

EOFF fundraiser features re-release of local film 'Owen Story'

Special livestream with cast and crew will be available later this month

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Nearly 20 years ago, the locally made film "Owen Story" premiered to small audiences at Eastern Oregon University and The Hollywood Theater in Portland.

Now that film is back, available to view for just one month, as a fundraiser for the Eastern Oregon Film Festival.

"Owen Story" will be available as a special VOD (video on demand) for \$8. For those who purchase a Festival Friend season pass for \$250, "Owen

Story" is included, along with the On Demand archive and admission to all virtual and in-person festival events.

For full details and to purchase access to the film, go to www.eofilm-fest.com.

The film is available to access on the Friends of the Festival Eventive Channel through May 31. A special livestream Q&A with the cast and crew will be added later in May.

"Owen Story" follows the three intertwined stories of Bucky (Gregory Rawlins), Natalie (Sarah Delamarter) and Kenneth (Mike Surber). The project was produced and filmed around La Grande in 2004.

According to an EOFF press release, "This independent production rallied a community around the idea of making a feature length film, working

together to learn skills and refine ideas and to maximize the resources that were available in our rural region."

Christopher Jennings, EOFF director, said this rerelease brings the characters to life once again.

"The makers and creatives behind the project express their gratitude for the opportunity to share this project again after nearly 20 years," he said. "This project planted the seeds for that which inspired projects like The La Grande Summer Film Project and was a catalyst to EOFF's inception. Having EOFF provide a platform to archive this independent effort is a testament to its mission of supporting local projects and nurturing filmmaking in our rural region and I can't wait to see more local projects get preserved and shared this way."



Christopher Jennings/Contributed Photo

"Owen Story," which was filmed in 2004 around La Grande, is being re-released for one month, May 2022, to raise money for the Eastern Oregon Film Festival. The film stars Gregory Rawlins, Sarah Delamarter and Mike Surber.

InterMountain Education Service District announces 2022 Crystal Apple Award winners

The Observer

PENDLETON — The InterMountain Education Service District and its component school districts announced in a news release the winners of the 2022 Crystal Apple Excellence in Education Awards.

School districts in Eastern Oregon are presenting 44 Crystal Apples in early May to deserving education staff, according to the announcement.

Winners from Union County school districts honored their educators Monday, May 2, with a ceremony at Eastern Oregon University.

Each year, the InterMountain ESD partners with its school districts to recognize outstanding administrators, teachers, educational assistants and office and building staff for their dedication and commitment to students and for their willingness to go above and beyond their regular duties. Nominations are submitted over a two-month period by administrators, coworkers, parents, students and community members. Winners are selected from these nominations by school district administration.

"Celebrating the hard work that school

district employees do each and every day in our region is always exciting during the Crystal Apple Awards," IMESD Superintendent Mark Mulvihill said in the press release. "But it's especially wonderful this year, since we can return to in-person award events."

The Union County winners are:

INTERMOUNTAIN ESD

- Brandi Audis, educational assistant, Early Intervention/Early Special Education Program
- Rhonda Dockweiler, administrative assistant, Teaching & Learning Department
- Rachael Olson, third and fourth grade teacher/special program liaison, Virtual Learning Academy
- Jennifer Richardson, graphic design specialist, Communication & Print Solutions Department

COVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Kelli Langford, third grade teacher, Cove School
- Kelsey Stitzel, secretary, Cove School

ELGIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Dena Ledbetter, fifth grade teacher, Stella Mayfield Elementary

- Tucker Murphey, music teacher, Elgin School District

IMBLER SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Tony Haddock, math/PE teacher, Imbler High School
- Chrissy Wilhelm, secretary/substitute bus driver, Imbler High School

LA GRANDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Shawn Brooks, fifth grade teacher, Central Elementary School
- Amber Kessinger, behavior intervention assistant, La Grande Middle School
- Cindy Malone, paraeducator, La Grande High School
- Amy Pennington, school nurse, La Grande School District

NORTH POWDER SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Nancy Simonis, paraprofessional, North Powder School District

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Karolyn Kelley, agriculture teacher/FFA advisor, Union High School
- Jodi Seale, fourth grade teacher, Union Elementary School

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEFS

LMS Plant Sale begins May 5

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Middle School Plant Sale will be happening a week earlier than previously announced. The sale will run May 5-7 at the LMS greenhouses, north of the school, at the corner of Fourth Street and M Avenue. The sale will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. The sale features a wide array of hanging baskets, tomatoes, veggies, herbs, and annual and perennial flowers. Look for updates at the LMS Greenhouse Facebook page.

