

April's Fishtrap Fireside author reading is the final episode of the season

The Observer

ENTERPRISE — The last Fishtrap Fireside of the season will be available online beginning Friday, April 1.

The final episode of Fireside's ninth season will feature readings from Fishtrap friends Ralph Swinehart and Ashley Tackett, plus special guest playwright E.M. "Ellen" Lewis, Fishtrap's 2022 Writer-in-Residence.

Anyone anywhere can take in Fireside online at www.fishtrap.org and on Fishtrap's YouTube Channel.

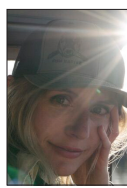
Fishtrap Fireside is a monthly reading series designed to feature diverse



Lewis



Swinehart



Tackett

voices from local Wallowa County writers. Each month offers a fresh look at what people of the West are thinking about and writing down. The series runs from October to April and since the pandemic began has been a virtual event.

The April Fishtrap Fireside is sponsored by Fishtrap's Jones Designs, a custom jewelry designer working in Wallowa County since 1999.

The readers

E.M. (Ellen) Lewis is Fishtrap's 2022 Writer-in-Residence. Her numerous plays and operas have been produced around the world. An award-winning dramatist, teacher and opera librettist, Lewis lives in Oregon's Willamette Valley on her family's farm. More about her can be found on her website, www.emlewisplaywright.com.

Ralph Swinehart moved to Wallowa County in 1972 as part of the back-to-the-land movement and has spent the last 50 years developing his small

farm, where he built his own barn, solar home and numerous outbuildings. Swinehart recently sold his sheep after raising them for 46 years and is still a part-time civil engineer, but he is working on becoming a full-time Luddite.

Ashley Tackett is a designer, developer and educator, and a self-described "country gal at heart." Beauty, connection and growth are her guiding stars to a very engaging life. After a two-year stint living alongside snakes, steelhead and turkey in Imnaha, Tackett is presently carving out a life under the bright, warm sun of Mexico.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEFS

Help children cope with divorce, separation

LA GRANDE — The next session of "Helping Children Cope with Divorce and Separation," the court's mandatory parent education course, will be offered virtually via Zoom Thursday, March 31, from 6-9 p.m. The free class is led by Mary Lu Pierce and sponsored by the Union County Family Law Advisory Committee.

Pre-registration is required. To sign up, email teala.sunderman@ojd.state.or.us including your name, mailing address, phone number and the date of the class. Call Teala Sunderman at 541-962-9500, ext. 42, for more information.

Community Band Northeast begins rehearsals next week

LA GRANDE — Community Band Northeast will begin rehearsals again on Monday, March 28, at 7 p.m. in Groth Recital Room in Loso Hall on the Eastern Oregon University campus in La Grande. All woodwind, brass and percussion players are invited to join the ensemble. All skill levels are welcome, from middle and high school students through retirees.

The participation fees for the term are \$40 for adults, \$10 for middle/high school and college students. College

credit is available through EOU. The term ends with a free community concert May 31. For further information, contact Linda at 541-786-4900 or birnbaumlinda42@gmail.com.

Attend public meeting and help shape your community

LA GRANDE — Community Connection is holding public meetings to address the needs and gaps in the communities of Northeastern Oregon. Residents of Union County are encouraged to provide feedback to assist Community Connection in improving services for low-income persons.

Union County residents can help shape their community by joining the discussion on Friday, April 1, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande.

Snacks will be served, and there will be a drawing for gift cards. For more information contact Jeff at 541-963-3186.

Symphony ensemble concerts will begin in May

LA GRANDE — The Grande Ronde Symphony's upcoming Chamber and Small Ensemble Series (CASES) concert has been postponed. GRSA hopes to reschedule the concert featuring pianist Gretchen Longwell and mezzo soprano Allison Swenson-Mitchell.

The next CASES concerts will be May and June. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$1 for students. Special group and family pricing is also available, as are \$50 season passes. Tickets may be purchased in advance online or at the door. Visit www.granderond-essymphony.org for full details.

Dream of having a career in health care?

LA GRANDE — Registration for MedQuest Camp, sponsored by Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center, is now open. The virtual camp will be held June 20-23 and is open to high school students, from this year's freshman through senior, who are interested in a career in health care — for example, dental hygiene, physical therapy, physician, nursing, lab careers, technical programs and public health.

The cost is \$50, and scholarships are available. Registration closes on April 29. For full details and to view a video, visit www.neoahec.org/programs/medquest. Or contact NEOAHEC at 541-975-4509 or neoahec@eou.edu.

