Daily Planner

TODAY

Today is Monday, Sept. 2, the 245th day of 2019. There are 120 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Sept. 2, 1969, in what some regard as the birth of the Internet, two connected computers at the University of California, Los Angeles, passed test data through a 15-foot cable. The first automatic teller machine (ATM) to utilize magnetic-striped cards was opened to the public at Chemical Bank in New York. (Called a "Docuteller," it was developed by Donald C. Wetzel.)

ON THIS DATE

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Gen. William T. Sherman's forces occupied Atlanta.

In 1930, the first nonstop airplane flight from Europe to the U.S. was completed in 37 hours as Capt. Dieudonne Costes and Maurice Bellonte of France arrived in Valley Stream, New York, aboard their Breguet 19 biplane, which bore the symbol of a large question mark.

In 1945, Japan formally surrendered in ceremonies aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, ending World War II.

CORRECTION

The Aug. 30 article, "Daugther of missing La Grande woman still seeks answers" incorrectly stated the memorial's date. The correct date is Sept. 14.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: $4.2 million
9-12-33-37-43-45

Mega Millions: $127 million
3-9-11-34-39-10-x4

Powerball: $80 million
14-41-50-56-57-PB 18-x5

Win for Life: Aug. 31
4-27-39-62

Pick 4: Sept. 1
- 1 p.m.: 8-6-9-9
- 4 p.m.: 6-5-4-4
- 7 p.m.: 9-0-6-1
- 10 p.m.: 5-6-0-8

Pick 4: Aug. 31
- 1 p.m.: 6-9-7-7
- 4 p.m.: 3-1-8-1
- 7 p.m.: 7-5-1-7
- 10 p.m.: 2-0-3-4

Pick 4: Aug. 30
- 1 p.m.: 5-6-7-4
- 4 p.m.: 1-5-0-4
- 7 p.m.: 5-8-4-2
- 10 p.m.: 4-9-9-4

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

"Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else."

Margaret Mead, American anthropologist (1901-1978)

Updates from Cook Memorial-La Grande Public Library

OFF THE SHELF
ROSE PEACOCK

Cook Memorial Library is closed today for Labor Day.

Join us for "500 Miles through Spain: Lessons from the Camino de Santiago," presented by Jamie Jacobson, on Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. Recently returned from a solo 35-day trek across Spain, she will be sharing photos, stories and lessons learned along the way.

Check out our new GO-STEM kits, part of the "Greater Oregon Science, Technology, and Math" regional partnership with EOU. Kits include components to explore STEM principles and education.

Our annual School Supplies for Library Fines event runs through the end of September. Patrons may bring in one new packaged item from an approved list and the library will waive $1 in overdue fines up to $10 per library card. Don't have fines? We will gladly accept donations. See our website, Facebook page or front desk for a list of supplies.

The Literacy Center opens Sept. 17. Regular hours will be 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

Toddler Time is Mondays at 10:20 a.m. for ages 14 months to 4 years and their caregivers. Baby Tot Bop, for those 3 years old and younger, is Fridays at 10:30 a.m. There will not be Baby Tot Bop on Sept. 6 or Sept.r 27. All children's events are held in the Community Room.

Children ages newborn to 5 may be signed up for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library online or at the library. Participants receive a free book in the mail each month through their fifth birthday. Also, Ready-2Learn library cards are available for children age 5 and younger.

Page Turners book club for adults meets Sept. 10 at 1 p.m. in the Archives Room. The book for discussion is "The Island of Sea Women," by Lisa See, which tells of the complexities of female friendship and the unique culture of the Korean island of Jeju spanning the multiple and complex cultural and political upheavals of the 20th century.

Guided and silent meditation sessions begin Sept. 4. Led by Kitia Chambers, these sessions run Wednesdays from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. and will explore a variety of meditation and relaxation styles and techniques. No experience is necessary.

Ballet Basics, on Tuesdays at 12:10 p.m., begins Sept. 10. This free, drop-in introduction to the fundamentals of ballet is for adults only.

Foreign Film Friday returns Sept. 13 with the Korean film "Treeless Mountain." Films will now start at 4 p.m. in the Community Room. Refreshments are provided.

Teen Book Clubs, one for middle school age and one for high schoolers, will meet Sept. 5. See Celine for details. The Teen Writing Circle is Sept. 12 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Create an air plant terrarium at iCraft on at 4 p.m. Sept. 20. Teen events are open to those in middle and high school.

Library hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, noon to 6 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Visit us at 2006 Fourth St., La Grande or call us at 541-962-1339. Find out more on our website, cityoflagrande.org/library and Facebook page.

Cow Fire gets moving over the weekend, jumps to 6,700 acres with help from dry weather, heat

By Jayson Jacoby
EO Media Group

Record heat during the holiday weekend contributed to the growth of the area's largest wildfire, and winds pushed smoke from the blaze into Baker Valley on Sunday.

The 204 Cow Fire was started by lightning Aug. 9 on the Malheur National Forest in the extreme southwest corner of Baker County. The fire, estimated at 6,700 acres, has also burned south into Grant County.

The 204 Cow Fire is 10% contained.

The temperature Saturday reached 96 degrees at the Baker City Airport, breaking the previous record for Aug. 31 of 94, set in 1998.

It was the second record high in four days at the airport. Wednesday's high of 100 broke the previous record for Aug. 28 of 98 degrees, also set in 1998.

The heat, combined with low humidities and gusty winds, pushed the 204 Cow Fire toward containment lines that crews have established, according to fire officials.

Some of the smoke also came from fires that crews intentionally lit to burn areas between the main fire and those containment lines.

