

Four receive Elks scholarships

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The Enterprise Elks recently held their 2021-22 Most Valuable Student Competition, and selected Willie Gibbs of Wallowa High School, and Alona Yost of Enterprise High School, as their 2022 Most Valuable Student Scholars.

Each student receives a \$1,200 scholarship from Enterprise Lodge #1829 to use next fall for college.

Placing second, and receiving \$800, are Aaron Guevara and Lannie Stonebrink, both of Enterprise High School.

All four students advanced to the Elks Northeast District Judging on Jan. 4, 2022, where first place receives \$1,800, second place receives \$1,600, and third place receives \$1,400. Gibbs and Yost both placed second at district, each receiving an additional \$1,600.

Both Gibbs' and Yost's applications advanced to the state competi-



Gibbs



Yost



Guevara



Stonebrink

tion in February, in Ashland. Because the 14 first-place district winners automatically advance to the Grand Lodge Scholarship contest, Oregon also is allowed to send an additional three applications to the Grand Lodge competition, so all second-place district winners are advanced to the state level for further judging. If they advance to the Grand Lodge level, they will join 486 other scholarship winners across the country, for a chance to earn a \$50,000 scholarship for four years.

Gibbs is the son of Marvin and Jennifer Gibbs. He plans to attend the University of Idaho and study com-

puter programming. Yost is the daughter of Tony and Donna Yost. She plans to attend Oregon State University and study chemical engineering. Stonebrink is the daughter of Melvin and Dena Stonebrink. She plans to attend Eastern Oregon University and study veterinary science. Guevara is the son of Aaron and Sasha Guevara. He plans to attend the University of Idaho and study communications.

Last year the Elks National Foundation provided more than \$3.65 million in college scholarships to graduating seniors. This year's amount will be similar, but as yet, is not known. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is second only to the federal government in scholarships awarded to seniors in high school.

DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Teresa J. Higley

Elgin

Teresa J. Higley, 66, of Elgin, died March 17, 2022, at her residence. A graveside service will be held March 23 at 11 a.m. at the Highland-Cricket Flat Cemetery in Elgin. Parking is on the road below the cemetery due to muddy conditions. Casual dress is preferred by the family. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Wanita M. Hummel

Elgin

Wanita Mae Hummel, 96, of Elgin, died March 19, 2022, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Brandee McDaniel

Formerly of La Grande

Brandee McDaniel, formerly of La Grande, died Oct. 11, 2021. A gathering of friends and family will be held April 3 from 1-3 p.m. at the Lions Club in Prescott, Washington.

Mary L. Scott

Elgin

Mary L. Scott, 64, of Elgin, died March 19, 2022, at a care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEFS

Take an emergency preparedness class

LA GRANDE — "Surviving the Unexpected" is an emergency home preparedness class offered through Crossroads Community Church, 601 Jefferson Ave., La Grande, on Saturday, April 2, from 2:30-6:30 p.m. The cost of the class is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Family rates and child care are also available. The price includes a Texas chili feed dinner with corn bread and sweets.

For more information call Crossroads at 541-963-4342 or visit www.spokane-homeprep.com.

Cove senior lunch served twice a month at Ascension School

COVE — Cove senior lunches are served at Founders Hall on the Ascension School grounds on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Coffee and tea are available at 11:30 a.m., and lunch is at noon.

The menu for Tuesday, April 5, is roasted turkey, creamed potatoes and carrots, peas, salad bar, rolls and cupcakes.

The price is \$5 per meal and reservations are requested to ensure there is food for everyone. If you haven't been contacted or wish to participate, call Betsy Arnson at 541-568-4902 or Virginia Fischer at 1-907-299-6072 by March 29.

Community dance features live music, door prizes and snacks

LA GRANDE — The BlueMountaineers will provide live music for March's end-of-the-month community dance on Saturday, March 26, from 6-9 p.m. at the Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande.

Entry is \$5 per person, or free for ages 12 and younger. The evening includes a finger food potluck and door prizes.

Grande Ronde Community Choir begins March 31

LA GRANDE — Grande Ronde Community Choir is restarting after a two-year hiatus. The group, which was founded in 1992, is a mixed-voice choral ensemble for community members, EOU students, staff, faculty and area high school students. Auditions are not required.

The choir rehearses and performs a wide variety of choral literature ranging from major works with orchestra to spirituals, folks songs and musical theater repertoire. Knowing how to read music is not required for participation. Michael Frasier is the musical director, and the accompanist is Lanetta Paul.

