

TODAY

Today is Thursday, May 27, the 147th day of 2021. There are 218 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY:

On May 27, 1941, the British Royal Navy sank the German battleship Bismarck off France with a loss of some 2,000 lives, three days after the Bismarck sank the HMS Hood with the loss of more than 1,400 lives. Amid rising world tensions, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed an "unlimited national emergency" during a radio address from the White House.

ON THIS DATE:

In 1861, Chief Justice Roger Taney, sitting as a federal circuit court judge in Baltimore, ruled that President Abraham Lincoln lacked the authority to suspend the writ of habeas corpus (Lincoln disregarded the ruling).

In 1896, 255 people were killed when a tornado struck St. Louis, Missouri, and East St. Louis, Illinois.

In 1933, the Chicago World's Fair, celebrating "A Century of Progress," officially opened. Walt Disney's Academy Award-winning animated short "The Three Little Pigs" was first released.

In 1935, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*, unanimously struck down the National Industrial Recovery Act, a key component of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" legislative program.

In 1937, the newly completed Golden Gate Bridge connecting San Francisco and Marin County, California, was opened to pedestrian traffic (vehicles began crossing the next day).

In 1942, Doris "Dorie" Miller, a cook aboard the USS West Virginia, became the first African-American to receive the Navy Cross for displaying "extraordinary courage and disregard for his own personal safety" during Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor.

In 1964, independent India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, died.

In 1968, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *United States v. O'Brien*, upheld the conviction of David O'Brien for destroying his draft card outside a Boston courthouse, ruling that the act was not protected by freedom of speech.

In 1993, five people were killed in a bombing at the Uffizi museum of art in Florence, Italy; some three dozen paintings were ruined or damaged.

In 1994, Nobel Prize-winning author Alexander Solzhenitsyn returned to Russia to the emotional cheers of thousands after spending two decades in exile.

In 1998, Michael Fortier, the government's star witness in the Oklahoma City bombing case, was sentenced to 12 years in prison after apologizing for not warning anyone about the deadly plot. (Fortier was freed in January 2006.)

In 2018, LeBron James reached his eighth straight NBA Finals as the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Boston Celtics 87-79 in Game 7 of the semifinals.

Ten years ago: Astronauts Mike Fincke and Gregory B. Burchett made history as the final spacewalkers of NASA's 30-year shuttle program, completing construction of the International Space Station with the smooth addition of an extension pole. President Barack Obama, visiting Poland, honored the memories of those slain in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising against Nazis. Gil Scott-Heron, 62, widely considered one of the godfathers of rap music, died in New York. Actor Jeff Conaway died at a hospital in Encino, California; he was 60.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama became the first American chief executive to visit Hiroshima, the city where the U.S. dropped the first atomic bomb during World War II, declaring it a fitting place to summon people everywhere to embrace the vision of a world without nuclear weapons.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$3.1 million

6-13-15-19-20-33

Powerball: \$218 million

3-19-27-37-40 — PB

8 x2

Mega Millions: \$20 million

14-21-31-34-54 — MB

11 x3

Win for Life: May 24

1-2-29-43

Pick 4: May 25

• 1 p.m.: 7-1-8-9

• 4 p.m.: 6-0-7-0

• 7 p.m.: 4-5-9-7

• 10 p.m.: 3-0-9-0

Pick 4: May 24

• 1 p.m.: 9-2-3-2

• 4 p.m.: 4-0-7-1

• 7 p.m.: 0-1-6-9

• 10 p.m.: 6-0-8-0

Pick 4: May 23

• 1 p.m.: 7-4-3-0

• 4 p.m.: 5-5-3-2

• 7 p.m.: 0-5-3-9

• 10 p.m.: 1-0-1-7

Summer program set for students in Cove

By **DICK MASON**

The Observer

COVE — No campfires will be burning on Cove Elementary School's campus this summer yet it may have a summer camp-like atmosphere.



Pettit

The school will be the site of a new School Enrichment Program for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, one in which students will discover that learning about math, science and art can be as enjoyable as roasting marshmallows.

"It will be more like a summer camp than a school," Cove School

School District Superintendent Earl Pettit said.

Each day, students will participate in organized physical activities and engage in free reading or artistic activities of their choosing. Students will also complete a Science, Technology, Engineering, Artistic and Math program task aligned with the mission and goals of the school.

