

DAILY
PLANNER

TODAY
Today is Saturday, Aug. 22, the 235th day of 2020. There are 131 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT
On August 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon was nominated for a second term of office by the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach.

ON THIS DATE
In 1846, Gen. Stephen W. Kearny proclaimed all of New Mexico a territory of the United States.
In 1851, the schooner America outraced more than a dozen British vessels off the English coast to win a trophy that came to be known as the America's Cup.
In 1862, French composer Claude Debussy was born in Saint-Germain-en-Laye.
In 1910, Japan annexed Korea, which remained under Japanese control until the end of World War II.
In 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war against Belgium.
In 1978, President Jomo Kenyatta, a leading figure in Kenya's struggle for independence, died; Vice President Daniel arap Moi was sworn in as acting president.
In 1986, Kerr-McGee Corp. agreed to pay the estate of the late Karen Silkwood \$1.38 million, settling a 10-year-old nuclear contamination lawsuit. The Rob Reiner coming-of-age film "Stand By Me" was put into wide release by Columbia Pictures.
In 1989, Black Panthers co-founder Huey P. Newton was shot to death in Oakland, California. (Gunman Tyrone Robinson was later sentenced to 32 years to life in prison.)
In 1992, on the second day of the Ruby Ridge siege in Idaho, an FBI sharpshooter killed Vicki Weaver, the wife of white separatist Randy Weaver (the sharpshooter later said he was targeting the couple's friend Kevin Harris, and didn't see Vicki Weaver).
In 1996, President Bill Clinton signed welfare legislation ending guaranteed cash payments to the poor and demanding work from recipients.
In 2007, Hurricane Dean slammed into Mexico for the second time in as many days.

LOTTERY
Megabucks: \$5.5 million
1-24-28-41-44-46
Mega Millions: \$40 million
4-18-26-27-58—23 x4
Powerball: \$22 million
13-23-47-55-58—PB-23 x10
Win for Life: Aug. 19 28-49-55-73
Pick 4: Aug. 20
• **1 p.m.:** 7-0-5-2
• **4 p.m.:** 4-9-8-7
• **7 p.m.:** 1-4-8-2
• **10 p.m.:** 0-7-9-1
Pick 4: Aug. 19
• **1 p.m.:** 4-3-4-3
• **4 p.m.:** 4-7-1-9
• **7 p.m.:** 4-5-4-8
• **10 p.m.:** 6-5-7-9

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

Firefighters battle several blazes

EO Media Group
PENDLETON — Firefighters continue to make progress on wildfires caused by recent thunderstorms, according to a press release from the Umatilla National Forest.
As expected, new smoke reports continue to be discovered and fire managers expect more throughout the next few days as weather conditions continue to stay warm and dry. There are active fires at Meecham Complex, the Alder Creek fire, Putnam Springs fire, Rocky fire and Rattlesnake fire. Hot weather and increased wind continue to cause difficulties in fighting the fires.
The Northern Rockies Incident Management Team 3 took command of the Meacham Complex — formerly named Hager Complex — at 6 a.m. Friday, Aug. 21.
The Walla Walla Ranger District picked up one new start Aug. 20 and firefighters staffed numerous other fires from the recent lightning. The Alder Creek Fire was the most active, growing to 12 acres in size. The fire was reported on Aug. 19 and is near Lookout Mountain, approximately 24 miles northeast of Wallowa. The fire is burning in difficult terrain that is hard to access.
Aircraft aided suppression efforts on Thursday to slow the fire's spread. Firefighters will continue to complete line construction on Friday, where terrain and fuels allow for crews to safely engage, while uti-



Photo contributed by Umatilla National Forest

The Putnam Springs Fire on the Heppner Ranger District is estimated at 110 acres and burning to the southeast, threatening adjacent private land and a nearby structure.

lizing aircraft to slow fire spread and cool hotspots within the fire perimeter. Resources on scene include four smokejumpers and a five-person crew.
On the Heppner Ranger District, the Putnam Springs Fire is now estimated at 110 acres and is burning to the southeast, threatening adjacent private land and a nearby structure. Fire behavior on Thursday consisted of active fire runs, spotting and torching as late afternoon downslope winds pushed the fire south.
Firefighters, with

water tenders. Additional resources are on order.
A local Type 3 incident commander out of John Day took command of the fire Thursday at 9 p.m.
Firefighters made progress on the Rocky Fire, which also is on the Heppner Ranger District. The fire jumped the fire line Thursday and grew to 6 acres, but firefighters successfully stopped the fire spread. The Rocky Fire is 100% lined. Fire crews are continuing mop up and securing containment lines.
The Pomeroy Ranger District reported two new ignitions.
Firefighters staffed both fires at less than a quarter of an acre in size. The Rattlesnake Fire had minimal spread and is estimated at 5 acres. The fire is 20 miles south of Pomeroy, Washington, in rugged terrain. Access to this fire is limited due to flood damage within the Tucannon watershed. Firefighters were able to monitor the fire Thursday, while they continue to work on safely gaining access into the fire.
The North Fork John Day Ranger District had no new fires reported Friday, but crews continue to patrol and mop up hot spots on existing fires.
Hot and dry conditions are expected to persist throughout the week. Increased winds are anticipated again Friday, and fire officials want to remind everyone fire danger rating remains high and public use restrictions involving chainsaw use is in effect.

