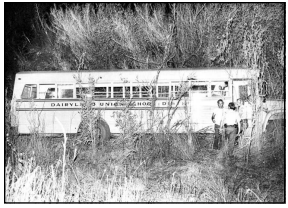


# DAILY PLANNER

## TODAY

Today is Monday, July 15, the 196th day of 2019. There are 169 days left in the year.



## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On July 15, 1976, a 36-hour kidnap ordeal began for 26 schoolchildren and their bus driver as they were abducted near Chowchilla, California, by three gunmen and imprisoned in an underground cell. (The captives escaped unharmed; the kidnapers were caught.)

## ON THIS DATE

In 1834, the Spanish Inquisition was abolished more than 3-1/2 centuries after its creation.

In 1910, the term "Alzheimer's disease" was used to describe a progressive form of pre-senile dementia in the book "Clinical Psychiatry" by German psychiatrist Emil Kraepelin, who credited the work of his colleague, Alois Alzheimer, in identifying the condition.

In 2002, John Walker Lindh, an American who'd fought alongside the Taliban in Afghanistan, pleaded guilty in federal court in Alexandria, Virginia, to two felonies in a deal sparing him life in prison.

In 2010, after 85 days, BP stopped the flow of oil from a blown-out well in the Gulf of Mexico using a 75-ton cap lowered onto the wellhead earlier in the week.

## LOTTERY

**Megabucks:** \$6.1 million  
7-11-30-36-40-41

**Mega Millions:** \$137 million  
8-25-38-56-59-7-x2

**Powerball:** \$40 million  
13-23-32-35-68-21-x3

**Win for Life:** July 13  
2-9-25-33

**Pick 4:** July 14  
• 1 p.m.: 0-2-7-1  
• 4 p.m.: 0-3-0-2  
• 7 p.m.: 5-4-1-4  
• 10 p.m.: 5-2-6-9

**Pick 4:** July 13  
• 1 p.m.: 8-0-9-9  
• 4 p.m.: 7-9-7-1  
• 7 p.m.: 2-5-6-2  
• 10 p.m.: 5-5-9-4

**Pick 4:** July 12  
• 1 p.m.: 6-1-0-7  
• 4 p.m.: 5-4-2-7  
• 7 p.m.: 7-2-3-5  
• 10 p.m.: 8-3-7-9

## 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 by 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, please call 541-963-3161 by 6 p.m.

**If your delivery is by motor carrier,** delivery should be by 6 p.m. For calls after 6, please call 541-975-1690, leave your name, address and phone number. Your paper will be delivered the next business day.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A sure way to lose happiness, I found, is to want it at the expense of everything else."

— Bette Davis, American actress

# Wallowa County's OK Theatre marks centennial



April Baer/Oregon Public Broadcasting

One of the state's historic theaters threw an epic party for its 100th birthday this weekend. The OK Theatre in Enterprise marked the occasion with a day-long street party, performance of an old-fashioned melodrama, a community sing-along, and performances by New Orleans piano master Jon Cleary, Grammy-winning cowboy singer Dom Flemons and Portland soul legend Ural Thomas. Owners Darrell Brann, a full-time contractor with a passion for music, purchased the theater five years ago and has expanded its profile by renovating and booking live music acts, along with local events. Brann says, to him, the theater is about representing the community that makes Wallowa County important. "From the time we bought (the theater), I loved that we could live in a small town," he says. "There are many diverse opinions and views, and yet everybody seems to have a sense of community in this space."



Stella White/Oregon Public Broadcasting

# Winter forecast a 'crap shoot'

■ Cooling, rapid demise of an El Nino system was unforeseen a month ago

By Don Jenkins  
Capital Press

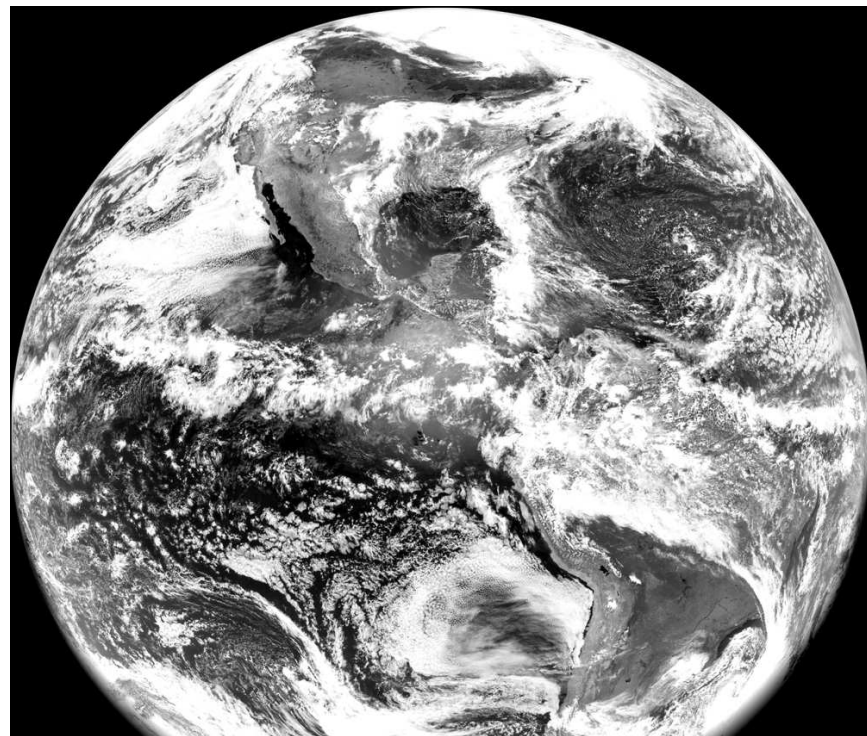
SALEM — The Pacific Ocean along the equator cooled in June and is expected to be at normal temperatures in a month or two, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported Thursday.

