

DAILY  
PLANNER

## TODAY

Today is Saturday, May 30, the 151st day of 2020. There are 215 days left in the year.

## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On May 30, 1989, student protesters in Beijing erected a "Goddess of Democracy" statue in Tiananmen Square (the statue was destroyed in the Chinese government's crackdown).

## ON THIS DATE

In 1431, Joan of Arc, condemned as a heretic, was burned at the stake in Rouen, France.

In 1911, the first Indy 500 took place at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway; the winner was Ray Harroun, who drove a Marmon Wasp for more than 6½ hours at an average speed of 74.6 mph and collected a prize of \$10,000.

In 1912, aviation pioneer Wilbur Wright, 45, died in Dayton, Ohio, more than eight years after he and his brother, Orville, launched their first airplane.

In 1922, the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., was dedicated in a ceremony attended by President Warren G. Harding, Chief Justice William Howard Taft and Robert Todd Lincoln.

In 1935, Babe Ruth played in his last baseball game for the Boston Braves, leaving after the first inning of the first game of a double-header against the Philadelphia Phillies, who won both games.

In 1943, during World War II, American troops secured the Aleutian island of Attu from Japanese forces.

In 1972, three members of the Japanese Red Army opened fire at Lod Airport in Tel Aviv, Israel, killing 26 people. Two attackers died; the third was captured.

## LOTTERY

**Megabucks:** \$2.0 million

1-3-12-20-21-42

**Mega Millions:** \$336 million

34-52-58-59-62-4 x3

**Powerball:** \$125 million

38-58-59-64-68 — PB-21 x3

**Win for Life:** May 27

12-20-38-73

**Pick 4:** May 28

• 1 p.m.: 5-2-6-3; • 4 p.m.: 8-6-0-2

• 7 p.m.: 8-8-7-2; • 10 p.m.: 1-5-2-7

**Pick 4:** May 27

• 1 p.m.: 1-0-1-2

• 4 p.m.: 6-9-4-7

• 7 p.m.: 9-4-1-8

• 10 p.m.: 8-6-8-8

## DELIVERY ISSUES?

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

## TODAY'S QUOTE

"There are two statements about human beings that are true: that all human beings are alike, and that all are different. On those two facts all human wisdom is founded."

— Mark Van Doren, American poet (1894-1972)

## Suspects identified in 2018 homicide

By Steven Mitchell

EO Media Group

JOHN DAY — Closure may be coming almost two years after a couple vanished after their cabin became engulfed in flames in the Laycock Creek Road area.

Grant County District Attorney Jim Carpenter said he planned to prosecute suspects in the murder of Terry and Sharon Smith.

"There are suspects in the case," Carpenter said, "and a substantial amount of evidence that points to the suspects, such that, I will be taking it to the grand jury."

Carpenter said he plans to do that as soon as grand juries can meet without social distancing restrictions, and he anticipates an indictment.

The couple and their pickup were not found after their home on Nan's Rock Road between John Day and Mt. Vernon burned in the early morning hours of July 18, 2018.

The case evolved into a homicide after investigators confirmed

DNA samples from remains in the residence belonged to Terry and Sharon Smith. The pickup was later located in Boise.

Carpenter said the Oregon Department of Justice was brought in as a special prosecutor for Grant County, and the DOJ had been directing the investigation and working toward prosecution.

Carpenter said, several months ago, Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer requested the case back from the DOJ for prosecution in Grant County.

Because of limited resources, Carpenter said, he attempted to bring in a special prosecutor, a local attorney whom he declined to name, who initially agreed to take the case but then backed out after receiving the materials from the justice department.

"It was initially assigned to the Department of Justice because I simply didn't have the resources to take care of it," Carpenter said. "I still don't, but there are no other options. The Department of Justice

isn't going to take it back."

Oregon State Police and Grant County Sheriff's Office are investigating the case with the assistance of the FBI Bend office.

"I've discussed the case recently with the FBI, and they are assisting the sheriff's office with a few final steps in the investigation," Carpenter said.

Palmer declined to comment in an email on May 14, stating it was "an ongoing criminal investigation."

Family and friends talked about the social nature of Terry and Sharon Smith and how unusual it would be for them to disappear for any length of time without communicating with their friends and family.

"The Smiths' friends and acquaintances all would like to know if there has been any progress in solving this heinous murder," Lisa Roach, a friend of the Smiths, said in an email. "Any news would be greatly appreciated."



EO Media Group file photo

The disappearance of Terry and Sharon Smith evolved into a homicide investigation after the discovery of their DNA in their Grant County home that burned down in 2018. Now Grant County District Attorney Jim Carpenter said he is ready to present evidence to a grand jury to obtain an indictment as soon as social distancing restrictions ease.

