

# Awakened dragon boats take to the water June 29

By **BILL BRADSHAW**  
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — The dragon boats will take to the water at the boat launch dock at the Wallowa Lake Marina for the first time in a couple of years on Wednesday, June 29, from 6-7 p.m., according to Trudy Turner of the Dragons on the Lake Paddle Club.

“It will be an open paddle,” Turner said in an email. “We want to fill the boat — make a reservation to secure a seat or just come down to the dock 15 minutes early.”

She recommended wearing “light clothing that’s OK to get wet and bring water, eyewear, sunscreen and a sunny disposition.”

She said the boats will be available for three sessions of paddling a week — one at 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays and two sessions on Saturdays. The first session on Saturday is 8-9 a.m. and is open to anyone by donation. Reservations and additional information are available at



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

**Trudy Turner, a member of the Dragons on the Lake Paddle Club, paints an eye on the head of a dragon boat Friday, June 24, 2022, in Joseph, to officially wake it up for the season.**

dragsonthelakepaddleclub@gmail.com.

The second Saturday paddle, from 9:30-11 a.m., is for those members who want to do race practice. That session is a much more intense workout and timing and active participation are essential, as it is strenuous exercise rather than recreational paddling,

Turner said.

Newcomers to the sport would first have to paddle the earlier session so that they can learn the basics before paddling the second, race-practice session.

She said the club currently has only 12 personal floatation devices available, so bringing one will be very helpful. The club can seat

only as many people as they have safety equipment for.

“The donations will help with buying more and upgrade paddles and other equipment, so the number of PFDs will change as the season progresses,” Turner said.

Membership is expected after three paddle sessions for locals, though as a new club it is flexible.

Cost for this short, July-September season is \$65. There are work hours taking care of the boats and equipment that can be done to cover dues.

Paddlers must be age 18 and older. All ability levels are welcomed.

“But we will assess physical concerns on a personal basis for safety reasons,” Turner added.

Turner said the Wallowa Lake Lodge is having a fundraising dinner for the club on Aug. 14 with music and fire dancing on the lawn after dinner and a predinner cocktail hour. Additional details will be available later.

## DEATH NOTICE

**Richard Anderson**

Summerville

Richard Anderson, 79, of Summerville, died June 25, 2022, at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

## UPCOMING LOCAL SERVICES



**July 3 — JULIE BROWN:** 2:30 p.m. celebration of life, Faith Center, Island City (casual dress preferred); reception follows 4-7 p.m. at Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande.

**July 3 — LILYAN HALE:** 4 p.m. memorial service, Summerville Baptist Church.

**July 9 — JANET ALLREAD:** 10 a.m. celebration of life, Riverside Park Pavilion, La Grande (casual dress preferred).

**July 9 — MYRNA JOURNOT:** 1 p.m. celebration of life, Wallowa Assembly of God Church; interment follows at Promise Cemetery.

— Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

## Beverage presenting water plan to Union County Progressives

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Union County Commissioner Donna Beverage will be presenting the Union County-Upper Grande Ronde River

Watershed Partnership Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan during a virtual meeting of the Union County Progressives.

The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday,

June 30.

The plan seeks to improve water quality and quantity in the Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed. During her presentation, Beverage will highlight the plan’s

projects that are starting in the next few months.

To attend the presentation, request Zoom access from Randy Knop by calling 541-562-6289 or emailing rknop@eoni.com. All are welcome.

## Lunch for children served in Wallowa County this summer

By **ANN BLOOM**

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA COUNTY — The summer months are a time of swimming, hanging out with friends and playing in the park for young people, but for some it can be a time of food insecurity as school lets out and their regular school lunch goes away. This is where the Summer Lunch in the Park program, operated through Building Healthy Families, can help.

“For many children, summer lunch, like school lunches, is the only complete meal a child receives for that day. Summer lunches play an important role in providing nutritious meals for hungry children,” said Susan Polumsky, BHF food program coordinator.

The program serves free lunch to children 18 and younger at three different locations in Wallowa County from noon to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The program

started June 13 and runs through Aug. 4. Lunch is served at the Joseph City Park, the Enterprise City Park and Wallowa City Park.

One significant change this year is that the program requires that all lunches be consumed on-site. During the past two years, due to the COVID pandemic, meals were “grab and go.” Participants could pick up their meals and eat them off site.

