

Stepping out with pride



Isabella Crowley/The Observer

Greenwood Elementary School students kick off the new school year with enthusiasm during the all-school Greenwood Pride Parade on Friday, Sept. 2, 2022. Accompanied by the La Grande High School marching band, Union County Sheriff's Office and La Grande Fire Department, the students paraded with homemade banners and signs around the neighborhood, beginning and ending at the school on Spruce Street. The parade has become an annual tradition, giving the children an opportunity to express pride for their school and for themselves.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEFS

RSVP for Women's Connection fall lunch

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Women's Connection Reunion Program Fall Festival Luncheon is planned for Friday, Sept. 9, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Urban Vine, 10107 W. First St. (Island Avenue), Island City. For full details and to RSVP, call Tanja at 541-910-1909 by Sept. 7. Those who bring a first-time guest will be entered into a drawing to win a free lunch.

Film festival holds sneak peek party Sept. 7

LA GRANDE — For a sneak peek at the 2022 Eastern Oregon Film Festival's features and short films, come to HQ, 112 Depot St., La Grande, on Wednesday, Sept. 7, from 7-9 p.m. The event also includes food provided by Mamacita's International Grill, savory drinks, and a raffle featuring art, treats, tools and more. This event marks the beginning of the sprint to #EOFF2022 and is the last chance to take

advantage of early-bird prices. The cover charge for non-pass holders is \$15 — or buy a festival pass at the door for free admission and one free raffle ticket. Get full details for the Oct. 20-22 festival at www.eofilmfest.com.

MEETINGS

• HERMISTON — A regular session of the InterMountain Education Service District Board of Directors is slated for Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 5 p.m. at the Hermiston Punkin Center building, 290 W. Punkin Center Road, Hermiston. The agenda and Zoom access information is available at www.imesd.k12.or.us.

• LA GRANDE — The La Grande Landmarks Commission will meet Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022, at 6 p.m. The meeting is available for viewing on Facebook Live, at www.facebook.com/LaGrandeCityManager. The meeting will include a public hearing on the historical appropriateness application submitted by Remax (Randy and Shawna McKinnis). A work session follows the regular session.

Joseph restaurants help feed firefighters

By BILL BRADSHAW
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — Two local restaurants took it upon themselves to help battle the wildfires in Wallowa County, but not on the fire line — by feeding some 300 firefighters.

Teresa Sajonia, owner of Embers Brew House and Pub, fed the firefighters a tri-tip dinner "with all the fixings" Thursday, Sept. 1, and planned sack lunches for Sept. 2, with sandwiches, chips, nuts and "everything the Forest Service requires" for their crews. "There's good stuff going out to them."

The Cheyenne Cafe provided breakfast, said owner Kara Meyers, who said she had to get up at midnight to prepare the meal that'll be ready by 5 a.m. The menu included bacon, eggs, pancakes and biscuits and gravy.

Sajonia and Meyers each had three employees helping out.

They said they've done this chore in the past. "I'm very happy to be able to help," Meyers said. "When they called, I thought, 'How am I going to be able to do this? But we'll figure it out.'"

Sajonia, too, has done this before. "I've done fire meals for well over 30 years," she said.

A catering truck was onsite for the Sept. 2 dinner, relieving both restaurants of the need for a further herculean effort.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2

12:52 a.m. — Union County Sheriff's Office at the Historic Union Hotel, 326 N. Main St., Union, arrested Adam McGriff, 33, for disorderly conduct, harassment, criminal mischief and resisting arrest.

2:12 a.m. — La Grande police received reports of the repossession of two vehicles, one on the 800 block of Adams Avenue and one on the 2100 block of Adams Avenue.

8:27 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 1400 block of Adams Avenue on a report of a suspicious person. Officers arrested a 22-year-old woman for disorderly conduct.

3:33 p.m. — La Grande police responded to Eastern Oregon University, 1 University Blvd., on a call about an assault. An officer took information.

9:42 p.m. — A caller reported animal abuse on the 2100 block of Adams Avenue, La Grande.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3

1:22 a.m. — A La Grande police officer responded to a call for a person experiencing a mental or emotional crisis. Police referred the situation to the Center for Human Development crisis staff.

3:10 a.m. — La Grande police responded to the 2000 block of Cedar Street for a juvenile involved in a disturbance. An officer warned the juvenile for criminal mischief.

9:59 a.m. — A caller reported a possible shooting in a closed area about 4 miles north of La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and provided options.

5 p.m. — A caller reported a dead cow on Lower Cove Road, Cove.

7:21 p.m. — Grande Ronde Hospital, 900 Sunset Drive, La Grande, reported a patient with a dog bite. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and took a report.

10:58 p.m. — A caller reported a vehicle theft on Interstate 84 near milepost 253, La Grande. A Union County sheriff's deputy made contact and took a report.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 4

7:45 a.m. — La Grande police received a report of vandalism at La Grande Middle

School, 1108 Fourth St. 2:03 p.m. — A caller reported animal abuse at a residence on the 1600 block of Seventh Street, La Grande.

7 p.m. — Local law enforcement responded to the 1600 block of Russell Avenue, La Grande, on a call about a suspicious person. A Union County sheriff's deputy arrested a 57-year-old woman for harassment and on a Umatilla County warrant for violating probation.

10:07 p.m. — A caller reported an illegal campfire at the Pilcher Creek Reservoir Campground. A Union County sheriff's deputy responded and found the situation was resolved before arrival.

11:42 p.m. — The Union County Sheriff's Office received a report of an assault on the 700 block of North Bellwood Street, Union. A deputy responded and will follow up.

