

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Wednesday, May 15, the 135th day of 2019. There are 230 days left in the year.



TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On May 15, 1930, registered nurse Ellen Church, the first airline stewardess, went on duty aboard an Oakland-to-Chicago flight operated by Boeing Air Transport, a forerunner of United Airlines.

ON THIS DATE

In 1567, Mary, Queen of Scots, married her third husband, James Hepburn, the Earl of Bothwell, who had been implicated in (but acquitted of) the death of Mary's second husband, Lord Darnley.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an act establishing the Department of Agriculture.

In 1918, U.S. airmail began service between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York.

In 1940, DuPont began selling its nylon stockings nationally. The original McDonald's restaurant was opened in San Bernardino, California, by Richard and Maurice McDonald.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a measure creating the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, whose members came to be known as WACs. Wartime gasoline rationing went into effect in 17 Eastern states, limiting sales to three gallons a week for non-essential vehicles.

In 1948, hours after declaring its independence, the new state of Israel was attacked by Transjordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

In 1963, Weight Watchers was incorporated in New York.

In 1968, two days of tornado outbreaks began in 10 Mid-western and Southern states; twisters were blamed for 72 deaths, including 45 in Arkansas and 18 in Iowa.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$1.6 million
13-18-20-25-41-46

Mega Millions: \$339 million
11-59-66-67-68-18-x4

Powerball: \$250 million
6-8-9-37-40-PB 26-x2

Win for Life: May 13
10-45-63-67

PICK 4:

- May 14
• 1 p.m.: 0-1-9-7
• 4 p.m.: 6-8-0-6
• 7 p.m.: 5-3-2-4
• 10 p.m.: 1-2-1-0
- May 13
• 1 p.m.: 6-8-3-3
• 4 p.m.: 3-6-8-4
• 7 p.m.: 6-3-1-0
• 10 p.m.: 7-1-8-0

ROAD REPORT

- Numbers to call:
• Inside Oregon: 800-977-6368.
• Outside Oregon: 503-588-2941.

NEWSPAPER LATE?

Every effort is made to deliver your Observer in a timely manner. Occasionally conditions exist that make delivery more difficult.

If you are not on a motor route, delivery should be before 5:30 p.m. If you do not receive your paper please call 541-963-3161.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Behavior is what a man does, not what he thinks, feels, or believes."

— Emily Dickinson, American poet (born 1830, died this date in 1886)

Oregon vaccine bill dead as US measles count soars

By Sarah Zimmerman
The Associated Press

SALEM — Critics blasted a decision by Oregon lawmakers that killed a bill aimed at getting more children vaccinated for measles and other preventable diseases in order pass a tax on large businesses, saying it jeopardized public health.

Despite passing the House and having the necessary votes in the Senate, the measure to make it harder for families to opt out of required vaccinations was nixed as part of a deal announced Monday to end a week-long Republican walkout over a multi-billion school funding tax.

Under the vaccination measure children would only have been able to forgo vaccine requirements with a doctor's note, otherwise they'd be unable to attend public school.

Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, a Democrat from Beaverton, Oregon, and

the bill's sponsor, said the move prevents the state from protecting its citizens from a public health crisis.

"This isn't how I want our state to be known," she said. "This is a major public health issue and it's critical we address it."

More than 70 people, including four from Oregon, were diagnosed as part of a months-long outbreak in the Pacific Northwest that public health officials just recently declared over.

"As the recent measles outbreak demonstrated, vaccine-preventable illnesses pose a growing threat due to the relatively low rate of immunizations in the Northwest," said Robb Cowie, a spokesman with the Oregon Health Authority, the state's health care agency.

Oregon has the highest rate of unvaccinated kindergartners in the country, with at least 7.5% of toddlers claiming an exemption. In some schools, more

than 40% of children are unvaccinated through the state's lax exemption process. That makes Oregon uniquely susceptible to an outbreak, according to Diane Peterson associate director for Immunization Action Coalition, which receives funding from the CDC.

"Oregon in particular is a hotbed for a measles outbreak," Peterson said. "All you need is to introduce one person with the disease into the community and it will spread like wildfire."

Oregon was one of a number of states proposing to crack down on non-medical exemptions, in response to a national resurgence of measles that has now sickened over 800 people this year according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

The state is one of 17 to allow families to opt out of required school vaccinations for personal, philosophical or religious reasons.

Neighboring Washington state this year passed a law to end all non-medical exemptions for the measles vaccine, while Maine is working to remove its religious and personal exemptions for all vaccines. Some states, including Rhode Island, introduced measures to add exemptions.

The anti-vaccination movement surged in the 1990s, after a study alleged a link between the measles vaccine and the rise of autism. The study has since been discredited.

Mississippi, California and West Virginia are the only states that banned all non-medical exemptions. Mississippi has the highest childhood vaccination rate in the country, while the California law, passed in 2015, caused a significant boost in vaccination numbers.

Republican and Democratic leaders are remaining tight-lipped on why the vaccine issue in particular was targeted as part of the

walkout deal.

