

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Saturday, Feb. 8, the 39th day of 2020. There are 327 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Feb. 8, 1924, the first execution by gas in the United States took place at the Nevada State Prison in Carson City as Gee Jon, a Chinese immigrant convicted of murder, was put to death.

ON THIS DATE

In 1587, Mary, Queen of Scots was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle in England after she was implicated in a plot to murder her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I.

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Roanoke Island, North Carolina, ended in victory for Union forces led by Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside.

In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated.

In 1922, President Warren G. Harding had a radio installed in the White House.

In 1952, Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed her accession to the British throne following the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1968, three college students were killed in a confrontation between demonstrators and highway patrolmen at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg in the wake of protests over a whites-only bowling alley. The science-fiction film "Planet of the Apes," starring Charlton Heston, had its world premiere in New York (it went into general release the following April.)

In 1973, Senate leaders named seven members of a select committee to investigate the Watergate scandal, including its chairman, Sen. Sam J. Ervin, D-N.C.

In 1976, Martin Scorsese's violent urban drama "Taxi Driver," starring Robert De Niro, was released by Columbia Pictures.

In 1989, 144 people were killed when an American-chartered Boeing 707 filled with Italian tourists slammed into a fog-covered mountain in the Azores.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$3.4 million
5-18-24-34-35-41

Mega Millions: \$187 million
32-48-50-51-64-10 x2

Powerball: \$60 million
23-30-35-41-5-PB72 x3

Win for Life: Feb. 5
2-6-51-70

Pick 4:

Feb. 6
• 1 p.m.: 6-3-6-5
• 4 p.m.: 9-2-0-5
• 7 p.m.: 6-0-1-0
• 10 p.m.: 0-4-5-1

Pick 4:

Feb. 5
• 1 p.m.: 7-4-2-4
• 4 p.m.: 4-2-1-7
• 7 p.m.: 4-7-8-3
• 10 p.m.: 2-5-9-5

DELIVERY ISSUES?

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Like all dreamers I confuse disenchantment with truth."

— Jean-Paul Sartre, French philosopher (1905-1980)

Peak loses awning



Staff photo by Phil Wright

The awning fell Wednesday night from Peak Lifestyle Studio in downtown La Grande, taking a portion of the exterior wall with it.

Observer staff

LA GRANDE — The awning that protects the entrance to Peak Lifestyle Studio in downtown La Grande fell Wednesday night, taking part of the building's facade with it.

The first song was playing at a power yoga class in the studio around 5:40 p.m. when the awning on the building at 1118 Adams Ave. came down.

"The sound was pretty epic," said Colleen McIntosh, owner of Peak Lifestyle Studio. "We all heard it and rushed to the front of the building to make sure no one was under it. When we saw no one was hurt, we went back to the class because there was nothing we could do."

Two trees kept the structure from falling into the

street or onto vehicles.

McIntosh said the cause of the damage was likely due to heavy snow and rainfall putting too much strain on the structure. She recommended businesses with awnings clear them off as soon as possible.

The studio opened in the space in September 2019. Ashley O'Toole of John Howard and Associates Real Estate manages the property, which Island City resident Mary McCracken owns. The building is within La Grande's historical building district. O'Toole and McCracken are helping McIntosh work with the city to have the wall repaired.

Workers cleared the debris Thursday. McIntosh said classes will continue as normal at the studio.

NEWS BRIEFS

Conference promotes diversity, equity and inclusion education

LA GRANDE — Now in its ninth year, the Celebrate, Educate, Appreciate Diversity Conference invites students, employees and community members to learn more about diversity, equity and inclusion on Feb. 15 at Eastern Oregon University, La Grande.

Eastern's Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion sponsors the annual, one-day event. Sponsorship from the university's Center for Teaching, Learning and Assessment makes the conference free for faculty and staff this year. Bennie Moses-Mesubed leads the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion and said free, on-campus diversity training is one way the university lives out its strategy to "support intercultural competency, inclusiveness, and diversity."