Senior activities are back

LA GRANDE — Many activities

at the Union County Senior Center have resumed. In addition to on-site weekday meals, the center is again offering games, music and exercise opportunities.

Before lunch, The BlueMountaineers perform on Tuesdays, and Terry LaMont performs on Wednesdays. The music runs from 10:45-11:45 a.m.

Also on Tuesdays, pinochle games begin at 1:15 p.m., and bingo games are offered in the evening, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m.

Appropriate for all ages and levels of fitness, a chair exercise class is held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10-11 a.m.

For more information, go to www.ccno.org, check out the senior cen-

ter's Facebook page, call 541-605-5556 or stop by the Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany, La Grande.

La Grande Swim Club summer registration set for May 18

LA GRANDE — Summer registration for the La Grande Swim Club will be on Wednesday, May 18, from 4-6 p.m. in the Veterans' Memorial Pool's lobby. The pool is on Palmer Avenue adjacent to Pioneer Park.

For swimmers not currently swimming and not currently registered with USA Swimming, summer swimming will begin June 13 from 8-11 a.m. The exact time will depend on swim level.

— The Observer

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

8:14 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a burglary on the 1700 block of Spruce Street. Officers responded and took a report.

8:29 a.m. — La Grande Family Medicine, 2011 Fourth St., La Grande, reported a possible theft of services. An officer made contact and took a request for an extra patrol.

9:18 a.m. — A resident on the 600 block of 16th Street, La Grande, reported harassment. An officer made contact, explained options and took information.

11:26 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a burglary to a business at The Market Place, 1101 Washington Ave. An officer responded and took a report.

3:37 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy checked on a driver with a disabled truck. The driver said help was on the way.

6:32 p.m. — A Union County sheriff's deputy responded to a Summerville residence on a report of a sex crime and took information for follow-up.

10:15 p.m. — A La Grande resident on the 1400 block of T Avenue made a complaint about harassment. An officer arranged to provide an extra patrol.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

3:23 a.m. — La Grande police responded a residence on the 1800 block of G Avenue for a noise complaint and told the subjects to quiet down.

7:50 a.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a suspicious vehicle at Mount Glen Road and Blackhawk Trail, La Grande. A deputy responded and arrested Gracee Leonette Shelley, 22, on a U.S. Marshals mail fraud warrant.

11:44 a.m. — A caller in Elgin reported a dog bit someone. An animal enforcement officer responded and took a report.

1:07 p.m. — A caller on the 1800 block of 26th Street, La Grande, reported a dog bit someone. An animal enforcement officer responded and took a report.

4:27 p.m. — Emergency services responded to the 100 block of Lake Avenue for a fire.

6:11 p.m. — Union County sheriff's deputies responded to the 64700 block of Bean Coffin Lane, Summerville, on a report of a disturbance. Deputies separated and counseled the parties.

6:47 p.m. — La Grande police responded to a residence on the 2300 block of Q Avenue for a domestic disturbance and separated the parties.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

9:06 a.m. — A caller reported livestock on the loose in the area

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DEATH NOTICES

Alice L. Feldman

La Grande

Alice Louise Feldman, 83, of La Grande, died May 2, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Thomas G. Lawry

La Grande

Thomas George Lawry, 75, of La Grande, died May 1, 2022, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Ernest Trimble

La Grande

Ernest Trimble, 69, of La Grande, died May 1, 2022, at his home. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



May 7 — TODD McCOY: 1 p.m. memorial service, Grace Lutheran Church, Enterprise.

May 7 — JEFFERY HARDY: 2 p.m. graveside service, Highland Cemetery, Elgin.

May 13 — CHRISTEN HART: 3 p.m. potluck-style celebration of life, Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

May 14 — VIRGINIA FLANERY-DREW: 1 p.m. celebration of life, La Grande Country Club (casual dress preferred).

May 16 — LEONARD SPEARS: 10 a.m. celebration of life, Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

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

May 21 — MARY SCOTT: 11 a.m. celebration of life potluck, Elgin Community Center.

May 28 — ANN PAYNE: 3 p.m. celebration of life, Enterprise Community Church.

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

— Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

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