Elgin student wins statewide contest

By Dick Mason
The Observer
ELGIN — An Elgin High School student has moved into select company.
Mariah Wilhelm, who will a senior EHS this fall, placed first in her division in the Oregon Mayors Association's annual statewide civic awareness contest, "If I Were Mayor..."
Wilhelm placed first for a digital presentation in which she explained what she would do if she were the mayor of Elgin for a full term. One step she would take would be to make sure the city of Elgin is prepared for a pandemic like the COVID-19 one the world now is experiencing. Wilhelm said she would work to make sure businesses were equipped with products such as



Contributed photo

Elgin Mayor Allan Duffy poses with Elgin High School student Mariah Wilhelm, who placed first in her division for the Oregon Mayors Association's annual statewide civic awareness contest, "If I Were Mayor..."

masks and sanitizing equipment that could help them remain open during a pandemic.
She also would work to

provide meals to seniors paid for by the city during a pandemic.
Wilhelm said that making the 90-second video was not a quick process.
"It took hours," she said.
The high school student felt good about the final product.
"I was proud of it," Wilhelm said.
Wilhelm has been the Elgin City Council's student councilor for several months. She attends city council meetings and provides the council reports about Elgin High School. She has enjoyed her time as a student councilor and plans to continue serving in the 2020-21 school year.
"I like getting to see how decisions are made," Wilhelm said.
Wilhelm is a member of Elgin High's volleyball, basketball and softball teams and part of its yearbook staff.

Local firefighters squelch wildland blaze



Photo from the La Grande Rural Fire Protection District

Firefighters from multiple local agencies made swift work of a blaze early Wednesday near Summerville. The La Grande Rural Fire Protection District responded Wednesday, Aug. 19, at approximately 12:20 a.m. to assist the Imbler Rural Fire Department with a quarter- to half-acre wildland fire north of Summerville.
"There was a large amount of lightning in the area when the fire was reported," according to the post on the La Grande Rural Fire Protection District's Facebook page. "Despite gusty and shifting winds from the passing storm, crews were able to quickly engage and stop the progression of the fire."
The La Grande Fire Department and Union Rural Fire District assisted as well, and Oregon Department of Forestry provided a bulldozer to construct a containment line.

Baker County has first death related to COVID-19

By Jayson Jacoby
EO Media Group
BAKER CITY — Baker County reported one new case of COVID-19 on Tuesday, Aug. 18, but none on Wednesday, leaving the county's total at 57.
That includes 11 recent cases connected with Meadowbrook Place assisted living community in Baker City. That outbreak, the first in a care facility in the county, included the county's first COVID-19-related death, a Meadowbrook resident.
The Baker County Health Department, citing a health care privacy law, has declined to give any details about the person who died.
The Oregon Health Authority lists the age, gender and county of residence of people who die as a result of the virus. The agency's Wednesday update does not include the Baker County death, which the Baker County Health Department announced Monday afternoon.

There is often a lag between county and state data related to the pandemic.
Holly Kerns, a public information officer for Baker County, said county officials would not release any additional details about the outbreak at Meadowbrook Place.
When the Baker County Health Department announced the outbreak at Meadowbrook on Friday, Aug. 14, the department's press release stated "none of the residents or staff are currently hospitalized and no deaths have been reported in connection with the outbreak as of Friday (Aug. 14)."
The OHA's weekly report, issued Wednesday and including data through 11 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 16, attributed 11 cases to the Meadowbrook outbreak.
As of Wednesday, the OHA said at least 51 of Baker County's cases involved residents who had tested positive.

News BRIEFS

Baker City woman faces charges in stabbing

BAKER CITY — Baker City Police reported an incident that started with two people huffing canned air to get high ended with one stabbing the other.
Mariam "Evee" Collard, 20, of Baker City, is in the Baker County Jail for the stabbing of Michael Scott Tugman, 32, of Baker City. According to police, the pair were at Geiser-Pollman Park the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 17, when an argument led to the attack.
Tugman suffered a slash wound to his left cheek and stabbing wounds on his left triceps outer arm area and left upper rib cage, Baker City Police detective Shannon Regan stated in a court document. District Attorney Greg Baxter stated in a press release Monday night that Tugman received medical treatment for the injuries. Collard and Tugman were acquaintances, Baxter stated.
The district attorney's office on Tuesday arraigned Collard on one count of second-degree assault, a Class B felony which on conviction carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years, 10 months in prison.
She also faces a charge of second-degree disorderly conduct charge, a Class B misdemeanor, for "engaging in violent, tumultuous or threatening behavior," according to court documents.

Regan said Geiser-Pollman Park "was filled with multiple adults and children" when the stabbing occurred in the afternoon. The trouble between Collard and Tugman started when Collard began recording Tugman while he was under the influence of the canned air, according to court documents, which the two had been inhaling in the park.
Tugman became upset and told Collard to stop the recording. They wrestled over the phone Collard was using to make the video, and Collard grabbed her fixed-blade throwing knife, which measure 5-7 inches long, and stabbed Tugman three times, Regan stated.
During Tuesday's arraignment, Circuit Judge Matt Shirtcliff set Collard's bail at \$50,000 with release possible after posting 10%, or \$5,000. Baker City attorney Bob Moon is Collard's court-appointed attorney.
Baxter said Wednesday that the case will next go before a grand jury for consideration of more charges.

Eastern Oregon Counties Association to expand

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon Counties Association is set to add four new members.
Gilliam, Lake, Wasco and Wheeler counties are preparing to join the EOCA, which lobbies and advocates on behalf of Oregon counties east of the Cascade Mountains.
The four counties will join once they and the present 13 members approve a new intergovernmental agreement for the organization's operation, said Paul Anderes, chairman of the Union County Board of Commissioners.
The 13 that have been part of the EOCA for several years are Union, Walla-walla, Baker, Umatilla, Morrow, Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Klamath, Malheur and Sherman counties.
All boards of commissioners for the counties listed in the EOCA's intergovernmental agreement document must vote to approve it to remain members or join the organization, Anderes said.
The Union County Board of Commissioners voted to approve the EOCA intergovernmental agreement at its meeting Wednesday.
— EO Media Group