## Fish eyes plans as Wallowa County sheriff

By Bill Bradshaw

EO Media Group

ENTERPRISE —

He's looking forward to a "smooth transition" to becoming Wallowa County sheriff, but Enterprise Police Chief Joel Fish is cautious to "not count my chickens before they hatch," he said.

Preliminary results from the May 18 primary election gave Fish a 55.4% victory over incumbent Sheriff Steve Rogers' 38.84% and Enterprise police officer George Kohlhepp's 5.68%, according to Wallowa County Clerk Sandy Lathrop.

The vote breakdown was 2,088 for Fish, 1,464 for Rogers and 214 for Kohlhepp.

Lathrop said the primary vote isn't final until June 2, the deadline for "challenge ballots" to be confirmed.



Photo by Bill Bradshaw/EO Media Group

Enterprise Police Chief Joel Fish will be the sheriff of Wallowa County as long as he gets a single vote in the November election and does not lose to a write-in candidate.

Those are ballots where the voter either did not sign it or the signature did not match the signature on record.

Since Fish received more than 50% of the vote, he will run unopposed — other

than by a possible write-in candidate — in November under the Oregon constitution. All he needs is one vote to become sheriff-elect.

"I'm humbled and extremely honored to have people who have so much

trust in (me)," Fish said. "The position of sheriff is a great honor."

As Fish ponders his future role as sheriff, he said, "It's still sinking in." He said he'll start making plans over the coming months. Many of those plans will be colored by the restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and how they play out by January 2021, when he is sworn in as sheriff.

Fish said the coming year's budget will be in place, so he'll be limited on changes he can make in purchasing.

As for personnel, "The deputies all know me and how I expect things to be done," he said. "I'd like to encourage them to keep up their training."

He said he has some ideas on "restructuring"

the sheriff's office, though he declined to give details. Fish said he and Rogers will "work together to have a smooth transition."

Rogers has offered to attend the next Oregon State Sheriff's Association meeting, likely in the fall.

For now, Fish remains Enterprise police chief until Jan. 1, then soon after comes the oath of office for sheriff. He said he hopes the Enterprise City Council will let him help select his successor.

As for Rogers, he has no intention of pursuing a write-in campaign against Fish in November. He has more than seven months left as sheriff, after which he's not yet decided what he'll do.

"I really don't know yet," he said. "It's time for the next chapter. Time to do something new."

## Wolves injure calves in Union, Wallowa counties

The Observer

UNION COUNTY — State biologists reported wolves from a pack in the northern Wallowa Mountains injured a 200-pound calf on private land in Union County this week.

According to a report from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, a rancher found the injured

6-week-old calf Monday evening. The rancher took the calf to a veterinarian for treatment and reported the case to ODFW.

Biologists examined the calf on Tuesday and found puncture wounds, tooth scrapes and areas of missing muscle tissue and hide.

"The location, size and

severity of injuries are consistent with confirmed wolf attacks," according to the state wildlife department report.

The attack happened two to three days before the examination, according to the report.

The agency attributed the attack to the Clark Creek Pack, which pro-

duced at least two pups in 2019.

According to fish and wildlife, the pack lives in the northern parts of the Catherine Creek and Minam units.

ODFW also reported a livestock producer gathering cattle May 21 in large public land grazing allotment in Wallowa

County's Swamp Creek area found an injured 2-month-old calf. The 130-pound calf "had a large area of missing hide and muscle tissue from the back of the right rear leg," the report stated.

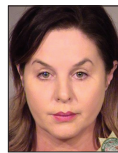
Fish and wildlife reported the depredation occurred within the Chesnimus Pack area.

## Former La Grande woman faces new federal theft charges

The Observer

PORTLAND — Former La Grande resident Ann-drea D. Jacobs turned herself in Thursday to the U.S. Marshals Service on an outstanding warrant for bank fraud.

The FBI in a press release reported the underlying criminal complaint alleges Jacobs stole checks payable to a Hood River dental practice worth more than \$22,000 between August and October 2019. Jacobs, 49, worked as a contractor for the clinic until her termination in May 2020. FBI and the IRS Criminal Investigation Division agents are working



Jacobs

together on this case.

She made her initial appearance Thursday on the charges before U.S. Magistrate Judge John V. Acosta in the U.S. District Court in Portland. The judge ordered Jacobs remain in custody pending a hearing on the government's motion to revoke her pre-trial release in an older case against her. For now, she is in the Multnomah County Jail, Portland.

Jacobs faces similar charges in a La Grande case.

