

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Thursday, May 21, the 142nd day of 2020. There are 224 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On May 21, 1927, Charles A. Lindbergh landed his Spirit of St. Louis monoplane near Paris, completing the first solo airplane flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 33-1/2 hours.

On This Date

In 1542, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto died while searching for gold along the Mississippi River.

In 1868, Ulysses S. Grant was nominated for president by the Republican national convention in Chicago.

In 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross.

In 1892, the opera "Pagliacci," by Ruggero Leoncavallo, premiered in Milan, Italy.

In 1910, a year-old Jewish settlement near the port city of Jaffa adopted the name Tel Aviv.

In 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean as she landed in Northern Ireland, about 15 hours after leaving Newfoundland.

In 1941, a German U-boat sank the American merchant steamship SS Robin Moor in the South Atlantic after the ship's passengers and crew were allowed to board lifeboats.

In 1972, Michelangelo's "Pieta," on display at the Vatican, was damaged by a hammer-wielding man who shouted he was Jesus Christ.

In 1979, former San Francisco City Supervisor Dan White was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in the slayings of Mayor George Moscone and openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk; outrage over the verdict sparked rioting. (White was sentenced to seven years and eight months in prison; he ended up serving five years and took his own life in 1985.)

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$1.6 million

4-11-31-35-37-45

Mega Millions: \$298 million

8-19-25-36-66-9 x2

Powerball: \$95 million

8-12-26-39-42—PB-11 x2

Win for Life: May 18

15-18-44-68

Pick 4: May 19

• **1 p.m.:** 9-7-9-1

• **4 p.m.:** 2-7-5-4

• **7 p.m.:** 3-3-7-9

• **10 p.m.:** 7-5-5-4

Pick 4: May 18

• **1 p.m.:** 0-8-8-3

• **4 p.m.:** 7-4-2-4

• **7 p.m.:** 1-9-5-6

• **10 p.m.:** 8-9-5-4

DELIVERY ISSUES?

If you have any problems receiving your Observer, call the office at 541-963-3161.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"Being frustrated is disagreeable, but the real disasters of life begin when you get what you want."

— Irving Kristol, American writer (1920-2009)

Bentz wins Republican primary for Congress

■ Alex Spenser, Nick Heuertz of Central Point ahead on Democratic side



Bentz

By Gary A. Warner
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Former Sen. Cliff Bentz of Ontario won the Republican nomination for the 2nd Congressional District in Oregon on Tuesday.

Former Rep. Knute Buehler of Bend called Bentz just before 9:30 p.m. to concede the race. Former Sen. Jason Atkinson of Central Point was running third. Jimmy Crumpacker, a recent transplant to Deschutes County who spent over \$600,000 and was endorsed by anti-abortion and gun rights groups was running fourth. None of the other seven candidates on the Republican

ballot had more than 10 percent of the vote.

Bentz was the top choice for voters in Union and

Wallowa counties. He won 1,851 votes or 34.9% in Union County and 945 votes or 53.4% in Wallowa County, according to unofficial results on the Oregon Secretary of State's website.

Alex Spenser of Klamath Falls and Nick Heuertz of Central Point were ahead in the field of five Democrats vying for the seat.

Bentz thanked the voters of the district, who he said looked past the large amounts of advertising by Buehler and Crumpacker to give him the win.

"I think people in this congressional district are smart and they study the

candidates before they vote," Bentz said. "Jimmy is a nice guy, but he doesn't really live in the district. He's a Portland guy with a ski cabin in Bend. Good on him for trying, but he has to know the district before running for Congress.

"Knutte ran as a moderate two years ago when he was running for governor, then tried to run as a conservative for Congress. People remember. Knute is a good physician, but politically, he just doesn't fit this district."

The race drew 11 Republicans to replace Rep. Greg Walden, R-Hood River, who announced last fall that he would retire after 22 years in Congress. The district is the only one of five in Oregon represented in Congress by a Republican. It covers all of Eastern and Central Oregon, along with a large slice of the south-

western part of the state.

Bentz announced early for the race, with much of the geography of his state senate district overlapping Walden's.

Buehler entered the race, bringing his statewide name recognition and fundraising ability into the contest. The physician served two terms in the state House sandwiched between unsuccessful bids for secretary of state in 2012 and governor in 2018.

Buehler praised Bentz, and said he would support his campaign to win the seat in November.

"Cliff is a good man and a strong legislator," Buehler said in a statement. "His deep roots in CD2 will serve us all well in Congress."

