TODAY

Today is Tuesday, June 29, the 180th day of 2021. There are 185 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY:

On June 29, 1927, the first trans-Pacific airplane flight was completed as U.S. Army Air Corps Lt. Lester J. Maitland and Lt. Albert F. Hegenberger arrived at Wheeler Field in Hawaii aboard the Bird of Paradise, an Atlantic-Fokker C-2, after flying 2,400 miles from Oakland, California, in 25 hours, 50 minutes.

ON THIS DATE:

In 1520, Montezuma II, the ninth and last emperor of the Aztecs, died in Tenochtitlan under unclear circumstances (some say he was killed by his own subjects; others, by the Spanish).

In 1613, London's original Globe Theatre, where many of Shakespeare's plays were performed, was destroyed by a fire sparked by a cannon shot during a performance of "Henry VIII."

In 1767, Britain approved the Townshend Revenue Act, which imposed import duties on glass, paint, oil, lead, paper and tea shipped to the American colonies. (Colonists bitterly protested, prompting Parliament to repeal the duties — except for tea.)

In 1956, film star Marilyn Monroe married playwright Arthur Miller in a civil ceremony in White Plains, New York. In 1967, Jerusalem was

re-unified as Israel removed barricades separating the Old City from the Israeli sector. In 1970, the United States

ended a two-month military offensive into Cambodia. In 1972, the U.S. Supreme

Court struck down a trio of death sentences, saying the way they had been imposed constituted cruel and unusual punishment.

In 1995, the space shuttle Atlantis and the Russian Mir space station linked in orbit, beginning a historic five-day voyage as a single ship.

In 2006, the Supreme Court ruled, 5-3, that President George W. Bush's plan to try Guantanamo Bay detainees in military tribunals violated U.S. and international law.

In 2009, disgraced financier Bernard Madoff received a 150year sentence for his multibillion-dollar fraud.

Ten years ago: In the first ruling by a federal appeals court on President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, a panel in Cincinnati handed the administration a victory by agreeing that the government could require a minimum amount of insurance for Americans. Greece fended off bankruptcy as lawmakers backed austerity measures in the face of riots that left more than 100 injured.

Five years ago: Presid Barack Obama and the leaders of Mexico and Canada, meeting in Ottawa, pushed back forcefully against the isolationist and anti-immigrant sentiments roiling Britain and championed by GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump. One year ago: New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said he had a plan to cut the city police department budget by \$1 billion; the announcement came a week after a "defund the police" protest became a fullblown occupation outside City Hall. (The City Council would approve a plan to shift \$1 billion from policing to education and social services in the coming year.)

House gets new lease on life

Renovations of Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project guesthouse nears completion

By RONALD BOND

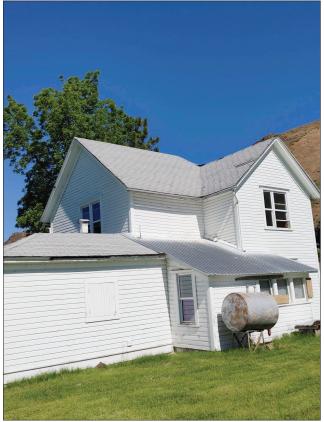
Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — A house owned by the Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project is about ready for a new lease on life.

The McCrae home, on the eastern edge of the 320-plus-acre parcel of land owned by the Homeland Project near Wallowa, is undergoing a renovation, and the plan is that by July it will be available for use by tribal members and other community members, much in the same way other venues on the Homeland Project grounds are.

The family that rented the old home from the NPWH recently moved out, and Executive Director Angela Bombaci said it was time to change how the property is used.

"We are repurposing this house from being a profit center for us as an organization — because we used to make money off of it for rent — to being part of the services that we provide," Bombaci said. "It is a five-bedroom house. We are renovating it to be a place where tribal people will come stay, (and) have that comfortable family setting."



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain

The McCrae house, which is owned by the Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland Project, is undergoing a renovation to be available for use by tribal members and other community members starting in July 2021.

Tribal members and others can use the land for a variety of purposes perhaps the most famous of them being the annual Tamkaliks Celebration at the Powwow Grounds.

But aside from camping or staying in the longhouse on the property, Bombaci noted that finding places to stay in town is becoming increasingly challenging, and opening up the home provides familiar, accessible lodging.

Interior work to prepare the home has been underway for months, and Bombaci said hundreds of volunteer hours have helped with the progress — from individuals doing small things like clean to professionals donating time and materials.

"Our big push is to have it ready for people to come stay this July," she said. "We have a group of published Native writers coming out to stay for a retreat in July. The timeline to have it ready in at least its first phase is this summer. But there's bigger scale work that does need to happen." And there are more

opportunities to pitch in coming up.

