

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

MEETINGS

• ISLAND CITY — The Grande Ronde Hospital Auxiliary meeting for May will be at the Island City City Hall on Monday, May 16, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting includes a celebration of volunteers. All members are encouraged to attend as this will be the last meeting until September.

• IMBLER — The Imbler School District Budget Committee will meet for a regular session on Tuesday, May 17, at 6:45 p.m. in Room 1 of the high school. The committee will discuss and review the 2022-23 proposed budget. A regular board meeting will immediately follow. The public is welcome to attend.

• UNION — The Union Rural Fire Protection District Board will meet Tuesday, May 17, at the fire hall. The Budget Committee will meet at 7 p.m., followed by the regular monthly board meeting. For more information, call 541-910-3114 or email union.rfpd@outlook.com.

BRIEFS

Fiddle show happens tonight in La Grande

LA GRANDE — The Blue Mountain Old Time Fiddlers will put on a show Saturday, May 14, at the Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande. Doors open at 5 p.m. with food for sale, followed by music at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5.

Chess club meets weekly at the Josephy Center

JOSEPH — The Wallowa County Chess Club meets on Mondays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Josephy Center, 403 N. Main St., Joseph. Players of all ages and levels are welcome.

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.

Appreciation dinner salutes Wallowa County vets

TROY — On Thursday, May 19, the Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness and Wallowa County Veterans Services are hosting a Veterans Appreciation Dinner at the Troy School. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. and features a free meal for vets and a goodie bag of resources. The dinner will be catered by Chuckwagon Sisters. The event is free but please RSVP by calling 541-426-0539 to ensure there's enough food and goodies for everyone who attends.

—The Observer

Newman named interim dean of the College of Education

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University has named Rae Ette Newman as interim dean of the College of Education. Newman will serve in the interim position during the 2022-23 academic year while the university conducts a nationwide search for its next provost. Matt Seimears appointed Newman as interim dean after assuming his new role as interim provost. She will officially assume her new role on July 1. "I am excited and thankful for this opportunity to step into this leadership role at EOU," Newman said. "The College of Edu-



Newman

cation is an amazing team who will be invaluable to me as we work together to help students achieve their educational goals." Newman has been with EOU since 2013 where she has worked as an associate professor of education. While at EOU, Newman has also served as chair of the College of Education, director of accreditation, co-director of educator preparation, early childhood program coordinator and Master of Arts in Teaching program coordinator. Newman received her doctorate in special education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. "Dr. Newman will be leading the College of Education regarding her new appointment and next steps in identifying an interim chair for the college," Seimears said.

UNION COUNTY SENIOR CENTER LUNCH MENU

LA GRANDE — Lunch is served at the Union County Senior Center, 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande, on weekdays. The meal is open to the public, and both sit-down and grab-and-go options are available. For information on having lunches delivered by Meals on Wheels, call 541-605-5556. **Dine-in meals:** Served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; use front entrance. Suggested donation is \$4 for age 60+, \$7 for all others. **Takeout meals:** Pick up from noon to 1 p.m. at kitchen's back door. Cost is \$7 for all.

MAY 16-20

**Monday:** almond chicken over rice pilaf, broiled tomatoes, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, lemon bar. **Tuesday:** hand-crafted pizza, salad greens, fresh fruit, cookie. **Wednesday:** tender beef with brown gravy, red potatoes, steamed asparagus, salad greens, cake. **Thursday:** chicken marsala over noodles, Italian bread, steamed zucchini, salad greens, fresh fruit. **Friday:** quiche, country potatoes, sausages, fresh fruit, cinnamon roll.

BIRTHS

GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL, LA GRANDE

**BURBANK:** Keppler Myles Burbank, born May 1, 2022, to Jamey Kimberly Olson and Owen Jonathan Burbank, of La Grande. **CRADER:** Clark Everett Ross Crader, born April 29, 2022, to Julie Ann Crader and Brian Crader, of Union. Grandparents are Vernon and Kathy Crader, Grandma and Grandpa Thompson and Grandpa Bud. **ROSALEZ-PARKINSON:** Marley Rosalez-Parkinson, born April 27, 2022, to Maria Rosalez and Andrew Parkinson, of La Grande. Grandparents are Mike and Karen Parkinson and Laura and Gabriel Alegria.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

7:25 a.m. — A caller reported a burglary on Cemetery Road, Elgin.