Rehearsals begin March 31 and continue on Thursdays from 7-8:30 p.m. in Loso Hall, Room 123, on the campus of Eastern Oregon University, La Grande. The group is open to ages 14 and older and all vocal/music skill levels are welcome.

This community music ensemble is made possible through a partnership of EOU and Art Center East. Participation is \$50 for ACE members, or \$60 for nonmembers, per term. Register online at artcentereast.org.

Fishtrap hosts online poetry workshop in April

ENTERPRISE — Nellie Bridge will lead an online poetry workshop titled "Recipes from Poems We Love" through Fishtrap in April. Classes meet on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is \$240, or \$215 for Fishtrappers. Everyone in this workshop will bring an inspiring poem to share and use some part of it (structure, voice, occasion, style, device) to craft a poem of their own.



Bridge

Bridge is a poet and high school teacher living in Sofia, Bulgaria. Her poems have appeared in print as well as online, including at Sarah Lawrence as a distinguished entry for the Campbell Corner Poetry Prize. Her chapbooks include "Plea for Tearing with the Running Hours" and "Poemas Suetos." Her manuscripts have been finalists for book prizes and she earned her MFA at NYU.

For full details and to register, go to www.fishtrap.com.

— The Observer

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

10:26 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2100 block of Oak Street on a report of a domestic disturbance.

1:04 p.m. — A caller reported an intoxicated driver at Jefferson Street Depot, 1118 Jefferson Ave., La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy told the driver not to drive.

4 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 900 block of K Avenue on a report of a theft of services. The parties reached a civil agreement.

4:22 p.m. — A resident in the area of Division Avenue and Umatilla Street, La Grande, reported aggressive neighbor dogs. An animal enforcement officer responded and gave options.

4:30 p.m. — A caller reported an injured cat on the 2300 block of Jefferson Avenue, La Grande. A caller then reported the cat walked off.

4:55 p.m. — A resident on the 3100 block of Umatilla Street, La Grande, told police a neighbor was poking a stick through the fence at her dogs. An animal enforcement officer responded and resolved the situation for now.

5:03 p.m. — A caller reported someone damaged a mailbox on the 2900 block of Alder Street, La Grande. An officer made contact, took information and would provide an extra patrol.

6:13 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a theft at the Union County Extension Services, 10507 N. McAllister Road, Island City. A deputy made contact.

6:51 p.m. — The Chevron station at 2706 Island Ave., La Grande, reported a theft. An officer responded and took a report.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

2:28 a.m. — A caller on the 1600 block of Seventh Street, La Grande, asked for contact regarding a mentally ill subject. Officers responded and rendered assistance.

10:00 a.m. — A resident on the 300 block of East Center Street, Union, reported a trespasser. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and issued a warning.

10:36 a.m. — A caller reported a domestic disturbance on the 1000 block of Jackson Avenue, La Grande. Officers responded and separated the parties.

1:59 p.m. — A caller reported a suspicious person crossing the railroad tracks near X Avenue, La Grande. An officer responded and counseled the subject.

2:33 p.m. — A caller reported a person was denting the hood of vehicle at Walmart, 11619 Island Ave., Island City. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and counseled the parties.

4:25 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to the area of 65300 Hunter Road, Summerville, on a report of a trespasser. The deputy located the subject and gave the person a ride to Summerville.

11:07 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 1200 block of Adams Avenue on a report of a disturbance. An officer found the subject was alone in the apartment.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

8:49 a.m. — A caller complained about aggressive dogs on the 1200 block of Benton Avenue, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer made contact.

11:20 a.m. — A caller reported a dead animal on Oregon Trail Road, North Powder. An animal enforcement officer responded and determined it was a pig.

11:30 a.m. — A caller reported a dog on the loose on the 100 block of Second Street, La Grande. An animal enforcement officer responded and warned the owners of the dog.

12:16 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1007 block of Jackson Avenue on a report of a domestic disturbance and separated the parties.

2:05 p.m. — A caller reported a sick deer in the area of 61300 Highway 237, Cove.

2:42 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a complaint about a burglary on the 20 block of South Sixth Avenue, Elgin. A deputy responded and took a report.

8:08 p.m. — A caller reported someone was shining a light in a window of a residence on the 1600 block of Carolyn Terrace, Elgin. A Union County sheriff's deputy checked the area but found no one suspicious.