Steiner Hayward said she wasn't involved in the negotiations and that she personally received a call from Gov. Kate Brown to tell her the vaccine bill would not move forward this session.

Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick, from Portland, stressed that the tradeoff was worth it to coax Republicans back to the Capitol and vote on a \$1 billion annual boost in school funding. It wasn't, she said, a response to the vitriolic opposition the proposal has received from hundreds of parents opposed to vaccinating their children.

"The people opposing that bill just behaved reprehensibly around the building," said Burdick at a news conference Monday. "And one of the things that distresses me is I'm afraid that some of them are going to feel that those tactics worked. Those tactics had nothing to do with what happened." ■

OREGON IN BRIEF

From wire reports

Officer wounded in Salem traffic stop shooting

SALEM — A police officer in Salem, Oregon, was shot and injured during a traffic stop and authorities are searching for the suspect.

The shooting happened about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. KOIN reports tactical and K-9 teams responded to help Oregon State Police troopers and Marion County Sheriff's Office deputies in the search for the shooter.

The injured officer was taken to a nearby hospital and received treatment for multiple gunshot wounds. The officer was released several hours later.

OSU student gets prison in hotel worker kidnapping

NEWPORT — An Oregon State University student has been sentenced to nearly nine years in prison for kidnapping a Newport hotel worker at gunpoint and then taking the woman on a ride.

KATU-TV reported Cedar Haddad of Corvallis was sentenced this week after earlier this month pleading guilty to first-degree kidnapping, second-degree kidnapping, menacing and two counts of coercion.

Police said Haddad pulled a gun on the woman May 18, 2018 before he handcuffed her and forced her into his car for what turned into a 90-minute ride. Police said Haddad made several stops before the victim was released unharmed in a neighborhood about a mile from the motel.

During court proceedings, Haddad was evaluated at the Oregon State Hospital where physicians found he had the ability to know what he was doing was wrong, but was

also diagnosed with delusional disorder.

Walmart fire creates toxic smoke, closes nearby businesses

LEBANON — Fire crews closed the Walmart superstore in Lebanon after responding to a fire inside the store.

The Lebanon Fire District said the fire started Tuesday afternoon in an aisle where pool-cleaning chemicals were stored, creating toxic smoke. The smoke was thick enough that crews had to use a thermal imaging camera to find the fire.

Crews said the store's sprinkler system prevented the fire from spreading too far, and they were able to put it out.

Several nearby businesses had to be evacuated. There were no reported injuries.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Lebanon Fire District Battalion Chief Nick Tyler said they have not identified a cause, and as of about 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, fire personnel were still at the site investigating.

Walmart Lebanon posted on Facebook that the store would remain closed and would announce later when it would reopen.

Couple accused of stealing \$100K from state in food stamps

PORTLAND — A Portland wife and husband have been accused of stealing more than \$100,000 from the State of Oregon in food stamp benefits and public assistance funds.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports the Multnomah County District Attorney on Monday indicted Rebecca Riker and Dave Riker on nearly 40 charges.

Both were charged with seven counts of unlawfully using a food stamp benefit or food commodity, 11 counts of unlawfully obtaining public assistance, five counts of theft, five counts of aggravated theft and seven counts of unsworn falsification. Dave Riker was charged with two additional counts of unlawfully using food stamp benefits.

The district attorney's office said the Rikers made false statements to public employees from 2015 to 2019 in order to get benefits through the Employment-Related Day Care program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

It wasn't known if they had attorneys.

Oregon homeless shelter executive pleads guilty to theft

PORTLAND — A former chief executive of an Oregon homeless shelter has pleaded guilty to stealing \$70,000 from the operation.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Monday that 52-year-old Clayborn Collins pleaded guilty to first-degree aggravated theft Monday.

Officials said Collins operated Emmanuel Community Services, a Portland non-profit organization established to operate the shelter and assist women, children and domestic violence victims.

Fire burns 102 acres near Durkee Tuesday

By Jayson Jacoby
WesCom News Service

A rare May wildfire burned about 102 acres near Durkee on Tuesday.

Fire crews from the BLM and the Burnt River Rangeland Fire Protection Association fought the blaze near Shirttail Creek about five miles southeast of Durkee and about a mile south of Interstate 84.

The fire started on private land and spread onto public land managed by the BLM, said Al Crouch, fire mitigation and education specialist for the agency's Vale District.

"It's a little surprising that we get a fire on May 14 in that area," Crouch said Tuesday afternoon.

The cause of the fire is under investigation, said Larisa Bogardus, public affairs officer for the BLM's Baker Resource Area.

Four BLM engines, along with volunteers from the Burnt River RFPA, worked on the fire, which was contained at 5 p.m. and controlled by 8 p.m.

Firefighters had to hike into the blaze, which burned in steep terrain that wasn't accessible to vehicles.

Crouch said the fire was burning mainly in dead, dry grass. New green grass that has sprouted this spring helped slow the spread of the flames, he said. ■

Community Connection invites you to Celebrate Older Americans Month

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