

TODAY

Today is Saturday, May 29, the 149th day of 2021. There are 216 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY:

On May 29, 2020, fired Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was arrested and charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in the death of George Floyd. (He would be convicted in April 2021 on those charges as well as second-degree unintentional murder.)

ON THIS DATE:

In 1790, Rhode Island became the 13th original colony to ratify the United States Constitution.

In 1914, the Canadian ocean liner RMS Empress of Ireland sank in the St. Lawrence River in eastern Quebec after colliding with the Norwegian cargo ship SS Storstad; of the 1,477 people on board the Empress of Ireland, 1,012 died. (The Storstad sustained only minor damage.)

In 1953, Mount Everest was conquered as Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tensing Norgay of Nepal became the first climbers to reach the summit.

In 1973, Tom Bradley was elected the first Black mayor of Los Angeles, defeating incumbent Sam Yorty.

In 1977, Janet Guthrie became the first woman to race in the Indianapolis 500, finishing in 29th place (the winner was A.J. Foyt).

In 1985, 39 people were killed at the European Cup Final in Brussels, Belgium, when rioting broke out and a wall separating British and Italian soccer fans collapsed.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev opened their historic summit in Moscow.

In 1998, Republican elder statesman Barry Goldwater died in Paradise Valley, Arizona, at age 89.

In 2009, a judge in Los Angeles sentenced music producer Phil Spector to 19 years in prison for the murder of actor Lana Clarkson. (Spector remained in prison until his death in January 2021.)

In 2014, Starbucks closed thousands of stores for part of the day to hold training sessions for employees on unconscious bias, in response to the arrests of two Black men in Philadelphia at one of its stores.

In 2015, the Obama administration formally removed Cuba from the U.S. terrorism blacklist.

In 2019, in his first public remarks on the Russia investigation, special counsel Robert Mueller said charging President Donald Trump with a crime was "not an option" because of federal rules, but he emphasized that the investigation did not exonerate the president.

Ten years ago: A week after Joplin, Missouri, was nearly leveled by the deadliest tornado to strike the U.S. in decades, President Barack Obama visited the city to offer hope to survivors and promises of help. JR Hildebrand was one turn away from winning the Indianapolis 500 when he skidded high into the wall on the final turn and Dan Wheldon drove past to claim the win.

Five years ago: An Army veteran of two Afghanistan tours killed one person and wounded several others during a shooting rampage in west Houston before being gunned down by a SWAT officer. Alexander Rossi won the 100th running of the Indianapolis 500.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$3.2 million

1-4-12-18-19-48

Powerball: \$236 million
2-8-21-34-62 — PB 16 x2

Mega Millions: \$20 million
14-21-31-34-54 — MB 11 x3

Win for Life: May 26
1-19-21-49

Pick 4: May 27

• 1 p.m.: 2-3-8-7

• 4 p.m.: 2-8-7-2

• 7 p.m.: 1-1-3-2

• 10 p.m.: 4-2-4-7

Pick 4: May 26

• 1 p.m.: 2-9-2-1

• 4 p.m.: 1-0-1-5

• 7 p.m.: 7-3-4-9

• 10 p.m.: 4-4-5-8

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

Elgin seniors say farewell to high school



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Members of Elgin High School's class of 2021 celebrate their graduation by throwing their ceremonial caps to the sky during commencement at the football field behind Elgin High School on Wednesday, May 26, 2021. The class of 2021 met in the classroom of late athletic director and teacher Jeff Rysdam before going to the football field to receive their diplomas. In addition to annual scholarships from organizations like the Lion's Club, a special scholarship was awarded in honor of Rysdam, who passed away earlier this year.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Elgin High School student Xzavion Schultze has his graduation cap tidied up by a fellow classmate prior to graduation Wednesday, May 26, 2021.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Elgin High School Class President Jacob Webb, left, pauses to take a photo Wednesday, May 26, 2021, with former Elgin teacher Deb Horrell following the graduation ceremony.

OTEC awards college scholarships

Two Union County students land OTEC-EOU Rural Scholarship awards

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Several Union County graduating seniors and current college students received academic scholarships ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative.



Coston



Robinson

Two students, Imbler High School's Erin Coston and La Grande High School's Hayden Robinson, received the OTEC-EOU Rural Scholarship, which pays all tuition and fees for four years at Eastern Oregon University in La



Miller



Brown



Stirewalt



Higgins



Zamora



Hickey



Wiggins



Cole



Brogoitti

Grande. "We are very excited about the second year of this partnership between OTEC and Eastern Oregon University," said Lea Hoover, OTEC's director of administration and strategic services. "By allocating four of our scholarships to this program and leveraging a matched investment from EOU we can invest into our local communities directly, support local students and return value to OTEC member-owners through the internship projects that the students will complete throughout their four years at EOU."

The OTEC Member Foundation is a new 501c3 charitable foundation that now oversees OTEC's

scholarship programs.

Eligible applicants for scholarships must be an active OTEC member in good standing with the cooperative or a dependent or tenant of an OTEC member.