8:57 p.m. — A caller in the area of 10800 South E Street, La Grande, reported someone was knocking on doors and running away. A Union County sheriff's deputy would provide extra patrols.

OBITUARY AND DEATH NOTICE POLICY

OBITUARY PACKAGE • Paid • Advertising formatting
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 • Paid obituary information should be ready for print prior to submission. If a proof is requested, the obituary will be published in the next available edition once approved, based on the newspaper's advertising deadlines.
 • DEADLINES: Noon Friday for Tuesday publication; noon Tuesday for Thursday publication; noon Thursday for Saturday publication.
 • CONTACT: Devi Mathson, dmathson@lagrandeobserver.com • 541-624-6007

DEATH NOTICE • Free of charge • 150-word maximum in newspaper content style
 • Includes name, age, town of residency and information about any funeral services or life celebrations. • No add-ons available (photos, etc.).
 • DEADLINE: 11 a.m. the day prior to publication
 • CONTACT: Lisa Lester Kelly, lkelly@lagrandeobserver.com • 541-624-6019

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



March 23 — TERESA HIGLEY: 11 a.m. graveside service, Highland-Cricket Flat Cemetery, Elgin (park on road below due to muddy conditions; casual dress preferred).

March 26 — PATRICIA LEWIS: 10 a.m. graveside service, North Powder Cemetery; followed by 11 a.m. celebration of life, North Powder Grange.

March 26 — ANNETTE LECKENBY: 1 p.m. memorial service, Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

March 26 — JUDY HUNT: 3 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church; followed by reception at La Grande Adventist Christian School.

April 2 — DIANNA BRAY: noon memorial service, Calvary Baptist Church, Cove; followed by reception and meal.

April 2 — ROBERTA TRUAX: 1 p.m. celebration of life, Island City Cemetery; followed by reception at 209 S. 18th St., La Grande.

— Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Todd K. McCoy

April 28, 1961 - March 11, 2022

Todd Kevin McCoy died March 11, 2022, as a result of an overdose. He was 60 years old. Because Todd was always helping others - family, friends or strangers - we share his story.



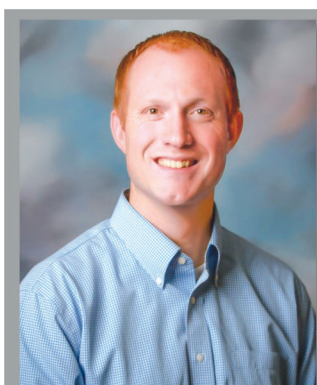
Todd was born in La Grande, Oregon, on April 28, 1961, the son of Gerald and Charlotte (Hought) McCoy. Todd grew up in the fellowship of the Zion Lutheran Church congregation, La Grande. He was baptized and confirmed into the Lutheran faith.

Todd attended elementary school at the old Island City School. He was a 1979 graduate of Imbler High School in Imbler, Oregon. Todd enjoyed snow skiing, fishing, hunting and kayaking. Spending time with his family was important to him. He will be remembered for his friendliness and telling entertaining stories, often embellished to ensure all were entertained. Todd was a caring father, son, grandson and brother and a loyal friend.

Unfortunately, Todd will also be remembered as a statistic. Introduced to drugs in his late teens, he experimented with opioids. Once opioid drugs got ahold of Todd, they never let him go. His family truly loved him and tried to be supportive as he struggled with addiction. He fought his addiction fiercely for years and wanted a normal life. If a life can be saved because his was lost, his goal of helping others will carry on. It is our hope that raising awareness of substance abuse disorder and reducing stigma will save lives. Local resources include supportive law enforcement personnel, Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness, local clergy and Center for Human Development.

Todd is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth; parents, Gary and Charlotte McCoy; sister, Stephani, and brother, Eric; brother-in-law, Stuart; aunt, Darlene, and cousins, Terri, Marsha and Clay; cousin, Monty; nieces, Mandy and Sylvia; and nephews, Austen and Gerald. He was preceded in death by his son, Aaron; sister, Michelle; grandparents, Clair and Helen Hought and Ralph and Margaret McCoy; and uncle, Jim.

A graveside service will be held at Prairie Creek Cemetery, Joseph, Oregon, on May 7, 2022, at 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness Substance Use Disorder Program, P.O. Box 268, Enterprise, OR 97828, or online at wvcenterforwellness.org (click on donate and note in memory of Todd McCoy). Online condolences may be shared at lovelandfuneralchapel.com.



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