

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

**MONDAY, JAN. 31**

6:02 a.m. — A caller reported a suspicious vehicle at Blue Springs Crossing, 10801 S. Walton Road, Island City. Officers responded and found the occupant was taking a nap.  
 11:42 a.m. — A caller on the 10300 block of South Valley Avenue, La Grande, reported a restraining order violation. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded.  
 11:57 a.m. — Local law enforcement and other emergency services responded to Fruitdale Lane and Mount Glen Road, La Grande, for a two-vehicle accident involving injuries.  
 3:31 p.m. — A caller reported animal neglect on the 1800 block of Washington Avenue, La Grande.

3:42 p.m. — La Grande police conducted a welfare check at a residence on the 2100 block of Cove Avenue and requested an ambulance.  
 5:30 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a restraining order violation on the 2100 block of Adams Avenue. An officer made contact and took information.  
 7:15 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to Integrity Automotive, 10301 E. First St., Island City, on a report of harassment and counseled both parties.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 1**

12:06 a.m. — A caller reported a vehicle at Washington Avenue and Hemlock Street,

La Grande, hit another vehicle and the driver kept going. Officers responded and arrested Caleb Austin Walker, 19, of La Grande, for driving under the influence of intoxicants and hit-and-run.  
 8:03 a.m. — A caller on the 1100 block of Alder Street, Elgin, reported a restraining order violation. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and discussed options.  
 12:55 p.m. — A caller reported animal neglect on the 76400 block of Palmer Junction Road, Elgin.  
 4:30 p.m. — Union County sheriff's deputies responded to the intersection of South Walton Road and Island Avenue at Walmart for a multi-vehicle accident. Tow trucks

took vehicles, and the sheriff's office took a report.  
 6:12 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a vehicle pileup on the 2000 block of Q Avenue and took a report.  
 9:41 p.m. — A resident on the 1900 block of H Avenue, La Grande, reported loud music was coming from another apartment. An officer responded and gave a warning about the city's noise ordinance. The occupant said she would keep it down.  
 10:44 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1500 block of 21st Street on a report of a loud disturbance. Police gave a warning for disorderly conduct and citation for a traffic violation.

**Feast on 'Ground Hog' in Union on Feb. 5**

The Observer

UNION — The Veteran of Foreign Wars High Valley Post 4060 has caught the "pesky Ground Hog," according to an announcement from the post.  
 The news means the group will be putting on its famous annual Ground Hog Breakfast at the VFW

hall in Union.

The breakfast will be served on Saturday, Feb. 5, beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 11 a.m. (earlier, if the Ground Hog runs out). Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$6 for students. On the menu is Ground Hog with gravy and biscuits, plus coffee, tea, juice or milk.



Barry Reeger/Associated Press, File

Cardboard cutouts decorate Gobbler's Knob for Groundhog Day in 2021, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. The 2021 event was held without anyone in attendance due to potential COVID-19 risks.

**Scholarships, potatoes and peace poles**

**Rotary Club of Wallowa County had a busy year**

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Scholarships, potatoes, coats and peace poles are all a part of the picture as the Rotary Club of Wallowa County looks back on the service activities it performed in 2021.

The club's projects served Wallowa County, but they also spread around the world, to Uganda, El Salvador and Mexico.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, club members made some adjustments to the Lostine River Run, held on the Fourth of July each year, with proceeds supporting local high school scholarships. More than \$9,000 was handed out in 2021.

The local Food Drive Challenge between the Rotary Club and the Soroptimist Club collected money for the food bank at Community Connection.

This friendly competition is repeated yearly by the two service clubs, and has been going strong since 2008. This year, the Soroptimist Club came out on top, raising more than \$3,000. With additional matching by Community Bank, the total given was \$6,936.

Rotary also collected potatoes for the food bank in the Great Potato Drive conducted in November and December. After purchasing more than 155 pounds of potatoes from Patrick Theil at Prairie Creek Farms, Rotary members sold bags of potatoes and carrots to community members and contributed vegetables to the food bank. This was another fundraiser for scholarships, as the money gained



Marilyn Dalton/Contributed Photo

Head Start children show the new winter coats they received through the Rotary Club of Wallowa County's Coats for Kids project.

from the sales will be used to help this year's graduating Wallowa County high school seniors in their second year of study at college.

Rotary's Coats for Kids project and Building Healthy Families again gave out 50 new warm coats to local children. Children's new winter coats are still available by calling Building Healthy Families at 541-426-9411.

A new program Rotary started this year is to install two Peace Poles in the county, as part of Rotary International's focus on world peace.

The poles have been acquired from Jim Zacharias and are being carved by Steve Arment. They should be completed sometime this year, and will be

installed at locations still to be determined.

As part of the local club's focus on international projects, Seth Kinzie of Joseph was granted a Rotary Peace Fellowship and spent several months in Uganda studying with peace fellows from several African countries. With Rotary's support he will be returning to Africa to conduct research in several countries.

The Rotary Club of Wallowa County continues to support tuition scholarships for 10 girls in an El Salvador high school.