7:50 a.m. — La Grande police during a traffic stop on the 3000 block of Island Avenue arrested Michael Patrick Piggott, 24, on a Union County Jail detainer and for four counts of felon in possession of a weapon.

12:37 p.m. — A caller reported a transient camp in the area of 10200 North E Street, La Grande.

2:54 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the city public works department, 800 X Ave., on a report of harassment. Police cited three teen males, ages 14, 15 and 17, for fourth-degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon and reckless endangering.

3:53 p.m. — Local law enforcement responded to Adams and Island avenues, La Grande, for a vehicle crash and took reports.

4:23 p.m. — A caller made a complaint about theft of services on the 1900 block of Cedar Street, La Grande. An officer made contact and determined there was a violation of city law.

6:03 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a transient camp at Pioneer Park.

8:36 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a complaint about harassment in the area of 62000 Blackhawk Trail Lane, La Grande. A deputy made contact and explained options.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

12:10 a.m. — La Grande police responded to Fir Street and T

Avenue on a report of a disturbance. Officers warned the parties for disorderly conduct.

7:45 a.m. — A caller reported a burglary at a residence on the 61300 block of Highway 203, Union. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact.

11:07 a.m. — A caller reported a transient camp on the 400 block of 20th Street, La Grande. An officer checked and found the camp was empty.

12:16 p.m. — La Grande police received a complaint about child neglect and started an investigation.

1:44 p.m. — A caller reported finding kittens on Foothill Road, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and took information.

3:38 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of a burglary at a residence on the 800 block of South Fourth Street, Union. A deputy made contact.

9:25 p.m. — A caller reported suspicious circumstances in the area of 66400 Highway 203, Union. Dispatch advised local law enforcement.

11:17 p.m. — Emergency services responded to the 800 block of South Main Street, Union. Union County sheriff's deputies then arrested Nathan Daniel Prouty, 38, for driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving, eluding and resisting arrest.

Gerald "Gerry" K. Keffer  
July 25, 1945 – October 23, 2021

Gerry Keffer's celebration of life will be held on Saturday, June 18, 2022, beginning at 11:30 a.m. until family and friends are through visiting. Lunch will be served. The event will be at the Island City City Hall, at 10605 Island Ave., Island City, Oregon.

Gerald Kay Keffer was born on July 25, 1945, to Verlin and Margaret Keffer. On March 19, 1945, Verlin was killed in World War II, leaving Margaret a widow with two boys, Gail and Roland, and Gerald being born four months later. Margaret met and married Vernon Breshears. Then the family moved to Island City, Oregon.

Gerry attended Island City School and after graduating from La Grande High School, he joined the United States Navy. He became a torpedo-man's mate and served on the USS Sea Poacher SS 406. Gerry proudly served his country and was honorably discharged in August 1966 as a third-class petty officer.

Gerry returned home and married Sharon Lemons. They had two sons, Daniel and Phillip. Gerry was employed as a computer punch operator in Oregon City. Gerry later married Anita, on July 4. After retirement, Gerry began a new career as an 18-wheeler truck driver, delivering goods throughout Oregon. After retiring the second time, Gerry and Anita moved to McMinnville, Oregon. Gerry said he wanted to enjoy his retirement in front of the TV, and he did just that.

Gerry enjoyed hunting and fishing with his brothers, Gail and Ron.

Gerry was preceded in death by his father, Verlin Keffer; his mother, Margaret Keffer Breshears; stepdad, Vernon Breshears; son, Daniel Keffer; and grandson, Cody Keffer. He is survived by his wife, Anita; son, Phillip (Christina); brothers, Gail (Janice) and Ron (Kathy); five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.



DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Mary 'Lorraine' (Christman) Crawford

Joseph

Mary "Lorraine" Crawford, 85, of Joseph, died May 12, 2022, at her home. A graveside service will be held May 21 at 10 a.m. at Prairie Creek Cemetery, followed by a gathering with light refreshments for close friends and family at the Enterprise Community Church.

UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



**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 — LORRAINE CRAWFORD:** 10 a.m. graveside service, Prairie Creek Cemetery; followed by gathering with light refreshments at Enterprise Community Church.