"We congratulate all the 2021 scholarships recipients and are proud to reward the students for their academic success and dedication to their community," Hoover said. "As a not-for-profit cooperative and 501c3 foundation, one of our guiding principles is 'Commitment to Community' and we can't think of a better way to give back to the communities we

serve and encourage local students to be involved in their own community."

Other graduating seniors in Union County who received a scholarship are Gage Brogoitti, Katie Brown, Josie Higgins, Taryn Miller, Jayden Wiggins and Elizabeth Zamora, all of La Grande High School, and Powder Valley's Bailey Cole.

OTEC also offers scholarships to returning college students. This spring the college student recipients are Joel Hickey, who is attending Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, and Katelyn Stirewalt, an OSU student.

Counties set to celebrate Memorial Day

Outdoor events make comeback following 2020 cancellations

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The Observer

LA GRANDE — A year ago, COVID-19 caused the cancellation of most events, including those celebrating Memorial Day weekend. With the spread of vaccinations and lowering of cases in 2021, several outdoor events are returning to Union and Wallowa counties to celebrate the holiday.

In Union, the Veterans of Foreign Wars High Valley Post 4060 is holding a Memorial Day ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday, May 31, at the city park.

The event will feature speeches, honoring the flag from each branch of the service and service hymn, followed by a rifle salute



The Observer, File

Flags fly in remembrance at La Grande's Grandview Cemetery in this 2013 photo. The Avenue of Flags begins at 11 a.m. Memorial Day, Monday, May 31, 2021, hosted by American Legion Post 43.

and the playing of Taps. The Memorial Day ceremony concludes with the reading of the names of veterans who are buried in Union Cemetery.

One of La Grande's most popular Memorial Day remembrance events, the Avenue of Flags, is set for a return this year. Last year, the Avenue of Flags was scaled back significantly due to the pandemic.

The 38th annual event at Grandview Ceme-

tery begins at 11 a.m. on Memorial Day, hosted by American Legion Post 43. Trinity Baptist Church Pastor Roger Cochran will be a keynote speaker, while the La Grande High School A Cappella Choir will sing the national anthem.

Those wishing to partake in the opening ceremony will be required to wear masks and social distance while in attendance. The 160 flags at Grandview will be on display

throughout the holiday weekend.

In the Imbler area, the Summerville Baptist Church decorated veteran markers with flags on May 28. The church will hold a Sunday morning service honoring military service personnel, in addition to Memorial Day services in the Summerville Cemetery at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

In Wallowa County, the VFW of Enterprise will be hosting ceremonies honoring fallen veterans at several local cemeteries. The organization will place memorial flags and perform a 21-gun salute at 9 a.m. at Bramlet Memorial Cemetery in Wallowa, 10 a.m. at Lostine Cemetery and 11 a.m. at Alder Slope Cemetery in Enterprise.

The VFW will then meet at 1 p.m. at the Wallowa County Courthouse, 101 S. River St., Enterprise, to read the names of departed veterans from the past year.



Greg Allen/Associated Press, File

Country music recording artist Toby Keith is set to headline the Pendleton Whisky Music Fest July 10, 2021, at the historic Pendleton Round-Up Grounds.

Toby Keith headlines Pendleton Whisky Music Fest

Clare Dunn, Clay Walker and Cole Swindell also take to the stage in return of event

The Observer

PENDLETON — Pendleton Whisky Music Fest is ready to thrill again.

Songwriters Hall of Fame inductee and two-time Academy of Country Music Awards Entertainer of the Year Toby Keith will headline the annual summer event July 10, 2021, at the historic Pendleton Round-Up Grounds.

Country music's Clare Dunn, Clay Walker and Cole Swindell also are slated to perform, according to the announcement from Pendleton Whisky Music Fest.

Organizers canceled the 2020 festival due to the coronavirus pandemic. The new lineup of 2021 performers will replace the original headlining artist Eric Church, who is now set to perform at the Pendleton Whisky Music Fest in 2022, along with Macklemore.

Whisky Fest will take place in front of a live audience, but there will be differences from previous years.

Pendleton Whisky Music Fest, according to the press release, will follow all health and safety guidelines per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as local and state government health officials. This year's main event will have a reduced capacity of 12,000 fans, and title sponsor Pendleton Whisky will provide face masks at each entrance to festivalgoers.

The event has showcased some of the biggest names in the music performance industry, including Maroon 5, Blake Shelton, Pitbull and Post Malone.

This year's festival will kick off as usual with a Friday night party in downtown Pendleton, featuring musical performances by Kurt Van Meter, Precious Byrd and DJ Sovren-T.

TICKETING INFORMATION

All tickets and camping packages purchased for the original lineup through the Pendleton Whisky Music Fest ticketing page and box office will be honored for the new date featuring Eric Church and Macklemore on July 9, 2022, with no action required. Ticket holders who are unable to attend the event for the new date in 2022 can request a refund and also will receive priority access beginning June 3 to purchase tickets to see the new lineup for this year's event. Tickets for the new 2021 lineup will go on sale to the general public Friday, June 4, 2021. For updates on the 2021 and 2022 events, including ticket information, visit www.pendletonwhiskymusicfest.com.