

2022 New Year's baby born at Grande Ronde Hospital



Grande Ronde Hospital/Contributed Photos

Violet Lin Knight was the first baby born at Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande, in the new year arriving on Jan. 3, 2022. At left, the infant rests with her parents, Allyson Smith and Keb Knight, on Tuesday, Jan. 4. To celebrate her arrival, Violet's parents were presented with a basket of diapers and gifts from the GRH Auxiliary as well as a quilt from the Quilt Questers.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY, JAN. 3

NOTE: Disabled vehicles continued to be a common call for service.

8:08 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a tree that fell and knocked down power lines on the 300 block of South Fourth Street, Union.

8:53 a.m. — A caller reported a power line was down at East Grande and South Bellwood streets, Union

8:57 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received another report of a tree that fell in Union, this one on the 800 block of South Main Street.

1:36 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy took a report for a sex crime.

2:50 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 2400 block of R Avenue for a domestic disturbance. Police trespassed one person at the scene.

4:50 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office arrested Rodney Dean Bartlett, 59, for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

6:07 p.m. — A caller reported criminal mischief at Walmart, 11619 Island Ave., Island City. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and warned the subjects.

7:09 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to a residence on the 1000 block of Galveston Street, Elgin, on a report of a disturbance. The parties separated.

8:31 p.m. — A caller reported livestock was on the road at Pierce Road and Bond Lane, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy resolved the situation.

TUESDAY, JAN. 4

11:11 a.m. — A caller on the 700 block of Alder Street, Elgin, reported a suspicious person. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and trespassed the individual.

11:47 a.m. — Local law enforcement assisted medics at a crash involving injuries at milepost 3 on Highway 82, La Grande.

2:43 p.m. — A caller reported an assault on the 1500 block of 21st Street, La Grande. An officer responded and took information.

3:37 p.m. — A caller reported an assault on the 21080 block of Maple Street, La Grande. An officer tried to make contact and left a voicemail.

6:22 p.m. — A caller on the 100 block of Aries Lane, La Grande, reported two adults and a child were knocking on doors in the neighborhood. An officer searched the area but did not find the trio.

6:39 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about child neglect. An officer took information and explained options.

8:05 p.m. — A caller reported a child was alone at Birch Street and Y Avenue, La Grande. An officer responded and returned the child to its home.

Snow maiden adorns Adams Avenue



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Luke Boyles, a construction worker with an affinity for snow, puts the finishing touches on his snow mermaid along Adams Avenue on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2021. "I make it a goal to get one snowman in a year," Boyles said, stating that the annual tradition started 10 years ago when he moved to La Grande. An Alaska native, Boyles said that snow gets a lot of negative attention in the news and he wants to bring a smile to anyone who passes by. In previous years, the snow sculptor made 7-foot-tall snowmen in parks, but he said this year he wanted to do something a little different.

Fishtrap goes live Jan. 7

ENTERPRISE — The first Fishtrap Fire-side of the new year will be available online on Friday, Jan. 7, with readings from three Wallowa County writers: Sara Miller and Marika

Straw and an appearance by Shannon McNerney, Fishtrap's executive director.

View the monthly reading series at www.fishtrap.org and on Fishtrap's YouTube channel.

DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Theresa A. Fields

La Grande

Theresa A. Fields, 61, of La Grande, died Jan. 4, 2022, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Robert R. Miller

Cove

Robert R. Miller, 76, of Cove, died Jan. 3, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Gertrude E. Gilliland

La Grande

Gertrude E. Gilliland, 89, of La Grande, died Jan. 3, 2022, at her residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Barbara Weishaar

La Grande

Barbara Weishaar, 87, of La Grande, died Jan. 3, 2022, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Audrey B. Bean

Formerly of La Grande

Audrey B. Bean, 87, formerly of La Grande, died Dec. 22, 2021, at St. Luke's Hospital, Meridian, Idaho. A viewing will be held Jan. 15 at 9 a.m. at the Island City Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A funeral service will follow the viewing at 10 a.m. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



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

Jan. 6 — MICHELLE CREPEAU: 2 p.m. funeral; Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Jan. 6-7 — BRIAN SPENCER: Thursday, 1 p.m. Rosary and Mass of Christian Burial, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, La Grande; Friday, 1 p.m. graveside service, Burns Cemetery.

Jan. 7 — TERRI HOCKER: 2:30 p.m. funeral, Wallowa Christian Church; burial follows at the Wallowa Cemetery, then a reception at the church.

Jan. 15 — AUDREY BEAN: 9 a.m. viewing, 10 a.m. funeral; Island City Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Jan. 15 — JIM LUNDY: 2 p.m. memorial service, Gilbert Center, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande. — calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Cove senior lunch served twice a month

COVE — Cove senior lunches are again being served at Founders Hall on the Ascension School grounds on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, with coffee and tea at 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon. The menu for Tuesday, Jan. 18, is sweet and sour chicken, rice pilaf, winter squash, salad bar, rolls and brownies.

The price is \$5 per meal and reservations are

requested by calling 541-568-4902 or 1-907-299-6072 by Jan. 11.

