

DAILY
PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Thursday, July 23, the 205th day of 2020. There are 161 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On July 23, 1829, William Austin Burt received a patent for his "typographer," a forerunner of the typewriter.

ON THIS DATE

In 1885, Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president of the United States, died in New York at age 63.

In 1914, Austria-Hungary presented a list of demands to Serbia following the killing of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Serb assassin; Serbia's refusal to agree to the entire ultimatum led to the outbreak of World War I.

In 1948, American pioneer filmmaker D.W. Griffith died in Los Angeles at age 73.

In 1967, five days of deadly rioting erupted in Detroit as an early morning police raid on an unlicensed bar resulted in a confrontation with local residents that escalated into violence that spread into other parts of the city; 43 people, mostly Blacks, were killed.

In 1982, actor Vic Morrow and two child actors, 7-year-old Myca Dinh Le and 6-year-old Renee Shin-Yi Chen, were killed when a helicopter crashed on top of them during filming of a Vietnam War scene for "Twilight Zone: The Movie." (Director John Landis and four associates were later acquitted of manslaughter charges.)

In 1983, an Air Canada Boeing 767 ran out of fuel while flying from Montreal to Edmonton; the pilots were able to glide the jetliner to a safe emergency landing in Gimli, Manitoba. (The near-disaster occurred because the fuel had been erroneously measured in pounds instead of kilograms at a time when Canada was converting to the metric system.)

In 1997, the search for Andrew Cunanan, the suspected killer of designer Gianni Versace and others, ended as police found his body on a houseboat in Miami Beach, an apparent suicide.

In 1999, space shuttle Columbia blasted off with the world's most powerful X-ray telescope and Eileen Collins, the first woman to command a U.S. space flight.

In 2003, a new audiotape purported to be from toppled dictator Saddam Hussein called on Iraqis to resist the U.S. occupation. Massachusetts' attorney general issued a report saying clergy members and others in the Boston Archdiocese probably had sexually abused more than 1,000 people over a period of six decades.

In 2006, Tiger Woods became the first player since Tom Watson in 1982-83 to win consecutive British Open titles.

In 2017, a tractor trailer was found in a Walmart parking lot in San Antonio, Texas, crammed with dozens of immigrants; ten died and many more were treated at a hospital for dehydration and heat stroke.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$4.2 million
7-11-19-27-40-48

Mega Millions: \$113 million
14-25-26-41-43-15 x3

Powerball: \$97 million
13-16-32-58-59—PB-9 x2

Win for Life: July 20
7-45-47-65

Pick 4: July 21

• **1 p.m.:** 2-2-4-8; • **4 p.m.:** 9-4-7-6

• **7 p.m.:** 4-7-7-7; • **10 p.m.:** 0-5-0-6

Pick 4: July 20

• **1 p.m.:** 2-4-8-3; • **4 p.m.:** 5-5-3-4

• **7 p.m.:** 0-9-7-5; • **10 p.m.:** 2-1-8-1

DELIVERY ISSUES?

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

Woman celebrates recovery

By Andrew Cutler

EO Media Group

ENTERPRISE — When Tori White found out she had tested positive for COVID-19, she didn't believe it at first.

White, 27, of Enterprise, tested positive June 5 for the virus after a visit from her mother. White said she was told to get tested after her mom returned home to Washington state and tested positive.

"When my mom called me and told me she tested positive, I was like, 'I'm not gonna have it. I feel fine,'" White said. "Even my boss was like, 'Yeah, you're probably gonna come back negative.' And we were shocked when it came back positive."

White, who quarantined herself for two weeks following the diagnosis, said her mother was alerted by the Oregon Health Authority that she had come in contact with the virus, prompting the initial positive test for her mom.

The dominos slowly fell after that first call.

"During her visit, she felt fine and I felt fine, and then she left and on her way back, she got a call from OHA saying that one of her techs she had recently worked with — because she did a sleep study, because she has muscular dystrophy — tested positive for COVID," White said. "They did a test on her and it came back positive. And then she called me right away, and I went and got tested that day, and the next day I found out that I was positive as well."