A late entry that stirred the campaign was Crumpacker, an asset manager, who registered to vote

in Deschutes County on Nov. 20, three weeks after Walden announced he would retire, according to Oregon Public Broadcasting.

The district has proved reliably Republican for the past two decades, with Walden sometimes receiving more than 70% of the vote during his re-election campaigns. His closest race came in 2018, when Jamie McLeod-Skinner of Terrebonne held him to 56% of the vote.

Spenser began the race as campaign manager for Democrat Raz Mason of The Dalles, who eventually withdrew her candidacy. Spenser then filed to run for the office herself. Heuertz described himself as an independent businessman.

Observer staff contributed to this report.

Union County voters approve levy for mosquito control

By Dick Mason
The Observer

LA GRANDE — The Union County Vector Control District soon will be able to upgrade its arsenal for preventing the spread of mosquito-borne illnesses like West Nile disease.

Voters overwhelmingly approved a measure Tuesday that will raise close to \$1.3 million for the Union County Vector Control District over the next four years. Funds from the levy will go toward mosquito control services.

Chris Law, manager of the Union County Vector Control District, told The Observer earlier this month that passage of the levy would help his department upgrade the services it provides, including aerial applications with drones. Law said that using unmanned aircraft can treat large areas much more quickly. This would give district the potential to treat more acres.

The measure will cost Union County property owners 16 cents per \$1,000

of assessed property value, according to a statement on ballots for the May 19 primary election. This means the owner of a \$100,000 home would pay \$16 a year for the levy.

Passage of Measure 31-100 renews an operating levy that has been in place since 2008. A four-year operating levy of the same rate was first approved by voters in May of 2008 and was renewed by voters in 2012 and 2016, according to the Union County election ballot.

Wallowa County sheriff's race goes to Joe Fish

The Observer

ENTERPRISE — Joel Fish has ousted incumbent Steve Rogers as Wallowa County sheriff.



Fish

Unofficial election results from the Oregon Secretary of State website show Fish has 56.4% of the

total.

He has received 1,925 votes while Sheriff Steve Rogers is trailing by 632 votes.

The third candidate,

challenger George Kohlhepp, received 193 votes or about 5.7%.

Almost 61% of Wallowa County's 5,754 registered voters cast ballots, with 3,414 total votes so far in the sheriff race.

State elections rules state a candidate receiving more than 50% of the May primary vote will be the sole candidate to appear on the November ballot.

The preliminary vote count indicates Fish will be the only sheriff candidate on that ballot.

Bylenga surges ahead in House District 58 Democratic primary

EO Media Group

SALEM — Umatilla County voters may have clinched a Tuesday night victory for Nolan Bylenga, 22, a Portland State University senior and Pendleton High School alum running in the Democratic primary race for the House District 58 seat.

As of Wednesday, Bylenga led Barbara Wright of Pendleton with 53.13% of the vote to her 45.17%, according to the Oregon Secretary of State's website.

Wright, 68, a merchandiser, veterans advocate and former small business owner in Pendleton, was



Bylenga



Wright

leading the race Tuesday night before Bylenga nearly doubled her vote total in Umatilla County.

Union and Wallowa County voters backed Wright. She won 966 votes or 55.7% to Bylenga's 769 votes in Union County, and in Wallowa County she prevailed with 305 votes or 51.8% over 262 votes or 44.5% for Bylenga.

By the end of Tuesday night, Bylenga received

1,187 votes in Umatilla County, good for 64.13% of total votes, while Wright received 615 votes or 33.23%.

The winner advances to the November general election to face Republican Bobby Levy of Echo, the lone candidate on the Republican ticket.

Democrats haven't fielded a candidate in the 58th District primary since 2014, when state Rep. Greg Barreto, R-Cove, won his first term. Barreto declined to seek a fourth term, opening up a seat that covers Union County, Wallowa County and a part of Umatilla County.

Hansell takes 29th District GOP primary

EO Media Group

SALEM — Bill Hansell, R-Athena, won the 29th District State Senate Republican primary Tuesday night, easily defeating challenger Garrison Lee Alger, according to the Oregon Secretary of State's website.

Hansell won 15,606 votes, or 92% of the vote total, easily outdistancing Alger, who received 1,350 or the remain 8% with the exception of 16 write-ins.

Union County supported Hansell with 4,465 votes or 92.5% of the total.

Wallowa County voted the same, casting 1,529 votes — 93.9% — for Hansell.