BHF has been coordinating the program since 2016. The program serves 400-500 meals per week to county children. It is a federal program offered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“The USDA reimburses us a predetermined price per meal served,” Polumsky said. “However, that does not cover all our costs including staff wages to prepare and serve the food. We do appreciate the donations we receive from the community to help support summer lunches.”

According to Polumsky, the meals

are also required to meet certain nutritional specifications or BHF cannot receive reimbursement.

“Chicken strips, burritos and spaghetti are some of the favorites, which must have a whole-grain component to be reimbursable. If we run out, we can serve PBJ’s (peanut butter and jelly sandwiches),” she said.

Volunteers are always needed and all servers are trained to make sure each child receives a nutritionally balanced meal.

“When I asked a child what meals he liked the best, he replied, ‘I like everything you serve,’” Polumsky said.

A press release issued by BHF stated that in 2019, 141 million meals and snacks for kids were provided through summer lunch programs when kids were out of school. Research shows that a lack of nutrition during the summer months may set up a cycle for poor performance once school begins. Summer meal programs help fill the gap.

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

11:11 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a civil disturbance. An officer responded and took information.

1:31 p.m. — La Grande police received a report of a missing person. An officer made contact and created a bulletin.

3:15 p.m. — A caller at Eastern Oregon University, 1 University Blvd., La Grande, reported harassment. An officer responded and took a report.

3:19 p.m. — A caller reported littering at Wolf Creek Reservoir, North Powder. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and referred the matter to a marine deputy.

9:11 p.m. — A caller reported a dog on the 1300 block of X Avenue, La Grande, bit someone. An officer responded and took a report.

11:01 p.m. — A caller reported fireworks on the 800 block of Jackson Avenue, La Grande. An officer responded but did not find anyone setting off fireworks.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

3:22 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of a runaway juvenile. An officer responded and took a report.

9:33 a.m. — A caller reported possible trespassers at Mid Columbia Bus Co., 1901 Jefferson Ave., La Grande. Police responded and warned two people for trespass. They moved along.

11:55 a.m. — Local law enforcement responded to a residence on the 700 block of 12th Street, La Grande, for a domestic disturbance. Medics also responded.

12:37 p.m. — Medics and law enforcement responded to Highway 244, La Grande, on a report of a crash involving an injury. Union County sheriff’s office took a report.

8:48 p.m. — Union County sheriff’s office received a report from the 300 block of Inverness Street, Summerville, of a dog biting someone. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and took a report.

9:01 p.m. — A caller reported an intoxicated male near Island City School, 10201 W. Fourth St. A Union County sheriff’s deputy responded and counseled juveniles.

9:59 p.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1700 block of U Avenue for a disturbance. One male was taken to Grande Ronde Hospital, La Grande.

11:36 p.m. — A caller reported a burglary on the 1900 block of U Avenue, La Grande. An officer made contact and took a report.

**eOMEDIA** group  
The most valuable and respected source of local news, advertising and information for our communities.  
www.eomediagroup.com

## Grande Ronde Hospital & Clinics proudly welcomes Emma Peiris, MD

Dr. Emma Peiris is a Primary Care Internist joining us at the GRH Regional Medical Clinic. She is board certified in Internal Medicine. Emma’s practice focuses on general internal medicine with emphasis on older adults. She believes that building relationships with her patients and their families allows her to provide outstanding medical care. She enjoys guiding patients through the medical system and making sure they understand her recommendations and the recommendations made by their other doctors. A passion for rural healthcare and love for the outdoors brought Dr. Peiris to GRH. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family doing outdoor activities and playing complicated board games.



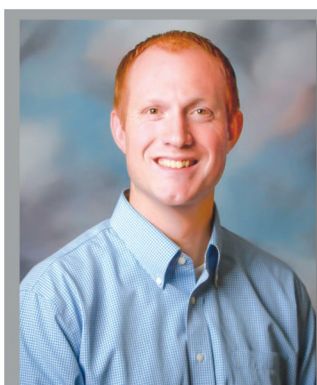
Emma Peiris, MD

Please help us welcome

Dr. Peiris and her family to our community!!



**GRH Regional Medical Clinic**  
GRH.org — 506 4th Street — 541.663.3138



Turning 65?  
We’re here to help!

Joel Myer  
jmyer@valleyinsurance.com



1603 Washington Ave, La Grande  
(541) 963-3121

Let us take the mystery out of Medicare for you!

Kathy Rienti  
krienti@valleyinsurance.com