The former office manager and bookkeeper for a La Grande medical prac-

tice, she was indicted by federal prosecutors in 2018 on 15 charges: four counts of wire fraud, five counts of filing of false income tax returns, four counts of aiding and assisting in the filing of false income tax returns, one count of false impersonation of a U.S. government employee, and one count of aggravated identity theft.

According to the indictment, the government accuses her of embezzling more than \$1 million from the La Grande medical practice and impersonating an IRS official to try to conceal the crimes.

That case is scheduled to go to trial in August.

## Avista Utilities warns of scammers

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Avista Utilities reported scammers are on the prowl in the region and targeting residential and commercial customers.

Avista Utilities in a press release reported scammers figured out ways to duplicate the Avista logo

and contact information, according to the release, perfected impersonation skills and are becoming increasingly convincing.

Tell-tale signs of a scam include threatening immediate service disconnection or requesting payment via prepaid cash cards. Scammers also may come to your

door demanding attention to a past due bill or entry into your home.

Customers who suspect a scam can call Avista at 800-227-9187 or go to myavista.com to verify the status of their account, get answers to questions or learn about payment and assistance options.

**UNION COUNTY**  
Weed Control

Brian Clapp  
Weed Supervisor  
bclapp@union-county.org

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10507 N McAlister Rd Rm #3 La Grande, OR 97850      PHONE (541)805-5399

Union County wants to help YOU control your noxious weeds!

Thanks to the Weed Levy, the Union County Weed Control Department is offering up to a \$500 reimbursement for treating noxious weeds on your property. This is a 50/50 Cost Share program for qualified applicants, and applies to many different integrated weed management strategies. Weeds required to be controlled in Union County are listed below. Please call us at 541-805-5399, email [bclapp@union-county.org](mailto:bclapp@union-county.org), or go to our website [www.unioncountyyweedcontrol.org](http://www.unioncountyyweedcontrol.org) for a cost share application and more info.

State of Oregon Laws & Regulations on Noxious Weeds

**Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 569 — Weed Control (excerpts)**  
569.180 Noxious weeds as public nuisance; policy. In recognition of the imminent and continuous threat to natural resources...noxious weeds are declared to be a public nuisance and shall be detected, controlled and, where feasible, eradicated on all lands in this state.

**What is a noxious weed?**  
A weed is designated noxious when it is considered by a governmental agency to be injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife, or property (Oregon Administrative Law 603-052-1200). Most noxious weeds are non-native plants that are serious pests causing economic loss and harm the environment. Noxious weeds choke out crops, destroy range and pasture lands, clog waterways, affect human and animal health, and threaten native plant communities.

Designation of Noxious Weeds in Union County

CLASS "A" WEEDS

**Class "A"** designated weed is a **priority noxious weed** designated by the Union County Commissioners as a **target weed species** on which the Weed Control District will comply with a state wide management plan and/or implement a county wide plan for intensive control and monitoring. An "A" rated weed may also be a weed of known economic importance which occurs in small enough infestations to make containment/eradication possible; or one that is not known to occur here, but its presence in neighboring counties make future occurrence here seem imminent.

Musk Thistle	Meadow hawkweed	Garlic Mustard
Plumeless Thistle	Mouse-ear hawkweed	Yellow toadflax
Turkish Thistle	Orange hawkweed	Myrtle spurge (except residential)
Russian knapweed	Yellow hawkweed	Velvet leaf
Common bugloss	Hoary cress -- Whitetop (within the Grande Ronde or Wolf Creek drainages)	Black henbane
Meadow knapweed	Perennial pepperweed	Common tansy
Yellow starthistle (outside the Cove area)	Giant knotweed	Giant Foxtail
Rush skeletonweed	Japanese knotweed	Ravenna Grass
Scotch broom	Himalayan knotweed	Viper's Bugloss
Leafy spurge (greater than 1 mile from the Grande Ronde River)	Hybrid or Bohemian knotweed	Rose Campion (except residential)
King-devil hawkweed	Tansy ragwort	
	Common cuprina	

CLASS "B" WEEDS

**Class "B"** designated weed is a **weed of economic importance**, which is both locally abundant and abundant in neighboring counties.

Dog Rose	Leafy spurge (within 1 mile of Grande Ronde River)	Armenian (Himalayan) blackberry
Jointed goatgrass	Hoary cress -- Whitetop	Yellow flag iris
Spotted knapweed	Dalmatian toadflax	Medusahead rye
Diffuse knapweed	Purple loostrieffe	Ventena grass -- North Africa grass, Wiregrass
Yellow starthistle	Scotch thistle	Saltcedar
Oxeye daisy (except residential)	Sulfur cinquefoil	Sweet Briar Rose
Canada thistle	Puncturevine	Bittersweet Nightshade
Wild carrot -- Queen Anne's Lace	Houndstongue	



Nicole Cathey

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