The regional nonprofit Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center was established in 1991. NEOAHEC aims to address the health care workforce needs in rural and frontier Eastern Oregon.

— The Observer

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

MONDAY, MARCH 21

1:04 a.m. — A caller reported a male was trying door handles on cars at Safeway, 2111 Adams Ave., La Grande. Officers responded and resolved the situation.

1:18 a.m. — A caller complained about too much noise on the 1300 block of Cherry Street, La Grande. An officer responded and advised the subject to keep the noise down.

10:01 a.m. — La Grande police took a report of fraud at Oregon Trail Trader, 2312 Adams Ave.

12:14 p.m. — La Grande police arrested Union County Jail inmate Ryan Mitchell Kelty, 37, on a Grant County warrant for two counts of first-degree burglary, vehicle theft, second-degree theft and second-degree criminal mischief.

2:34 p.m. — A caller reported child neglect in Elgin. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and resolved the situation.

2:36 p.m. — A caller reported animal neglect in the area of Palmer Junction Road, Elgin. An animal enforcement officer responded and explained options.

3:30 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 300 block of 12th Street on a report of an disturbance involving a juvenile. Officers resolved the situation.

9:17 p.m. — A caller reported gunshots in the area of Willow Elementary School, 1305 N. Willow St., La Grande. An officer responded and did not find anything suspicious.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

7:15 a.m. — A caller complained about a transient blocking a doorway at Nature's Pantry, 1907 Fourth St., La Grande. An officer made contact and gave options.

9:51 a.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about harassment at the Chevron station, 2706 Island Ave., La Grande. An officer made contact and resolved the situation.

10 a.m. — A caller reported a safety hazard at Fourth Street and Penn Avenue, La Grande. An officer responded and removed the hazard.

1:42 p.m. — A caller complained about careless drivers on the 2000 block of X Avenue, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's dep-

uty responded and counseled the parties involved.

4:12 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about junk in a yard on the 2100 block of Fir Street. An enforcement officer will follow up.

4:06 p.m. — A caller reported a child custody dispute at a residence on the 2000 block of Gekeler Lane, La Grande. An officer responded and gave options.

9:35 p.m. — A caller in Cove reported a dog bit someone. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and took a report.

OBITUARY AND DEATH NOTICE POLICY

OBITUARY PACKAGE • Paid • Advertising formatting
 • Offering three, templated options featuring one full-color photo*
 2 column x 5" (approx. 150 words).....\$79.50
 2 column x 10" (approx. 350 words).....\$159.00
 3 column x 10" (approx. 575 words).....\$238.50
 • Obituaries following the templated format are available in other sizes for \$7.95 per column inch. Obituaries formatted outside of the set templates will be billed at the publishing newspaper's open rate. *Size may vary. Please contact us for a quote.

• Package includes: Obituary in the print edition on the publication day of your choice, within deadline. Featured on the publishing newspaper's website free of charge. Publishing newspaper will also provide 5 complimentary copies of the newspaper (additional copies \$1.50/each). Place your obituary in a sister publication at a 25% discount.
 • 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

Senate candidate hosts meet and greet at Imbler

The Observer

IMBLER — U.S. Senate candidate Darin Harbick is holding a meet and greet with area residents Friday, March 25, at Imbler High School.

The event starts at 6 p.m. and will be an opportunity for constituents to learn about Harbick and his policies.

For more information, contact Michelle Varney at 541-805-1947.



Harbick

DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Linda L. Dudley

La Grande

Linda L. Dudley, 83, of La Grande, died March 22, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Laura McKinnis

Imbler

Laura McKinnis, 86, of Imbler, died March 21, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande. Arrangements are by Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, La Grande.

Judy and Bill Ross

Joseph

Judith "Judy" Lee Ross, 78, of Joseph, died Feb. 12, 2022, at Wallowa Memorial Hospital in Enterprise. William "Bill" Lee Ross, 79, of Joseph, died Feb. 20, 2022, in Joseph. Judy and Bill met during their final years of high school in Joseph and were married on July 7, 1962, in Enterprise at St. Katherine's Catholic Church. A joint graveside service will be held April 9 at 11 a.m. at the Joseph Cemetery. A small gathering at the Stubborn Mule will follow.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



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.

April 9 — JUDY & BILL ROSS: 11 a.m. joint graveside service, Joseph Cemetery; followed by gathering at the Stubborn Mule.

May 7 — TODD MCCOY: 1 p.m. graveside service, Prairie Creek Cemetery, Joseph.