Despite not having any symptoms during her test, she did develop extreme



Photo contributed by Tori White

Tori White of Enterprise poses for a photo with her daughter, Kinleigh. White tested positive for COVID-19 June 5 after a visit from her mother. White said she was told to get tested after her mom returned home to Washington state and tested positive.

fatigue, body aches, leg cramping and the loss of smell and taste. White said compared to how the virus has affected others, her case was mild.

"My lungs hurt just a teeny bit, but that was it," she said. "I never got a cough and I never even got a fever."

White, who has lived in Wallowa County since she was 15, said her symptoms lasted for the rest of the time she was in quarantine.

"My legs started cramping really, really bad to the point where I just wanted to cry. I was just rubbing my thighs up and down with my hands, so I didn't know what to do," she said. "And then the next day I just felt very tired and I could barely keep my eyes open. And then I just slept. The whole time I had it, I just was sleeping all day, all night long with no problem. I was just so tired."

During her quarantine, White said she was

frequently in touch with someone from the state health authority who would check in with her and make sure she was doing all right.

"He was letting me text him with questions," White said.

Being in quarantine also meant being away from her daughter, Kinleigh. White said the 3-year-old stayed with her father in Joseph and had been out of the house prior to White's visit from her mother.

"I couldn't see her for three weeks and that was really hard," White said. "I couldn't see anybody. I had a lot of people calling me and texting me, and some people were really supportive and some people weren't to be honest."

White said her employer, Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness, was extremely supportive of her while being quarantined.

"My boss was texting me like every day, asking

me if I needed anything," she said. "You know, just saying really nice things to me the whole time."

White said her family, including her sister, who lives in La Grande, dropped off groceries outside her front door twice while she was quarantined.

After being just one of a handful of individuals in Wallowa County to contract the virus, White said her advice to anyone else wondering about COVID-19 is pretty straightforward.

"Well, I just tell people that my case was really minor. I tell them information that OHA told me. And I tell them that if they have questions they should call OHA," she said. "I had people texting me, like, 'Hey, sorry to bother you. But like, I'm having these symptoms. Can you tell me your symptoms and what do you think I should do? I'm just worried.' And I always tell them, if you're worried, just go get tested. It's really fast and simple."

All-abilities playground now open

By Jayson Jacoby

EO Media Group

BAKER CITY — Karla Macy was ecstatic to watch her 4-year-old son, Gus, cavort on Baker City's newest playground, but she was perhaps even happier to hear what he said while he played.

Gus repeated it over and over, a simple phrase that could be the slogan for the nearly 2-year, \$300,000 effort that culminated Friday morning at Geiser-Pollman Park.

"I can do this."

By himself.

And that's just what Gus did.

He was among about a dozen kids who swung and slid and spun on toys designed to accommodate all children — including those, like Gus, who use wheelchairs.

Gus, who has spina bifida, played in the warm July sunshine while his mom sat nearby and reveled in her boy's newfound independence.

"Previously, when we're at a traditional playground, I'm always getting Gus in and out of his chair," said Macy, who has been promoting Baker City's campaign to build the all-abilities playground since its inception.



Photo by Lisa Britton/For the EO Media Group

Gus Macy, front, and his brother, Henry, play with Jasmine Webb, right, on Friday morning at Geiser-Pollman Park, Baker City's newest playground, which accommodates all children.

"I actually sat down on a bench and watched him play."

The playground debuted around 9 a.m. Friday. It's the south side of the park, adjacent to another group of toys that were installed in May 2014.

Joyce Bornstedt, the city's technical administrative supervisor, whose duties include overseeing city parks, said the city invited families whose children were featured in the city's application for a grant from the Moda

Health company. The city won the online voting contest in the spring of 2019 and received \$37,740.

Bornstedt said the city is not sanitizing either the new equipment or the 2014 toys.

"There's really no ability to sanitize because, I mean we could sanitize and 2 minutes (later) somebody that was infected could be there," she said.

Bornstedt encourages people to wear face coverings at the park and to bring hand sanitizer to apply before and after using the playground.

Macy said she appreciated not only that Gus was able to play without her help, but that he was able to join his brother, Henry, 6.

Macy said one of her favorite moments so far at the new playground is watching 10 kids on a merry-go-round, two of them in wheelchairs. When someone asked to go faster, one girl said, "everybody who can push, get off and push."

Having kids of all abilities play together was the purpose of the new playground, Macy said.