Hansell is in his eighth year as a senator for District 29, which includes Umatilla, Morrow, Wallowa, Union, Gilliam, Sherman and half of Wasco counties. Hansell served for 30 years as a Umatilla County commissioner.

Alger, a Pendleton carpenter, filed Feb. 5 to run in the Republican primary. According to his filing paperwork, Alger is a Pendleton High School graduate with experience in construction, flooring, metal fabrication and customer service.

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1A

Brown said. "I am thankful for the work of our congressional delegation to secure federal funding for Oregon in the relief packages Congress has passed so far. But those funds only address a fraction of our current need, especially since we are not permitted to use the funding we have received so far to address state budget shortfalls."

"As a state, we took action to shutter our economy in order to save lives in the middle of a once-in-a-century crisis. Now it's time for Congress and the president to step up and provide once-in-a-century support for important state services, including schools, health care, and public safety."

More federal aid uncertainThe Democratic-led U.S. House passed a \$3 trillion aid bill on May 15 with \$500 billion for states and \$375 billion for local governments. But the Republican majority in the U.S. Senate has balked at the price tag, and President Donald Trump has taken a wait-and-see stance, so more aid for states does not appear to be imminent.

Brown has received agency plans she ordered earlier this month for \$3

billion in spending cuts, amounting to 17% of their general fund support starting July 1. But no one expects those cuts to pass the Legislature. Brown has the authority to cut spending across the board, but only lawmakers can approved selected cuts.

Brown also could impose a hiring freeze — although more workers have been needed at the Employment Department and other agencies affected by the pandemic and the downturn — or employee furloughs.

"The latest forecast for state revenue makes it clear that we have tough choices ahead," she said in her statement Wednesday. "We will need to tighten our belts. I am working with legislative leaders to preserve critical state services, find efficiencies, and prepare for potential budget cuts."

But neither she, Senate President Peter Courtney of

Salem, nor House Speaker Tina Kotek of Portland have said when a special legislative session might occur. Kotek, in a video conference Tuesday sponsored by the Portland Business Alliance, said lawmakers still need to assess other sources of aid stemming from the \$3 trillion CARES Act.

She did say a session is likely before August, and lawmakers cannot put off action until their next regular session starts Jan. 11.

Lawmakers were told the state has \$1.6 billion in its two main reserve funds — one generated by lottery proceeds for education, the other from income taxes for general programs — plus \$1 billion in ending balances that lawmakers could tap. The reserve funds have had a chance to grow since the most recent downturn a decade ago, but lawmakers are barred from using all of the money in a single budget cycle.

Oregon secretary of state race is too close to call; Biden wins Dem primary

By Andrew Selsky
Associated Press

SALEM — The race for the Democratic nomination to be Oregon secretary of state remained too early to call Wednesday.

Front-runners Sens. Shemia Fagan and Mark Hass were virtually tied in their bid to be their party's candidate for the second-highest state office in Oregon.

The winner will face state Sen. Kim Thatcher, who won the GOP nomination.

The coronavirus pandemic complicated the mail-in primary as election workers kept social distancing in county offices while staffing levels were down. Election workers received

instructions on handling ballots along with protective equipment from the Oregon National Guard and others.

Voters in Baker City decided Tuesday to sell the quarter-century-old backhoe, with 92% in favor and 8% opposed among the over 3,000 people in the eastern Oregon town weighing in. The fate of the 1995 Case 580 Super L backhoe confronted voters in Baker City — population around 10,000 — because the city charter requires voters to give approval before the city council can sell property valued at more than \$10,000.

Voters also said don't bother coming to us with this stuff again,

voting 75% to 25% on another ballot measure that allows the council to sell surplus equipment, regardless of value.

One local race is garnering national attention. Voters in metropolitan Portland appeared to be approving taxes on personal income and business profits that would raise \$2.5 billion over a decade to fight homelessness.

Former Vice President Joe Biden won Oregon's Democratic presidential primary, though Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders garnered 20% of the vote, according to partial returns.

President Donald Trump, who was unopposed, won the Oregon GOP presidential contest.

La GRANDE AUTO REPAIR
975-2000
www.lagrandeautorepair.com

MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE
ACDelcoTSS

Joe Horst

Need extra room? Alliance Self Storage Give us a call!

541-786-8984 Alliance Self Storage
2105 E.L. Ave., La Grande • allianceselfstorage123@gmail.com

"Shop Responsibly, Shop Local"

Union County Chamber of Commerce
Our local businesses need us and we'll get through this together
www.VisitUnionCounty.org