The titles of the daily activities to be conducted, including "Storage Wars" and "Pumpkin Chuckin'," offer hints of the fun students may have on their horizons. Storage Wars will challenge students to see how much they can fit into a space, and Pumpkin Chuckin' will have students simulate firing pumpkins

with catapults while using cotton balls.

The free program will be open to all children now in kindergarten through fifth grade in the Cove School District. Cove teachers Lacey Baird and Tricia Tucker will lead the sessions. Baird will run the program for children in kindergarten through second grade and Tucker will lead students in grades 3 to 5.

Children will not receive grades for the work they do with the Summer Enrichment Program.

Three 10-day units are available for students to sign up for. The units will be Young Olympians, which will run June 14-29; Fall into Fun, June 30 to July 15; and Leop-

ards Give Back, July 19 through Aug. 3.

Children will learn about community service in Leopards Give Back. The Young Olympians program will teach participants using an athletic theme — for example, they will build miniature bobsleds in which Ping-Pong balls will represent the riders. Fall into Fun, Pettit said, will have an artistic theme.

Sessions will run from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday from June 14 to Aug. 3.

Parents can enroll their children in one, two or all three of the units, depending upon available space. Each unit has space for 20 children in both the K-2 and 3-5 grade divisions.

MORE INFORMATION

Additional information is available at the Cove School District's website at www.cove.k12.or.us.

The program will be funded by an \$85,000 grant the Cove School District was awarded by the state and will be similar to an after-school program Cove Elementary School will launch this fall, which will be paid for with money from the Cove School District's general fund.

"This grant allows the school to essentially start the after-school program early as a summer enrichment program," Pettit said.

Forest officials caution visitors ahead of holiday weekend

Some roads, trails, campgrounds remain closed or impassable due to snowfall

By **BRYCE DOLE**

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — As outdoor enthusiasts prepare to head to the mountains this Memorial Day weekend, Umatilla National Forest officials are cautioning that some roads, trails and campgrounds remain closed or impassable due to late-season snowfall.

A press release from the Umatilla National Forest said some shaded areas and cutbacks on mountain roads may still have dense snowdrifts that vehicles cannot pass, and "most" trails for hiking and cars have yet to be maintained. Some roads damaged during flooding events in February and May 2020 remain closed.

Officials are now working to prepare campsites and recreational areas at lower elevations for holiday weekend visitors, the press release said.

"Our first focus is to address hazard tree removal and other safety issues before our campgrounds can open to the public," said Forest Recreation Program Manager Shane Dittlinger.

Some campgrounds will be open during the holiday weekend with services like "clean-up and start-up" limited, the press release said.

"Our seasonal workforce is still coming on so we're working really hard with the limited number of employees we do have on staff," added Dittlinger.

Campgrounds that will be open for the holiday weekend include Alder Thicket, Bear Wallow, Big Creek Meadows, Big Springs, Bull Prairie Lake, Coalmine Hill, Drift Fence, Driftwood, Divide Well, Fairview, Frazier, Forest Boundary, Gold Dredge, Ladybug, Lane Creek, Panjab, North Fork John Day, Oriental, Pataha, Penland Lake, Tollbridge, Tucannon, Welch Creek and Winom.

Campgrounds that remain closed include Godman, Jubilee Lake, Mottet, Midway, Misery, Olive Lake, Target Meadows, Teal Spring, Umatilla Forks, Wickiup, Woodward and Woodland.

Forest officials are urging visitors to contact their local ranger district before heading to the mountains



Umatilla National Forest officials are working to prepare campsites and recreational areas at lower elevations for Memorial Day weekend visitors.

to confirm where they plan to travel is open and accessible. Officials are also warning visitors to refrain from driving on wet or unstable ground and to keep an eye out for "pull-offs in rocky, well-drained areas," the press release said.

Visitors are reminded to be cautious while maintaining a campfire and to never leave one unattended. They should also pack extra

food, water, clothing and emergency supplies and let people know where they're going and when they hope to be back, as cellphone service in the mountains is limited.

Motorists should obtain a Motorized Vehicle Use Map before heading to the mountains to ride all-terrain vehicles, the press release said.

Visitors are required to

pay a nightly fee of between \$8 and \$24, with fees added for additional vehicles at a given campsite.

Reservations can now be made for campsites at Bull Prairie Lake, Jubilee Lake, North Fork John Day and Olive Lake. All other campsites in the Umatilla National Forest are available on a first-come, first-served basis, according to the press release.