"The CEAD Conference promotes personal growth, provides skills that enable students to communicate and interact with various people, challenges them to think outside of the box, and encourages critical thinking," Moses-Mesubed said in a news release. "In educating students on diversity and multiculturalism, they will also learn about inclusive language and gain skills that will enable them to be effective campus leaders and advocates for creating and promoting safe spaces and a more inclusive campus community."

The conference runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Badgley Hall. The opening keynote begins at 9 a.m. with Alex Martinez, a poet and spoken word performer with works published in multiple journals and anthologies. Martinez manages the immigration campaign for the American Civil Liberties Union in Kansas and is the director of the Kansas/Missouri Dream Alliance.

The conference is free for students, staff and faculty, and costs \$20 for non-EOU students and \$40 for community participants. Go to eou.edu/mc/programs-services/cead-conference for more details on the conference and its offerings and to register.

La Grande on list of tour about state corporate activity tax

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Revenue announced it will hold meetings across the state in March to provide information to business taxpayers and tax professionals about the administrative rules for Oregon's new corporate activity tax. La Grande is one of the first meetings on the tour.

Department representatives used input from stakeholders during a tour in fall 2019 in prioritizing and writing the rules. March's meetings will include a presentation and discussion of the initial

Umatilla County under emergency

By Jessica Pollard
EO Media Group

PENDLETON — Heavy rainfall in the Blue Mountains this week pushed Umatilla County into a state of emergency Friday morning.

Umatilla County Commissioner John Shafer said the county joined the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the city of Weston in declaring an emergency, and similar declarations were expected from Pendleton and Echo later Friday.

"We've seen better days," Shafer said.

Interstate 84 remained closed in both directions between Hermiston and Pendleton, and to trucks between Pendleton and Ontario westbound as floodwaters headed south and road shoulders filled with traffic. Other major roadways also were experiencing closures.

The city of Pendleton would remain in a major flood stage until at least Friday afternoon, according to the National Weather Service. The Umatilla River crested at 19.8 feet Thursday night between 9-10 p.m.

"This is certainly a very rare event," said meteorologist Marc Austin.

Austin said those who evacuated should avoid returning to their homes until Saturday or possibly Sunday morning.

Flood stages and precipitation

In Gibbon, east of Pendleton, a secondary flood crest was anticipated in the Umatilla River. River forecasts from the Weather Service show water rising to 12 feet and discharge occurring at more than 10,500 cubic feet per second Friday, but should lower Saturday.

Austin said the crest likely would result in continual rising waters in the North-east Riverside Avenue area Friday afternoon.

Along the Touchet River, close to Milton-Freewater, a secondary major flood crest was occurring Friday. Water was expected to rise up to 18 feet Friday and discharge at more than 15,000 cubic feet per second, reaching historical records, according to the Northwest River Forecast website.

Surrounding areas

The effects of the flood differ from community to community, but Umatilla County government is sending resources to many of them.

After extensive flooding in the Thorn Hollow area that required a residential rescue, Shafer said the county sent a two-person search and rescue crew to see if any other residents needed help. Shafer said the crew is now stranded and are awaiting rescue themselves.

Shafer added the sheriff's office was summoning its marine deputies to help

Wallowa County closes roads

The Wallowa County Board of Commissioners declared a emergency road closure Friday due to excessive flooding on the Grande Ronde River from Troy downstream.

The board voted to close public access to Redmond Grade in northern Wallowa County from the end of the pavement to the Redmond Bridge, and on Troy Road from the Washington state line to the Redmond Bridge.

The closure does not apply to home and property owners in the area.

The county posted the road closure order online at <https://co.wallowa.or.us>.

The closure remains in effect will be until further notice, according to the order.

The Oregon Department of Transportation advises against driving through flood waters.

Anyone using those roads should use caution and be aware waters flooding over roadways often have sufficient force to move traveling vehicles and may also cover extensive washouts on the road surface.

—EO Media Group

people in the Rieth area west of Pendleton.

Further north, Shafer said Athena only received minor flooding but Weston was not as lucky. Shafer said the flooding was extensive in Weston, although water levels appeared to be dropping.



Photo by Andrew Cutler/EO Media Group

People evacuate the Riverview Mobile Home Estates in Pendleton on Thursday evening after the Umatilla River rose several feet, submerging the park.

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