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

**May 21 — RON JENKINS:** 1-3 p.m. celebration of life, Union County Senior Center, La Grande.

**May 28 — DORIS TSIATSOS:** 11 a.m. memorial service, family cemetery, Starkey; potluck follows at home of Bill and Donna Tsiatsos, 53540 Baseline Road, Starkey.

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

**June 4 — JOSEPH BRESHEARS:** 1 p.m. graveside service, Wallowa Cemetery.

**June 4 — DENNY LEWIS:** 2 p.m. celebration of life, Mount Emily Building, Union County Fairgrounds, La Grande.

**June 18 — GERRY KEFFER:** 11:30 a.m. celebration of life and lunch, Island City City Hall.

**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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Theodore (Ted) Keith Freels  
August 25, 1949 - April 21, 2022

Theodore (Ted) Keith Freels, of Enterprise, Oregon, passed away in Enterprise April 21, 2022, surrounded by family. Ted was born August 25, 1949, in Enterprise, to John and Rena Freels. He grew up with two brothers on Hurricane Creek Road on the family farm where he learned the trade, and he continued to farm and ranch for the rest of his life. He attended school in Enterprise where he was an excellent basketball player, an engaged member of FFA, and was the state and school record holder in track for the 440-yard dash. In high school Ted met the love of his life, Kathy Stangel, and after graduation the couple married on July 11, 1970.



Ted eventually took over the Freels family farm, and he also rode horses for local ranchers including Wayne Cook, Doug McDaniel, Wayne and Gordon Wolfe, and the McClaran family. Ted also worked for Vemco in Enterprise and at the Enterprise and La Grande stock sale yards.

Ted was a gifted horseshoer and often built sharp shoes. Frequently working with close friend Tip Proctor, Ted wore many hats and worked various other jobs. For entertainment Ted enjoyed team roping and wild cow milking at rodeos, an event which he won many times.

In 1975 Ted and Kathy had their first child, Brian Keith, followed by Clay William in 1985, and Sara Elizabeth in 1988. Ted was a proud father showing his love by teaching his kids horsemanship, farm and ranch skills, welding, and the value of hard work. Making time for his family, he attended nearly every sporting event, helped with every 4H and FFA animal, and many times he drove kids to Tygh Valley and Union so the kids could participate in the livestock shows. He spent uncountable hours volunteering for the 4H program, cooked breakfast at livestock shows and helped out in various roles at the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo. Ted will always be remembered for starting water fights and teasing the kids at the fair.

In later years Ted continued to attend fair and 4H events with his twin granddaughters, Cara and Paige, and he taught them the same values and skills as his own children. He had a soft spot for his grand-dog Ace Freels, the King Charles Spaniel, and as his health began to decline his new grandson, Cavanaugh, brought him great happiness.

Ted will be missed by many and is preceded in death by his parents John and Rena, and survived by wife Kathy (Stangel), children Brian (Shelli), Clay (Erin), and Sara Tippet (Dusty). The joy of his later years were his grandkids Khai Robertson (21), Cara Freels (15), Paige Freels (15), Atlas Robertson (2), and Cavanaugh Freels (9 months).

"There was always love in Daddy's Hands" - Holly Dunn

Robert Isaac Watson Jr.  
March 22, 1934 - April 27, 2022

Robert Isaac Watson Jr., 88, died April 27, 2022, at his home in La Grande, Oregon. He was born March 22, 1934, to Robert Isaac Watson Sr. and Irene May (Goff) Watson.

Robert graduated from Baker High School in Baker, Oregon. He served 4 years in the United States Navy aboard the USS Vaughan and Richard aircraft carrier.

After the United States Navy, he worked for and retired from the United Pacific Railroad. He worked various truck driving jobs. He worked for Community Connection and retired there.

He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and spending time at his ranch in Keating, and loved visits from his grandkids and great-grandkids.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Lea Watson, and son, Daniel Scott Watson, his parents, 1 brother, and 2 sisters.

Survivors are son Douglas A Watson (Michelle), grandkids Stephanie Barnett (Kirk), DJ Watson (Morgan), David Watson (Kellie), three step-granddaughters and 12 great-grandkids, his siblings: two brothers Mike Watson (Debbie), Larry Watson (Myrna), three sisters Helen Lefever, Sharon Brainard (Jerry), MaryJo Zimmer (Allan) and numerous nieces and nephews.

A service will be held at a later date at Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker City, Oregon.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel at 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave an online condolence for the family of Robert, please visit: www.grayswestco.com.