"We had a plumber come and donate all his time, and almost all of the painting has been done by volunteers. We've come a long way without spending a ton of money yet," Bombaci said. "But now we're on to the more expensive things like painting the exterior, a new roof and ADA access, and then the fun part, which is furnishing it."

Household items and supplies are being sought via an Amazon wishlist posted to social media. Those interested in donating or volunteering can contact Bombaci at info@wallowanezperce.org or by calling 541-778-0055.

The Homeland Project will not be charging a fee to stay, but individuals are asked to consider donating when possible.

"We're kind of counting on those who can to help us keep it up and running as a community offering, just an extension of the welcome we were founded to provide dispersed Nez Perce descendants," Bombaci said. "The Wallowa community and Wallowa County community want to welcome Native people to this community. This is a very tangible, fundamental, element of saying, 'Yes, come spend time here. There is to be a place to sleep and cook and be."

Union County businesses to receive \$500,000 By DICK MASON to Union County Com- not yet received the ARPA Wallowa County will

The Observer

UNION COUNTY — Many Union County businesses throttled by the COVID-19 pandemic will soon be receiving a financial boost.

Union County has been notified that it will receive \$500,000 in federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act that Congress passed earlier this year. The money will be provided to Union County businesses struggling after being hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Union County Commissioner Donna Beverage. She said the Union County Board of Commissioners previously agreed this is how the money will be spent.

Beverage said it is critical to do everything possible to help local businesses.

"The best way to help Union County's economy is keep our businesses from going out of busi not yet received the ARPA funding.

The money will come from \$240 million in ARPA money the state received that was divided between Oregon's 90 state senators and representatives to hand out for projects in their districts. Each senator received \$4 million and each representative received \$2 million, and they then arranged for counties in their districts to receive the funding for requested projects. Union and Wallowa counties will be receiving their ARPA funding money through District 58 Rep. Bobby Levy, R-Echo.

Wallowa County will spend its ARPA money on capital improvement at its fairgrounds. Projects it will be spent on include a new roof for the show barn, replacing panels and posts, the upgrade of outdoor livestock facilities and renovating Cloverleaf Hall, one of Wallowa County's largest indoor facilities.

The funding is a portion of the \$6 billion Oregon

Blood drive may set record

La Grande Community Blood Drive ahead of 2020 pace

By DICK MASON The Observer

LA GRANDE — The Red Cross-operated La Grande Community Blood Drive is on pace to have one of the most successful years it has had in at least two decades.

The blood drive collected 161 units during draws in mid-June, three more than its goal, said Sheldon Strand, who coordinates the community blood drive with his wife, Linda Strand.

To date 508 units have been donated in 2021 during three two-day drives in January, March and June. This is well ahead of the 2020 pace when 285 units were drawn over the same span and a total of 643 units were drawn for the year. La Grande has already topped its goal for 2019, when 465 units were drawn. A unit of blood is about a pint.

One reason the rate is much higher than a year ago is that the blood draw sessions in La Grande, all conducted at The Church of Jesus Christ Church of Latter-day Saints, are now two days instead of one. The extra day was added to accommodate the greater number of people who want to give blood in Union County.

"The community has supported us so much that we added an extra day," Sheldon Strand said.

The extra day was added in September 2020.

The La Grande Community Blood Drive has been conducted at the LDS Church for about 20 ears. Siles it was con ducted shortly before that included the Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande. The blood drive has been doing well in 2020 and this year despite the social distancing standards blood donors have had to adhere to due to the pandemic. Strand said people have been very accepting of them throughout.

LOTTERY

Friday, June 25, 2021 Megamillions 17-20-42-45-65 Megaball: 12 Megaplier: 4 Jackpot: \$61 million Lucky Lines 02-07-10-16-18-22-27-30 Jackpot: \$72,000 Pick 4 1 p.m.: 5-7-6-0 4 p.m.: 3-9-9-8 7 p.m.: 5-0-7-0 10 p.m.: 1-5-3-1 Saturday, June 26, 2021 Powerball 08-31-39-43-60 Powerball: 17 Power Play: 3 Jackpot: \$61 million Megabucks 19-24-27-32-36-46 Jackpot: \$4.6 million Lucky Lines 02-07-10-16-19-21-25-31 Jackpot: \$73,000 Pick 4 1 p.m.: 4-4-2-9 4 p.m.: 7-7-4-3 7 p.m.: 3-0-9-9 10 p.m.: 5-9-8-9 Win for Life XX-XX-XX-XX Sunday, June 27, 2021 Lucky Lines 03-07-10-15-20-22-28-30 Estimated jackpot: \$10,000 Pick 4 1 p.m.: 5-3-6-8 4 p.m.: 5-4-4-4 7 p.m.: 4-1-8-4 10 p.m.: 0-4-1-6

Red Cross announces blood shortage

SEATTLE — The American Red Cross is experiencing a severe blood shortage as the number of trauma cases, organ transplants and elective surgeries rise and deplete the nation's blood inventory.