Five helicopters are assigned to the fire. Some of those are based at the Baker City Airport, and have been making multiple flights near Baker City as they return to refuel.

The Granite Gulch Fire, burning in the Eagle Cap Wilderness northeast of Baker City, was also active Sunday, but most of the burning was within the existing 5,200-acre perimeter, according to the Forest Service.

"The west wind should help the fire continue to spread deeper in to the Last Chance basin where it can continue to ease around," Incident Commander Adam Wing said. "I expect the east flank to continue to burn along the slope, with the wind causing short runs up the hill in front of itself."

Smoke from the 204 Cow Fire spread into Baker Valley Sunday, but the air quality remained in the "good" category.

The air quality has crept slightly into the "moderate" category only once in the past few weeks, reaching 53 at 10 p.m. on Thursday. The "good" range is less than 50, and "moderate" is from 51 to 100.

LADD

Continued from Page 1A

One, finished in June, involved widening the fast lane shoulders from La Grande to Ladd Canyon, a distance of about 7 miles.

The expanded shoulders, which are now 7-feet wide, provide more space for drivers to pull over during emergencies and make it less likely they will accidentally roll off the freeway. Remily said the expanded shoulders will be a big help when ODOT has to close the east and westbound slow lanes to do maintenance work. All slow-lane traffic will be diverted to the fast lane, where the additional space will accommodate more vehicles. This will also make things less hazardous for maintenance workers.

The second portion of the project that has been completed is the repaving the Exit 265, about 5 miles east of Ladd Canyon. Remily said the Exit 265 roadway was badly in need of repair because it was cracked and rutted.

ODOT will conclude work on the Ladd Canyon Freight Improvement Project in late October and resume it in 2020 on April 8. The spring work will include the addition of a 1.5-mile third lane on I-84 from Milepost 269.5 to Milepost 271. The new lane will be meant for trucks. The expanded space should reduce the number of times Ladd Canyon has to be closed due to trucks blocking lanes, Remily said.

SEIU

Continued from Page 1A

proposed contract plus the addition of a new step. The latter would allow employees who have "topped out" to receive a step increase.

Step increases are pay raises provided for job performances rated satisfactory or better. Employees who have reached the top of the wage schedule have topped out and are not eligible for step increases. Employees reach the top of wage schedule after 10 years.

Oregon's public universities are offering classified staff employees a 2.5% total cost of living adjustment in 2020-21 but no increases in 2019. Classified staff employees would receive a 1% COLA increase March 1, 2020, and 0.75% COLA boosts on Nov. 1, 2020, and March 1, 2021.

The state's universities are also offering step increases in 2019-20 and 2020-21, for which 70% of the classified staff employees are eligible. These step increases would raise the base wages of eligible employees by 9.5% over two years, according to Di Saunders, a spokesperson for the state's seven public universities.

The first bargaining sessions during the cooling-off period are set to be conducted Sept. 11-13 in Corvallis and Sept. 23-24 at Portland State University.

The SEIU bargaining team represents about 4,500 student service employees at Oregon's public universities. EOU has about 130 classified staff who include custodians, carpenters, plumbers, office specialists, information technology specialists and heating, air conditioning and ventilation system specialists.

The earliest the classified staff at the state's universities could strike is Sept. 23. Morris said he hopes a strike can be avoided.

"Nobody wants to strike (but) members will do this because they want to show management they provide value to students and their campuses," he said.

Morris said that for the last three to five years, the wage increases the university services workers have received have not kept up with inflation.

"It is time to change this," he said.

Saunders said she remains hopeful that a contract can be settled before there is a strike, one which likely would impact students since classes at Oregon's state universities begin Sept. 25. She noted that the classified staff and the state's universities share a common interest: They want students to be successful.

"They (the classified staff and the universities) will work hard to make sure that the start of the school year is not disrupted," Saunders said.

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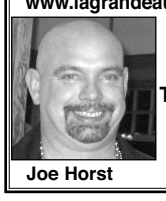
Joe Horst
MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE
ACDelcoTSS

TEN DEPOT STREET
Closed Labor Day
Tues-Fri Blue Plate $12:
Shrimp Stuffed Sole
with buttered noodles and
a cucumber salad
Open Mic with Ashley O'Toole
Tuesday, September 3rd
8pm-10pm
541-963-8766
tendepotstreet.com

Grande Ronde Hospital proudly welcomes:
Jeanna Romer, MD
Joining the **GRH Women's Clinic** team as a **Doctor of Gynecology & Obstetrics**

Dr. Romer is a native Oregonian and Eastern Oregon University graduate. She was drawn back to the Grande Ronde Valley by her love of the people, the outdoors, and the desire to raise her family in a small community, all the while providing access to quality, non-judgemental, and compassionate healthcare for women throughout the area. Dr. Romer completed her medical education at OHSU, followed by an internship at the University of Hawaii on Oahu, and then completed her OB/GYN residency at the University of Connecticut. Professionally, she is interested in minimally invasive surgeries, healthcare policy and women's health advocacy. She is passionate about healthy lifestyles including diet, exercise, and preventative medicine. She enjoys working with women at various stages of their lives - whether they need a surgeon, are trying to prevent pregnancy, seeking help to conceive, or dealing with issues surrounding menopause. Personally, Dr. Romer enjoys running, biking, hiking, rock climbing, cooking, and spending time with her husband and three young children.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Romer and her family back to the area!

Jeanna Romer, MD

GRH Women's & Children's Clinic
710 Sunset Drive, Suite E, La Grande • 541.663.3150 • grh.org/ob-gyn/

Dr. Romer is now accepting new patients!
Learn more about Dr. Romer in our online Provider Directory at www.grh.org today.
GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL AND CLINICS