May 19 — ORVA MURRILL: 2 p.m. graveside service, Union Victorian Cemetery.

June 23 — DAN KRAMER: 2 p.m. memorial service, Grandview Cemetery, La Grande.

— Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Joanne H. (Glenn) Wiseman

July 8, 1935 - March 15, 2022

Joanne Hester Wiseman passed peacefully on March 15, 2022, surrounded by much love and light. A memorial service will be held at a later time.

She is survived by her daughter, Jennifer Jo, son-in-law, John Somers, and grandsons, Theo and Eli, all residents of California. She is predeceased by her husband, James William "Jim" Wiseman of La Grande; her son, Jeffery Glenn Wiseman of Cove; her parents, Keith Glenn and Hester (Kasinger) Glenn, and her brother, Buddy Glenn, all of Summerville, Oregon.

Joanne enjoyed a full and passionate life fueled by many interests, a loving family and dear friends. She grew up on the family farm in Summerville where she rode horses, raised cattle and keenly involved herself with community activities, especially 4-H and Rainbow Girls. In 1953, she graduated from Imbler High School and met the love of her life, Jim Wiseman. Upon graduating from Eastern Oregon University, Joanne found her passion as a primary schoolteacher. Joanne married Jim in 1958 and they moved to Parkrose and later back to La Grande where she thrived as an energetic mother, beloved teacher and valued mentor to the next teaching generation. An inspiration in the classroom, Joanne nurtured students to greater creativity, self-awareness and problem-solving skills.

After retirement, Joanne spent several years as a La Grande Citizen Review Board Appointee and served in the St. Peter's Episcopal Church vestry. She and Jim split their time in retirement between La Grande, California and their second home in Lopez Island, Washington. At Lopez, in their "little piece of paradise," they boated, visited and spent many memorable times with family and friends, both old and new. Joanne cherished time with family, especially with her grandsons.

Memorials may be made to the Blue Mountain 4-H Center, 10507 N. McAlister Road, Room 9, La Grande, OR 97850, the Summerville Cemetery, P.O. Box 163, Summerville, OR 97876, or St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1101 O Ave., La Grande, OR 97850.

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



Jacob D. Danforth

May 27, 1977 – February 26, 2022

Jacob Dewitt Danforth, 44, of La Grande, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022, at Kadlec Regional Medical Center, Richland, Washington. A service will be held at a later date.

Jacob was born on May 27, 1977, in Oregon City, Oregon, to Tedd and Sandra (Lee) Danforth. He resided in Oregon City, La Grande and Union, Oregon. He graduated from Union High School. He married Jamie Cossitt on July 4, 2021, in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Jacob worked for Nash, 3 Feathers and Outdoor Manufacturing. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, boating, motorcycles and being with his family.

Jacob is survived by his wife, Jamie; children, Leena Danforth (Josiah Richter) of La Grande and Gwyn Danforth of La Grande; stepchildren, Skyler Dillon of Pendleton, Oregon, and Kayla Dillon and Daymon King, both of La Grande; parents, Tedd Danforth of Union and Sandy Lynch of Milwaukie, Oregon; step-mother, Darlene Steele of La Grande; sister, Jessica Glenn (Mike) of West Linn, Oregon; brother, Jared Danforth of Union; one grandchild, Greyson Page; many nieces and nephews; and aunts and uncles, Allen Danforth, Rick Danforth and Patti Kunze. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Glenn and Ruby Danforth.

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



Teresa J. (Rysdam) Higley

March 13, 1956 – March 17, 2022

Teresa Joann (Rysdam) Higley, of Elgin, Oregon, passed away on Thursday, March 17, at age 66. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23, at the Highland Cemetery on Cricket Flat in Elgin. Please park on the road below the cemetery due to the muddy conditions. Casual dress is preferred by the family.

Teresa was born on March 13, 1956, in La Grande, Oregon, to Delbert and Betty (Hayes) Rysdam. She was a life-long resident of Elgin. In her spare time, Teresa loved to garden and spend time with her family and friends.

Teresa is survived by her husband, Gene Higley of Elgin; daughter, Gina, and son-in-law, Justin Walsh, of Battle Ground, Washington; daughter, Jamie Higley Christman of Central Oregon; sister, Tammi Rysdam of Elgin; along with numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She is preceded in death by her parents, Delbert and Betty Rysdam; brother, Delbert "Deb" Rysdam; and nephew, Jeff Rysdam.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Elgin High School Athletic Complex, P.O. Box 68, Elgin, Oregon, 97827, to help resurface the high school football field, a project that her nephew, Jeff, was passionate about completing.

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