The Red Cross urges donors of all blood types — especially type O and those giving platelets — to make an appointment to give as soon as possible to prevent delays in critical patient care.

For more information or to schedule a donation time, visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

Enterprise transient suspect in setting Pendleton fire

PENDLETON — The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office arrested an Enterprise transient Saturday, June 26, for setting a fire that burned 450 acres in the Stage Gulch area of Airport Hill, Pendleton.

The sheriff's office booked Michael Dean Summers, 36, into the county jail on a lone count of first-degree arson.

Sheriff's Lt. Sterrin Ward said Pendleton police were in the area of the fire. Summers caught their attention when they found out he made comments suggesting he set the fire.

"He was saying he was sending up smoke signals," Ward said, "and he made a comment about 'God made me do it."

Summers also appeared to be suffering from exposure to the high heat, and an ambulance took him to St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton. Ward said Pendleton police wasted no time in contacting the arson inves-

trom going out of business," she said.

The Union County Board of Commissioners will determine how the funding is to be distributed to businesses in the future. Union County has will be receiving from the American Rescue Plan Act for cities, counties, universities, school districts and state agencies, according to the University of Oregon Labor Education and Research Center's website.

NEWS BRIEFS

tigator with the sheriff's office.

As soon as the hospital released Summers, the sheriff's office arrested him for first-degree arson and booked him into the county jail. His preliminary bail is \$250,000.

According to state court records, Summers was on a conditional release from Wallowa County following his arrest June 19 in Enterprise on misdemeanors of second-degree disorderly conduct and trespass. Summers has a plea hearing in that case on Sept. 8.

'Shake the Lake' donations needed

WALLOWA COUNTY — The sponsors of this year's Shake the Lake fireworks show at Wallowa Lake are appealing for another \$6,000 to fund the event, according to a press release.

The Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce, the Joseph Chamber and the Stubborn Mule Saloon & Steakhouse are collaborating to ensure the success of the event. With less a week until the Fourth of July, there is a lot of ground left to cover.

Sponsors need \$15,000 total in funds for this year and they're still \$6,000 short. Residents and businesses are asked to support the fireworks event with a donation of any amount — big or small.

Last year, the principal sponsors were unable to support the event because of coronavirus pandemic restrictions. However, the fireworks were a real blast, anyway. The sponsors want to keep this celebration alive in Wallowa County.

Donations made via check may be sent to the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce at P.O. Box 427, Enterprise, OR 97828 or in person at the Wallowa County Chamber office at 309 S. River St., Enterprise, OR 97828, or at the Stubborn Mule.

There are lots of ways to donate. For a full list of options for donating to this collaborative event, visit https://tinyurl.com/ ShakeLakeDonate.

Assessment addresses community challenges

ENTERPRISE — The Community Needs Assessment compiled by the Northeast Oregon Economic Development District is available online to all who are interested, according to a press release.

The assessment includes input from more than 70 stakeholders from Baker, Union and Wallowa counties on the top needs and potential solutions to recover from the coronavirus pandemic. The NEOEDD will be meeting with stakeholders to develop a COVID-19 Recovery Plan throughout the remainder of 2021.

Stakeholder input revealed five areas of shared needs:

• Social capital (e.g., increase communication and collaborations, and increase accessibility to resources).

• Health, food and social services (e.g., more affordable and inclusive mental and physical health care).

• Education and child care (e.g., more equitable and profitable child care and improved career pathways).

• Built and natural environment (e.g., more attainable workforce housing options).

• Economic development (e.g., more business retention and workforce-development solutions).

The assessment is available at https://tinyurl.com/NEOEDDneeds. — The Observer "It has not been an issue," he said.

The next La Grande Community Blood Drive will be conducted Sept. 14-15 at the La Grande LDS Church. People can register for the blood drive at www.redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins who have not preregistered will also be welcome.

"We try to work in everybody who has come," Strand said.

Downloading the Red Cross' blood donor app is another way to schedule and manage blood donation appointments. The app also creates a digital donor card, tracks lifetime donations and allows donors to follow their donation on its way to a hospital.

The Sept. 14 session will run from noon to 6 p.m. and the Sept. 15 session from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. People who have registered are encouraged to come in about 15 minutes before their appointment.

The units of blood contributed annually by those coming to the La Grande Community Blood Drive are among 13.6 million units of whole blood and red blood cells donated each year in the United States, according to the American Red Cross blood service's website, www. redcrossblood.org.