The cooling and rapid demise of an El Nino system was unforeseen a month ago by NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. The drop in sea-surface and subsurface temperatures leaves long-range weather forecasters with no strong clue about the months ahead.

"The bottom line is that it's pretty close to a crap shoot for this fall and winter," Washington State Climatologist Nick Bond said. "The deck isn't stacked one way or the other."

A weak El Nino formed in February. A month ago, NOAA said there was a 66% chance it would stay through the summer and a 50 to 55% chance it would last through the winter.

One forecasting model used by NOAA even predicted a moderate, rather than weak, El Nino in the coming winter. El Nino winters are generally warmer than usual in the Northwest, and less snowpack accumulates



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration photo

El Nino continues to fade, adding uncertainty to the forecast for next winter.

for use in summer irrigation.

In a turnabout, NOAA now says the odds favor neutral conditions, beginning next month and continuing through the winter. "Neutral means things are more more up in the air," NOAA climate scientist Michelle LHeureux said.

Last month's outlook, a 50-50 chance that El Nino would stick around, reflected uncertainty about the course of atmospheric conditions. In the past month, the conditions fell in line with a weakening El Nino, according to NOAA.

"It was very difficult for us to predict what was going to happen," LHeureux said. "This situation now is not as opaque."

In the mid-Pacific along the equator, the stretch that most influences seasonal forecasts, the sea-surface temperature cooled in June to 0.6 degrees celsius above normal from 0.7 degrees celsius above normal. The threshold for

an El Nino is 0.5 degrees celsius above normal.

Subsurface temperatures were above average at the beginning of June and returned to near average by the end of the month.

As El Nino fades, the chances of a La Nina forming rise, though it's still a long shot. NOAA estimated the chance of a La Nina prevailing by December at 16%. Last month, the chance was only 6%.

La Nina, a cooling of the sea's surface, generally means colder Northwest winters.

In the meantime, less precipitation continues to be seen in Washington. The U.S. Drought Monitor reported Thursday that 55% of the state is in severe or moderate drought, nearly unchanged from the week before.

Assistant State Climatologist Karin Bumbaco said more of Central Washington is drying out, but still not in a drought.

# LOCAL BRIEFING

## Young professionals dinner is Tuesday

LA GRANDE — United Way of Eastern Oregon is hosting a young professionals dinner at 6 p.m. July 16 in the Daniel Chaplin Building, 1001 Fourth St., La Grande. Young Professionals United will include networking time, a question and answer session about local human services needs with Court-Appointed Special Advocates of Eastern Oregon and professional development training from speaker Ryan Leonard of Heart 'n Home Palliative Care.

The event is open to Union County residents ages 18-40 who have already contributed to United Way or who will donate \$5 at the door. For more information, contact Alex McHaddad at 541-963-0196 or uweo@eoni.com.

## Transportation council to meet

ENTERPRISE — Community Connection will hold a Wallowa County Transportation Advisory Council meeting at 3 p.m. July 18 at the Enterprise Senior Center, 102 NW First St.

The meeting is open to the public. Input, comments and questions concerning public transportation are welcome.

For more information, contact Assistant Transit Manager David Ross at 541-426-3840 or david@ccno.org.

## B2H public comment deadline extended

SALEM — In May, the Oregon Department of Energy issued a draft proposed order for the proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line. The Department and the Energy Facility Siting Council then held a series of public hearings on the DPO during June in each of the five counties that the proposed facility crosses.

In response to requests made by the public at the June 26 hearing in Pendleton, EFSC has extended the public comment period from July 23 to Aug. 22.

## Art Center East seeks music instructors

LA GRANDE — Art Center East offers private music instruction at its EOU campus annex and is looking for additional instructors to expand its offerings. Music instructors set their own rates and schedules while benefiting from a facility and publicity managed by ACE.

If you have proficiency with an instrument or other musical skill and would enjoy teaching it to others on a one-on-one basis, contact ACE at info@artcentereast.org or 541-624-2800.

To get an idea of ACE's current offerings, go to www.artcentereast.org.

## Union VFW cancels August bingo games

UNION — The weekly bingo games at Union's Veterans of Foreign Wars will be on hiatus as of Aug. 1 due to the lack of volunteers and players.

The VFW plans to resume the games in September.

— Observer staff

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