"It's just really exciting."

NEWS BRIEFS

Tuesday fires do no damage, cause under investigation

LA GRANDE —

Nobody was injured in a series of fires along McAlister Road and Gekeler Lane early Tuesday afternoon.

The fires, reported at 12:57 p.m., included a three-quarters of an acre blaze on a field about 200 yards south of Buchanan Lane, at least two to three spot fires in ditches along Gekeler Lane plus a haystack fire on Gekeler Lane. Firefighters extinguished the blazes in about 20 minutes except for the haystack fire, which will burn out on its own, said Craig Kretschmer, chief of the La Grande Rural Fire Department.

Firefighters are monitoring the haystack.

The fires on Gekeler Lane were about 300 yards southeast of the one on McAlister Road. The fires damaged some fencing in addition to the haystack, but there was no major property damage, Kretschmer said.

The cause of the blazes is under investigation. Kretschmer said vehicle malfunction that generated sparks may have ignited the fires, adding that it appears unlikely someone started the fires intentionally.

"We found no evidence of arson," Kretschmer said.

Firefighters from four agencies extinguished the field and ditch blazes — the La Grande Rural Fire Department, the La Grande Fire Department, the Union Rural Fire Department and the Oregon Department of Forestry. Field Deputy State Fire Marshal Casey Kump also was at the scene to help with the investigation, Kretschmer said.

FDA recalling dozens of hand sanitizer products

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration has recalled about 75 types of hand sanitizer products that tested positive for methanol contamination, according to the FDA's website.

The most-listed product is about two dozen varieties of BLUMEN hand sanitizer produced by Mexico-based 4E Global. The full list of what has been recalled can be found at <https://bit.ly/3eSLm8j>.

According to the FDA, methanol, also known as wood alcohol, can be toxic when absorbed through the skin or ingested. Ingesting the product also can be life threatening.

"The agency is aware of adults and children ingesting hand sanitizer products contaminated with methanol that has led to recent adverse events including blindness, hospitalizations and death," the FDA wrote in its online information about the recall.

The agency's investigation of methanol in hand sanitizers is ongoing.

Symptoms of substantial exposure to methanol can include nausea, vomiting, headache, blurred vision, permanent blindness, seizures, coma, permanent nervous system damage or death.

— EO Media Group

Weston Food Pantry continues to feed community during pandemic

By Alex Castle

EO Media Group

WESTON — Nearly a dozen people lined up along Franklin Street in Weston on Saturday, July 18, waiting for their turn to cycle through the Weston Food Pantry and pick up some much-needed food for the next month.

As millions of Americans and thousands of local residents have faced unemployment throughout the coronavirus pandemic, the food pantry has continued to distribute free food to people in need from 10-11 a.m. each third Sat-



Photo by Alex Castle/EO Media Group

Volunteers help distribute food items to people in need Saturday, July 18, at the Weston Food Pantry.

urday of the month.

While the virus and its risks have eliminated most community gatherings, volunteers and shoppers were

bustling about in masks and gloves on July 18, laughing and catching up together as they do each month.

"Most of these people

grew up together and are here to help one another," said Greg Phillips, one of the volunteers who helps manage the food pantry. "We're really proud to be able to support our community like this."

For safety reasons during the pandemic, all volunteers are required to wear face coverings and gloves while working in the food pantry, and patrons must wear face coverings and are limited to three individuals around the food-stocked oval tables within the small building. Patrons are asked to either wait in their vehicles or

keep distance between other families as they wait, and some masks are available at the door for people who don't have one.

"We've got a routine down now," volunteer and assistant manager Bill Dobos said of the pantry's coronavirus precautions.

Roughly two dozen volunteers and a six-person board of directors run the pantry, which receives supported from the Community Action Program of East Central Oregon (CAPECO) and the Oregon Food Bank. While based in Weston, the food pantry serves residents

of Athena, Adams and other surrounding communities in northern Umatilla County.

Volunteer Carol Kirk said local firefighters and EMS personnel regularly help unload truckloads of food and supplies sent by CAPECO each month.

Each shipment usually has enough of everything, Kirk said, to provide for the community — except for items like bread, milk, eggs and cheese.

Phillips said the food pantry uses some of its limited monetary donations to pay for those items.