

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

### MEETINGS

• **LA GRANDE** — The La Grande Community Landscape and Forestry Commission meets Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom videoconference. For the meeting link or other information, contact Stu Spence, Parks and Recreation director, at [sspence@cityoflagrande.org](mailto:sspence@cityoflagrande.org) or 541-962-1348.

• **LA GRANDE** — A regular session of the La Grande Rural Fire District Board will begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, at the fire hall. For more information, call Kim George at 541-910-3114.

• **PENDLETON** — A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the InterMountain Education Service District will begin at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the IMESD, 2001 SW Nye Ave., Pendleton.

### BRIEFS

#### Library shows free movie for teens

**LA GRANDE** — Cook Memorial Library's Teen Mid-Week Movie takes place the third Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. in the Community Room. The next film is on Dec. 15. The free gathering is open to anyone in middle school or high school. Call the library at 541-962-1339 or visit [www.cookmemoriallibrary.org](http://www.cookmemoriallibrary.org) for the movie title and other activities for teens. Masks are required for indoor events.

#### Union's food pantry open Dec. 17

**UNION** — The Union community food bank will be open from 10-11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 17, at the Catherine Creek Community Center, 667 N. Main St. The food pantry is open to all on the third Friday of each month.

#### Wednesdays are bingo night in Union County

**UNION, ELGIN** — The Veterans of Foreign Wars High Valley Post 4060 in Union has resumed hosting weekly bingo games Wednesday evenings. All are welcome to join in at the VFW Hall, 518 Main St. Doors open at 5 p.m., with early-bird games at 6 p.m. and regular bingo at 7 p.m. The last game of the evening is the jackpot, and organizers say players could win up to \$500.

For those on the other end of the valley, bingo games are offered at the Elgin Community Center, 260 N. 10th Ave., hosted by the Elgin Lions Club on Wednesdays. Doors open at 6 p.m., and games begin at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

#### Union County Senior Center lunch menu

**Takeout meals:** On Dec. 13-14, pick up 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at front door; beginning Dec. 15, pick up meals from noon to 1 p.m. at kitchen's back door. **Dine-in meals:** begins Wednesday, Dec. 15. Age 60+, \$3 suggested donation; all others, \$5.

#### DEC. 13-17

**Monday:** cheeseburger, fries, fresh fruit, pudding.

**Tuesday:** teriyaki chicken over rice, steamed green beans, fresh fruit, cookie.

**Wednesday:** fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, salad greens, fresh fruit, dessert. No charge for lunch today in celebration of return of in-person dining.

**Thursday:** Cobb salad, potato chowder, baked bread, fruit, dessert.

**Friday:** Salisbury steak over noodles, steamed vegetables, salad greens, fresh fruit, dessert.

— *The Observer*

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8

8:35 a.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about a sex crime. An officer responded and took a report.

8:52 a.m. — A caller reported vandalism to a vehicle on the 1400 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande. An officer made contact and took a report.

9:16 a.m. — La Grande police responded to a report of a burglary at Self Service Furniture Warehouse, 2216 Adams Ave., and took a report.

2:50 p.m. — A caller reported vandalism on the 1000 block of Second Street, La Grande. An officer responded and will follow up.

4:01 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of child neglect. An officer responded and took a report.

5:42 p.m. — A caller reported a person with a flashlight was walking around in fenced area on the 900 block of X Avenue, La Grande. The caller then reported the person had left.

8:51 p.m. — A La Grande resident reported the theft of a vehicle. An officer made contact and later determined the vehicle had been repossessed.

11:44 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1300 block of O Avenue on a report of a car prowler. An officer found a person was looking for cans.

### THURSDAY, DEC. 9

12:14 a.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about noise on the 1900 block of Second Street. An officer made contact and explained options.

12:50 a.m. — A caller reported water coming up through the cement on the 2100 block of Island Avenue, La Grande. Dispatch contacted the city water department.

1:02 a.m. — Local emergency services responded to the area of 62200 Fruitdale Lane, La Grande, for a traffic crash involving injuries. The Union County Sheriff's Office took a report.

11:05 a.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about a sex crime. An officer made contact and took a report.

1:42 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about a sex crime. Police took a report for assault.

4 p.m. — A caller reported a stalking order violation on the 1700 block of Fourth Street, La Grande. An officer made contact and will follow up.

10:35 p.m. — A resident on the 1600 block of M Avenue, La Grande, reported a vehicle was blocking a driveway. An officer responded and resolved the situation.

11:27 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2900 block of Depot Street on a report of a theft and trespassed one person from the scene.