Library launches Kid Craft Fridays

LA GRANDE — Cook Memorial Library, 2006 Fourth St., La Grande, invites children ages 7-10 to a weekly craft activity every Friday afternoon. Kid Craft Fridays begins at 3 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult, and masks are required.

— The Observer

Kenn Gilson

May 15, 1942 - November 2, 2021

Kenn was born in La Grande, May 15, 1942, the eldest son of Carl and Rosalie (Herrmann) Gilson. He passed away November 2, 2021, in Portland, OR. Kenn went to schools in La Grande, moving to Portland during his La Grande High School days. He is survived by his son, Marc Gilson; sister, Lenore Lawrence; brother, Terry Gilson; one grandson; and several cousins in the La Grande area. He was loved and will be missed.

Michelle Lynn Crepeau

April 18, 1973 - December 19, 2021

Michelle Lynn Crepeau, 48, of Union, passed away on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at her residence. A viewing will be held at Loveland Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. A funeral service will be held at Loveland Funeral Chapel on Thursday, January 6, 2022, at 2:00pm.

Michelle was born on April 18, 1973 in Chicago, Illinois, to William Jr. and Lorelei (Lange) Polster. She resided in Henderson, Nevada, and Union, Oregon. Michelle loved gar-

dening and spending time with family.

Michelle is survived by her husband, Matthew Boyd Crepeau of Union, OR; son, Caleb Crepeau of La Grande, OR; daughter, Carrissa Crepeau of Union, OR; parents, William and Lorelei Polster of Henderson, NV; brothers, Chris Polster (Morieene) of Henderson, NV and Steve Polster (Katia) of Hawaii; sister, Tina Polster of Mt. Prospect IL; and 8 nieces and nephews.

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



Marilynn "Joann" Nelson

August 11, 1930 - October 25, 2021

Marilynn "Joann" Nelson, age 91, of La Grande, died October 25, 2021, at her home. A funeral service will be held sometime in the spring and will be announced by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.



Joann was born on August 11, 1930, the daughter of William and Mary Josephine (Thistlethwaite) Hawkins in Decatur, Illinois. After graduating from high school, she finished nurses' school in Illinois. On June 7, 1953, she married Charles Nelson in Decatur and they moved west to Oregon, first to Baker City and later to La Grande. She worked as a nurse for the old Grande Ronde Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital for 20 years. She then was a video production technician for the Union County Ed-

ucational District for 20 years. She was a member of the Faith Lutheran Church in La Grande and was active with Weight Watchers and the VFW Auxiliary. When her children were young, she was active in PTA and Boy and Girl Scouts. She was a booster for sports. She enjoyed tole painting and was a member of the Tole Painter's of America. She also made candles, sewed and was a collector of Beanie Babies.

Survivors include her children, Charles 'Eric' Nelson of La Grande, Vern Justin Nelson of La Grande, Tracy Owen Nelson of San Francisco, California, Nelsa Drey of San Bernadino, California and Alex Almar Nelson of Roseburg, Oregon; brother, Richard Hawkins of Hawaii; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild and other relatives and friends.



Judith "Judy" Ann (Beels) Hunt

February 14, 1941 - December 10, 2021

Judith "Judy" Ann (Beels) Hunt, 80, passed away on Friday, December 10, 2021, at her home. A celebration of life will be held on March 26, 2022 at 3:00pm at the La Grande Seventh Day Adventist Church, located at 2702 Adams Avenue, in La Grande, Oregon.

Judy was born on February 14, 1941 in Winner, South Dakota, to Mahlon Bruce and Irene Viola (Skibinski) Beels. She graduated from Elgin High School in 1959 and married Wavel Hunt in Weiser, Idaho.

Judy and Wavel started their family with three birth children and added two overseas adopted children several years later. Over the course of several years, they adopted five more children with special needs. While Judy was home schooling her birth children, she also took a French class at Eastern Oregon State College.

Judy was a busy mother and provided child and foster care to a number of children. She operated a community services program (Dorcas) for her church which served people by supplying clothing and food items to those needing help. She later opened her own resale store (Tabitha's) which sold clothing and house-

hold items to the area at very low prices.

Judy began volunteer work at People Helping People Thrift Store almost 20 years ago, during which time she had many opportunities to minister to the spiritual needs of customers seeking help with prayer or comfort. She continued this work until this past summer.

Judy is survived by her husband, Wavel Hunt of La Grande; sons, Michael Hunt of Middleton, ID, Jacob Hunt of Pendleton, OR, London (Rocky) Hunt of Rexburg, ID, and Frederick (Skie) Hunt of La Grande, OR; daughters, Jennifer Knoll of Gresham, OR, Angela Hanley, Sarah Hunt, Stella (Valen) Hunt, and Indhira (Cozil) Hunt of La Grande, OR; 13 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Joshua Hunt and parents, Mahlon and Irene Beels.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Hospice Promise Foundation at 901 Hugh Wallis Road South, Lafayette, LA, 70508, www.lhcc.org.com/foundation, or to the charity of your choice.

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