UPCOMING SERVICES



Sept. 10 — LEE FRIES: 11 a.m. graveside service, Summerville Cemetery (casual dress preferred); gathering follows at the Summerville Tavern.

Sept. 10 — THORVAL BURROWS: 1 p.m. celebration of life and dinner, Wallowa Senior Center.

Sept. 13 — LAVON ELLIOTT: noon celebration of life, South Fork Grange, Lostine.

Sept. 17 — KATE MOORE: 10 a.m. funeral, Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

Sept. 17 — RETHA WALKER: 2-4 p.m. celebration of life, Hurricane Creek Grange, Joseph.

Sept. 17 — ROBERTA WITHERSPOON: 2 p.m. celebration of life and potluck, Elgin Community Center (casual dress preferred; bring a side dish or dessert if you wish).

Sept. 24 — TOM BERNHARDT: 3 p.m. celebration of life, Smith Mountain, Wallowa.

Out-of-area services

Sept. 30 — JOHN FARRAR SR.: 9:30 a.m. memorial service, Tahoma National Cemetery, 18600 SE 240th St., Kent, Washington.

— Calendar courtesy of Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande

DEATH & SERVICE NOTICES

Elburn L. Cooper

La Grande

Elburn L. Cooper, 98, of La Grande, died Sept. 5, 2022, at a local care facility. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Lavon C. Elliott

Redmond

Lavon Carol Elliott, 77, of Redmond, died May 8, 2022. A celebration of her life will be held Sept. 13 at noon at the South Fork Grange, Lostine.

Vivian A. Grams

Imbler

Vivian Ann Grams, 83, of Imbler, died Sept. 4, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Donald Stephens

Imbler

Donald Stephens, 93, of Imbler, died Sept. 4, 2022, at his residence. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

Retha M. (Kirkpatrick) Walker

Wallowa Lake

Retha Mae Walker, 91, of Wallowa Lake, died Aug. 30, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital. A celebration of her life will be held Sept. 17 from 2-4 p.m. at Hurricane Creek Grange, Joseph. Arrangements are by Bollman Funeral Home, Enterprise.

Tammy L. Youren

La Grande

Tammy L. Youren, 63, of La Grande, died Sept. 2, 2022, at Grande Ronde Hospital. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory, La Grande.

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.

- 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

Thomas Bernhardt May 25, 1961 - August 19, 2022

Thomas Hall Bernhardt, 61, formerly of Wallowa, Oregon, passed away Aug. 19, 2022 at his home in St. Paul, Oregon.

Tom was born in La Grande, Oregon, on May 25, 1961 to Johnny and Edna Mae (Burruss) Bernhardt.

He was a 1979 graduate of La Grande High School, where his larger-than-life personality made him a standout in the classroom, in athletics and as a friend to all. Tom excelled on the football field. His hard-hitting, never-quit playing earned him a place on the 1979 Shriner's football team.

Tom loved the outdoors from an early age and spent most of his youth and adult years planning the next hunt, many times with lifelong friends.

A year after graduating, Tom moved to the Grand Junction/Fruita, Colorado area, with a group of close friends to work on the pipeline. After returning home, he worked in logging and various mill jobs to purchase land and cattle, a lifelong dream. Tom settled in Wallowa County, cowboying for local ranchers and adding cattle to his herd year by year.

Tom was a cowboy at heart and his time in the saddle on Smith Mountain found him at The Hill Top House, when the boys were in town. That's where he first met the McKillip Family. Never one to shy away from a good time, that big personality soon became a regular with the hunting crew, where he noticed a picture from that summer. They said that's our sister. Oh...you never told me you had a sister!

Off to the St. Paul Rodeo, the fun-loving single guy went, where he met the love of his life, Shelly McKillip, in 1993. They married in 1997, built a home on Diamond Prairie and had their only son, Will, in 1999.

In 2015, they sold their ranch and moved to Saint Paul, Oregon, to get the help they needed with his early onset Alzheimer's diagnosis and be closer to their grandchildren.

Tommy loved thunderstorms, fireworks and a beautiful sunset. His roaring laugh and teasing nature will be remembered by all, especially his hospice gals, Heidi and Malia.

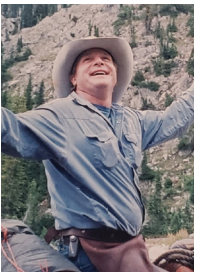
Tom was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Brenda Bomberger.

He is survived by his wife and son, Shelly and Will Bernhardt of Saint Paul, Oregon; daughters Jayme Fair of Newberg, Oregon, Stacie Price of Saint Paul, Oregon and Katy (Miles) Baker of Newberg, Oregon; nine grandchildren, Alexa, Tristan (Paige), Jizzie, Jillian, Camden, Johnny, Chloe, Natalie and Isabele (his partner in crime); and many, many nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and close friends.

A Celebration of Life will be Sept. 24, 2022, at 3 p.m. on Smith Mountain in Wallowa, Oregon, where he married his bride 25 years ago.

Donations in Tom's name can be sent to Wallowa School District, PO Box 425, Wallowa, OR 97885 for help with the recent hailstorm recovery for victims/students or Brighton Hospice, 8050 SW Warm Springs St., Ste. 205, Tualatin, OR 97062.

Arrangements are by Attrell's Funeral Chapel.



Boise Cascade

Hiring Event

Saturday, September 24, 2022

10:00 am-2:00 pm

90 South 21st Avenue

Elgin, OR 97827

\$600 Hiring Bonus

- * Medical, Dental and Vision Benefits**
- * 401K Benefits**

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Questions? Call (541) 437-2611 or

email ShannonCowan@bc.com