## BIRTHS

### GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL

**BENNETT:** Henry Glen Bennett, born Nov. 23, 2021, to Marie Christine Bennett and Christian Glen Bennett, of Elgin. Grandparents are Doug and Diane Dalton and Larry and Diana Bennett.

**BRADEN:** Madelyn Anne Braden, born Nov. 23, 2021, to Vanessa Renae Braden and Landon Lee Braden, of La Grande. Grandparents are Phyllis and Wallace Johnson, Larry

Braden, and Lee and David Manuel.

**QUINN:** Molly Quinn, born Nov. 30, 2021, to Keri Ann Quinn and Charles David Quinn, of La Grande. Grandparents are Dale and Susan Urbanski and David and Joyce Quinn.

**SPAIN:** Weston King Spain, born Nov. 16, 2021, to Karisa Eve Marston and Frederick King Spain, of La Grande. Grandparents are Pam and King Spain, Michelle Watson, Douglas Watson and George Marston.

## Christopher L. Schwebke

1980-2021  
La Grande

Christopher Lavern Schwebke, 41, of La Grande, died Dec. 5, 2021, at St. Luke's Medical Center in Boise, Idaho. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

Christopher was born Sept. 16, 1980, in La Grande, to Marc Schwebke and Anna (McClure) Schwebke.

He resided in La Grande, Hood River and Yakima, Washington. He attended grade school in La Grande and middle and high school in Hood River. He married Crystal Dufour.

Christopher was a chef and enjoyed cooking and canning. He also enjoyed woodworking, building things, helping neighbors, picking huckleberries, gardening and target shooting. He was an avid Blazers and Oregon Ducks fan.

Survivors include his wife, Crystal; children, Trenton Schwebke, Skyler Schwebke of La Grande and Brendan Schwebke of North Carolina; parents, Marc and Anna Schwebke of La Grande; brothers, Kruz Schwebke of Klamath Falls and

Tracy Schwebke and wife, Valerie, of Pasco, Washington; sister, Maryann Younger and husband, Jeremy, of Springfield; two nieces and four nephews; great-aunts and great-uncles, Jan and Larry Bayliss and Duane and Gay Zander; aunts and uncles, Cinda McClure of Kent, Washington, Jimmie and Lynn McClure of La Grande, and

Karen and Greg Balmer of Portland; and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Jimmie O. McClure; aunt, Ruthie McClure; step-grandfather, Loydd German; grandmother, LaWanna Schwebke; and grandfather, Harold Schwebke.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family to help with expenses in care of Anna Schwebke, P.O. Box 1334, La Grande 97850, or to the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program ([www.salvationarmynca.org/angeltree](http://www.salvationarmynca.org/angeltree)).

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



Schwebke

## Connie K. (Mitchell) Driskell

1944-2021  
La Grande

Connie Kay Driskell, 77, of La Grande, died Nov. 29, 2021, at her home. Per her request, there will not be a service. The family will host a BBQ later in the summer of 2022.

Connie was born Feb. 14, 1944, in Midland, Michigan, to Ora Mitchell and Mildred (Flansburg) Mitchell. She resided in Michigan and in Tillamook, Oceanside, Portland and La Grande. She graduated from Tillamook High School in 1962 and married James Driskell in 1992.

Connie owned Connie's Cafe from 1968-1970 and later worked at White Stage, Winter Product and Grand Ronde Knitt. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, fishing, camping, crafts, puzzles and games. She loved animals, traveling and going to Wildhorse. Her favorite moments were spent playing with her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, James Driskell of La Grande; son, Billy Driskell of La Grande; daughters and sons-

in-law, Liz and Frank Kee of La Grande and Becky and Rob Williamson of La Grande; stepsons, Randy Driskell of Moscow, Idaho, and James Driskell and wife, Betty, of Crane; eight grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ora and Mildred Mitchell; brother, Albert Mitchell; and stepson, Craig Driskell.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Blue Mountain Humane Association, 3212 Hwy 30, La Grande 97850, or the National Multiple Sclerosis Society at [www.nationalmssociety.org/donate](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/donate).

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



Driskell

## DEATH NOTICES

### Leroy V. Bushman La Grande

Leroy V. Bushman, 95, of La Grande, died Dec. 9, 2021, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

### June L. Miller La Grande

June L. Miller, 70, of La Grande, died Nov. 29, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. A memorial service will be held Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. at the Damascus Road Church, La Grande. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

### Jimmy D. Runnels North Powder

Jimmy D. Runnels, 67, of North Powder, died Dec. 9, 2021, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## OBITUARIES

### Robert Graffi

Formerly of Enterprise

Robert Graffi, 94, formerly of Enterprise, died Nov. 20, 2021. A funeral was held Dec. 2 and he was placed next to Darlene L. Graffi, the mother of his

Robert grew up in the Los Angeles area, enjoyed fishing and bird hunting with extended family. His interests were art and music. He learned to play the trumpet, cutting a record in the process.