The local membership also celebrated 100% participation, with an average donation of \$100 per member in the global Rotary International Foundation projects aimed at

promoting peace; eradicating polio; providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene; supporting mothers and children; supporting education; growing local economies; and protecting the environment.

The Rotary Club of Wallowa County was founded in 1986. Currently about 30 members meet weekly for lunch and a short program to help members understand what is happening in the community and where opportunities for service projects might exist. Meetings are at the Odd Fellows Hall in Enterprise, on the second floor.

For more information about Rotary, contact Anette Christoffersen at 541-398-1148.

**DEATH NOTICES**

**Dorothy 'Jean' Dillon**  
Island City

Dorothy "Jean" Dillon, 96, of Island City, died Jan. 31, 2022, at her home. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

**Ty Hallgarth**  
Elgin

Ty Hallgarth, 53, of Elgin, died Jan. 31, 2022, at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Boise. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**Della G. Heutzenroeder**  
La Grande

Della G. Heutzenroeder, 90, of La Grande, died Feb. 2, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**Nellie J. Hughes**  
La Grande

Nellie J. Hughes, 92, of La Grande, died Feb. 2, 2022, at her residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**Steven Seneca**  
Union

Steven Seneca, 66, of Union, died Feb. 2, 2022, at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**Arlan W. Taal**  
La Grande

Arlan W. Taal, 85, of La Grande, died Feb. 1, 2022, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

**Terrance 'Terry' Watson**  
North Powder

Terrance "Terry" Watson, 83, of North Powder, died Jan. 29, 2022, at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Baker City. Arrangements are by Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Halfway.

**UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES**



**Feb. 4 — CECILIA CAMPBELL:** 10 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial, Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, La Grande.

**Feb. 4 — DONNA BROWN:** noon celebration of life, Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande; graveside service follows at 2 p.m. at Hillcrest East Cemetery.

**Feb. 5 — ROSE MARIE REESE:** 1 p.m. graveside service, Cove Cemetery.

*Please follow guidelines regarding face coverings and social distancing at gatherings. Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel.*

**Garret Wayne Crawford**  
January 5, 1954 - January 25, 2022

Garret Wayne Crawford, 68, of La Grande, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022, at his home. At his request there will not be a service.



Garret was born on Jan. 5, 1954, in Spokane, Washington, to George and Beulah (Drader) Crawford. He graduated from North Bend Senior High School. He earned five associate's degrees in Forestry Management, from Spokane Community College, and was honorably discharged from the Navy.

Garret worked as a forestry technician before his retirement. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and gardening.

Garret is survived by his daughters, Amy (Steven) Oaks of Coos Bay, Oregon, and Jolene Blackburn of Holyoke, Massachusetts; son, Timothy Gallagher of Scranton, Kansas; siblings, Athella (Robert) Huddleston of Altas, Oklahoma, Brent Crawford of Lorain, Ohio, and Frances Crawford (Donna Davies) of Coos Bay, Oregon; grandchildren, Ashley Labrousse, Brody Smith, Bryan Oaks, Justin Oaks, Garret Blackburn, Corrina Blackburn, Timothy Gallagher and Genevieve Gallagher; nephew, Boyde Crawford; and niece, Darnelle Spain. He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Beulah Crawford, and sister, Letha Mae Crawford.

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

**COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

**MEETINGS**

• LA GRANDE — The following city commissions will hold their monthly meetings in February. All meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be held online, via Zoom. The Community Landscape and Forestry Commission meets on Tuesday, Feb. 8. This month's meeting of the La Grande Arts Commission takes place on Wednesday, Feb. 9, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meets on Thursday, Feb. 10.

Answers to questions

and meeting links are available from Stu Spence, Parks and Recreation director, at 541-962-1348 or [sspence@cityoflagrande.org](mailto:sspence@cityoflagrande.org).

• LA GRANDE — The city of La Grande's Urban Renewal Advisory Commission will meet for a regular session on Wednesday, Feb. 9. The 2 p.m. meeting will be virtual, via Zoom. On the agenda under new business is electing a new chair and vice chair and a discussion of proposed revisions to the Call for Projects Grant Policy for recommendation to the Urban Renewal Agency.

**Phyllis M. (Bowman) Murphy**  
February 18, 1935 – January 25, 2022

Phyllis Marie Murphy, 86, of Island City, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022, at her home, with her son by her side. At her request, there will not be a service.



Phyllis was born on February 18, 1935 in Culburtson, Nebraska to Levi Sr. and Ruby (Wilson) Bowman. She resided in North Platte, NE; Pendleton, OR; Enterprise, OR; Athena, OR; and La Grande, OR. She attended schools in Pendleton, OR. In 1952, she married Ray Murphy. Phyllis worked as a bookkeeper for Ray Murphy & Sons Logging. She attended Mountain Life Church regularly. She loved taking care of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was an avid football fan and her favorite team was the Dallas Cowboys.

Phyllis is survived by her sons, Jay Murphy of La Grande, Oregon, and Howard Murphy (Becky) of Umatilla, Oregon; daughter, Marilyn Fleshman (Randy) of Scio, Oregon; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Murphy.