United Way hosts virtual singing competition for Blue Mountain region

Winner to receive \$2,500, other prizes

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**

The Observer

WALLA WALLA — United Way of the Blue Mountains is hosting the Sing United Clash of Blue Mountain Beats, its inaugural fundraiser and singing competition for local bands and musicians.

The head-to-head competition is being held virtually across Walla Walla, Columbia, Umatilla, Morrow, Baker, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Harney and Malheur counties. The winner of the competition will receive \$2,500 in addition to a private photo-shoot, a ticket to the 2021 Pendleton Round-Up and

an opportunity to perform a local live show.

Viewers can vote online for their favorite acts by donating to United Way; every one dollar donated counts as a vote. Proceeds from the voting will benefit United Way of the Blue Mountains, whose mission is to create a thriving community for all.

The competition consists of 22 registered contestants competing in a bracket-style tournament for first prize. Contestants have already started their matchups and the winner will be crowned by mid-June, according to United Way of the Blue Mountains.

"Seeing people be able to support not just United Way but also supporting

local artists and their aspirations is so heartwarming," said Monica Boyle, director of development of United Way of the Blue Mountains.

According to Boyle, votes have been counted across the country from regions as far as Florida and Alaska. Families and friends of the musicians have chipped in to help the acts advance in the competition.

United Way of the Blue Mountains is located out of Washington but seeks to spread into the Northeastern Oregon area.

"It's amazing to see the support United Way is able to pull," Boyle said. "We're really excited to begin growing our footprint in the Eastern Oregon region."

Rental, utilities assistance available

The Observer

SALEM — Qualified renters are now able to submit applications to the Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program for funding to pay rent, rent arrears, future rent and certain home utility costs, according to a press release.

The program will distribute \$204 million to renters who have experienced financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic and are at risk of homelessness or housing instability.

The Oregon Housing and Community Services is coordinating with local administrators to emphasize an equitable approach in the

processing of applications and distribution of funds. This partnership helps ensure OERAP makes the greatest local impact.

Relief resources will be distributed to renters who meet the following federal eligibility requirements:

• Have income less than 80% of Area Median Income.

• Have an individual in the household who has qualified for unemployment benefits or experienced other financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic.

• Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness

or housing instability.

Federal guidance requires that grantees prioritize households with incomes less than 50% AMI and households with one or more members who have been unemployed for at least 90 days.

For more information about the program visit OregonRentalAssistance.org.

For assistance contact your local Community Connection of Northeast Oregon Inc. office. In Wallowa County call 541-426-3840, in Baker County call 541-523-6591, in Grant County call 541-575-2949 or in Union County call 541-963-7532.

LOCAL BRIEFING

Merkley schedules virtual town hall for Wallowa County

PORTLAND — Oregon's U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley will hold a virtual town hall meeting Tuesday, June 1, for Wallowa County, according to a press release from the senator's office.



Merkley

Merkley will use the town hall as an opportunity to update Wallowa County residents on his work in Washington, D.C. Merkley will be answering questions directly from the public in attendance and taking suggestions on issues facing Oregon and the U.S.

"The ideas and priorities I hear in town halls inform the solutions that I fight to get into federal law," Merkley said.

Merkley joined the U.S. Senate in 2009 and has held a town hall meeting in each of Oregon's 36 counties every year. The June 1 Wallowa County town hall marks his 20th town hall this year.

Merkley also serves on the Senate's Appropriations, Environmental and Public Works, Budget, and Foreign Relations committees.

The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. and can be joined using the Zoom platform. People who want to attend can email TownHall@merkley.senate.gov with the name of their county

in the subject line to obtain the Zoom link.

Business classes and tech support being offered at NEOEDD

ENTERPRISE — Technical support for business owners in Wallowa and Union counties is being offered on a first-come, first-served basis through the Northeast Oregon Economic Development District, according to a press release from NEOEDD Executive Director Lisa Dawson.

The services will be available through June.

The funding comes from Business Oregon, the Ignite Center for Entrepreneurship, the city of La Grande Economic Development Department and the NEOEDD.

They have contracted with subject matter experts to provide assistance with branding and logos, social media marketing, website support, bookkeeping, accounting consult, business planning, video advertisement, classes in Excel or Quickbooks and other services to small businesses.

Any small business looking to improve its business image, social media marketing, website, bookkeeping or business plan is urged to apply.

Apply at <https://tinyurl.com/NEOEDDbusinessclasses>.

Applications will be reviewed and applicants connected to a service provider.

— EO Media Group