Robert enlisted in the U.S. Army. While serving he was sent to the Philippines to destroy parts and equipment after the war so they didn't fall into enemy hands.

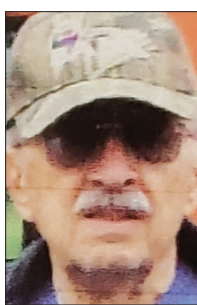
Robert worked for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. He

retired after 33 years and five months, following in the footsteps of his father, who worked there for 40 years. They both were chief material procurement coordinators providing all materials for the installation of transmission lines in the west part of the country.

In 1949, Robert married Darlene, and they had two children: Toni and Greg. Robert and Darlene lived in Enterprise, where he owned a 60-acre ranch and some horses and cows. They became snowbirds and enjoyed the change and traveling back and forth. After Darlene's death, he married Cecille, with whom he continued the snowbird life.

Survivors include his children, Toni Van Slyke and Greg Graffi; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and second wife, Cecille Sanders Graffi.

Memorial donations may be made to Parkinson's research.



Graffi



## UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



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

**Dec. 11 — MARYANN STAHL:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Nazarene Church.

**Dec. 11 — JIM TOOKE:** 1 p.m. memorial service, American Legion Post 43, La Grande.

**Dec. 12 — PHIL MILLER:** 3 p.m. memorial service, Dan-

iels-Knopp Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

**Dec. 13 — VERNON VALIANT:** 11 a.m. funeral, former Union Methodist Church.

**Dec. 18 — JUNE MILLER:** 10 a.m. memorial service, Damascus Road Church, La Grande.

**Dec. 19 — MARY REEDER:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Nazarene Church.

**Jan. 15, 2022 — JIM LUNDY:** 2 p.m. memorial service, Gilbert Center, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande.

— *calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel*

## Patricia (Pat) Anne Lewis

November 27, 1930 - December 2, 2021

Patricia (Pat) Anne Lewis, 91, a long time North Powder resident, passed away Thursday, December 2, 2021 at Valley View Nursing and Rehab in Boise, Idaho. Pat was born November 27, 1930 in North Powder, Oregon, the daughter of John Alexander Shaw and Pearl Laurel (Wicks) Shaw. Pat's early years were spent on the family ranch helping her parents with livestock, wheat harvest and haying. She attended a one-room school house and went to school either on horseback or riding in a sleigh during the winter. Pat graduated from North Powder High School in 1949, and attended Oregon State University in Corvallis until December, 1950. That December, she married her high school sweetheart, William (Bill) Lewis in North Powder, OR. She joined him in running a family dairy with 220 Holstein cows until the 1970's when they sold the cows and focused on farming.

In addition to being the mother of five children and helping with the farm, Pat became a talented artist focusing on oil and watercolor painting. In 1969 and 1970, she took classes from Treasure Valley Community College and eventually enrolled at Eastern Oregon University in the spring of 1980. Pat completed her degree in August, 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Art. She exhibited her work at various galleries around the state and continued to paint and draw into her 90's. During those years she was active in Crossroads Art Center and chaired "Art-In-The-Park" one year at the Miner's Jubilee in Baker City, OR.

Pat loved gardening and spent her summers growing fruits and vegetables and abundant flowers. She started her plants in a greenhouse attached to their home and designed and created a beautiful yard. In the mid 1990's, she began growing mint plants in a commercial greenhouse behind their home for transplant on the farm.

As a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Pat delighted in the lives of her children and was known to paint lovely cards for their birthdays. She was a hub for the children and their children living around the country.

Grandchildren include; Alaina Lewis, Anya Lewis, Ava Lewis, Jason Lewis, Stephen Lewis (Julie), Ashley Lawson, Kristine Lawson, Alex Brown and Megan Brown. Great-Grandchildren include; Everly Lewis and Carson Lewis. Pat is preceded in death by her husband, Bill in 2010 and her son, Stephen in 1958; and her sisters, Margaret S. Rayburn and Jane S. Walch. She is survived by her children; Greg Lewis, Douglas Lewis (Mary), Lisa Lawson (Kerry), and Angela Brown (Don); and her sister, Merrie Jacqueline Zimmerman.

A memorial service will be held in the spring at the North Powder Cemetery with a celebration of life at the North Powder Methodist Church. The date will be announced at a later time.

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



**Senior Center Lunch Volunteers Needed**

Lunch Volunteers serve once or twice per month on weekdays from 11:00am to 12:45 pm

Call us at 541-963-7532