Oct. 2, from 9 a.m. to noon at the La Grande Farmers Market, held in Max Square, at the corner of Adams Avenue and Fourth Street. A limited

number of free bicycles and helmets for children will be given away, along with cycling safety edu-cational materials. Call 541-962-0514 or email srts@cityoflagrande.org to learn more.

Play bingo at the senior center on Tuesdays

LA GRANDE — The Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany, La Grande, is hosting bingo games on Tuesdays. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo tickets are sold beginning at 5:30 p.m., and the games start at 6 p.m. All are wel-come. Proceeds benefit Union County senior pro-grams including Meals on Wheels.

— The Observer

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



Please follow guide-lines regarding face cov-erings and social dis-tancing at all gatherings.

Oct. 2 — MIKE BRENNAN: 10:30 a.m. graveside service, Joseph Prairie Creek Cemetery.

Oct. 2 — RICHARD CROFT: 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. memorial gath-ering, Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

Oct. 2 — JOHN BENNETT: 11 a.m. cel-eration of life, Gray’s West & Company Pion-ner Chapel, Baker City;

reception follows at Coles Tribute Center.

Oct. 2 — DORIS RHOADS: 11 a.m. memorial service, Sum-merville Cemetery Chapel.

Oct. 2 — LARRY CHRISTMAN: 2 p.m. celebration of life, Clo-verleaf Hall, Enterprise.

Oct. 16 — MEL ELDER: 10 a.m. memo-rial service, La Grande First Christian Church.

Oct. 16 — BRADLEY FAR-RESTER: 4 p.m. celebration of life, Riv-erside Park Pavilion, La Grande; reception follows.

— *calendar cour-tesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande*

PICK’N PATCH
We will be OPENING on October 1st!
Where: Corner of Booth Lane and Lower Cove Road
When: Friday and Saturday: 9am-6pm
Sunday: 10am-4pm
Monday-Thursday: By appointment
What you will find: Small corn maze, several varieties of pumpkins and gourds, straw bales, corn stalks.
If you would like to schedule a school field trip or other event, please call the number listed below.
 Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PickNPatchFarm
farmkids@oregonwireless.net
Please call 541-786-2421