

TODAY

Today is Tuesday, July 27, the 208th day of 2021. There are 157 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY

On July 27, 1996, terror struck the Atlanta Olympics as a pipe bomb exploded at Centennial Olympic Park, directly killing one person and injuring 111. (Anti-government extremist Eric Rudolph later pleaded guilty to the bombing, exonerating security guard Richard Jewell, who had been wrongly suspected.)

ON THIS DATE

In 1866, Cyrus W. Field finished laying out the first successful underwater telegraph cable between North America and Europe (a previous cable in 1858 burned out after only a few weeks' use).

In 1909, during the first official test of the U.S. Army's first airplane, Orville Wright flew himself and a passenger above Fort Myer, Virginia, for one hour and 12 minutes.

In 1919, race-related rioting erupted in Chicago; the violence, which claimed the lives of 23 Blacks and 15 whites, lasted until Aug. 3.

In 1921, Canadian researcher Frederick Banting and his assistant, Charles Best, succeeded in isolating the hormone insulin at the University of Toronto.

In 1953, the Korean War armistice was signed at Panmunjom, ending three years of fighting.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed the Kerner Commission to assess the causes of urban rioting, the same day Black militant H. Rap Brown told a press conference in Washington that violence was "as American as cherry pie."

In 1974, the House Judiciary Committee voted 27-11 to adopt the first of three articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon, charging he had personally engaged in a course of conduct designed to obstruct justice in the Watergate case.

In 1980, on day 267 of the Iranian hostage crisis, the deposed Shah of Iran died at a military hospital in Egypt at age 60.

In 1981, 6-year-old Adam Walsh was abducted from a department store in Hollywood, Fla., and was later murdered.

In 1995, the Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Washington by President Bill Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-sam.

In 2015, the Boy Scouts of America ended its blanket ban on gay adult leaders while allowing church-sponsored Scout units to maintain the exclusion for religious reasons.

Ten years ago: Ervin Santana pitched the first solo no-hitter for the Angels in nearly 27 years, striking out 10 and leading Los Angeles over Cleveland 3-1.

Five years ago: More than a year after Freddie Gray, a Black man, suffered a broken neck in a Baltimore police van, the effort to hold six officers criminally responsible for his death collapsed when the city abruptly dropped all charges in the case.

One year ago: Congressional leaders from both parties praised the late civil rights icon and Democratic Rep. John Lewis as a moral force for the nation in a memorial service in the Capitol Rotunda. The world's biggest COVID-19 vaccine study began with the first of 30,000 planned volunteers helping to test shots created by the National Institutes of Health and Moderna Inc.

LOTTERY

Friday, July 23, 2021

MegaMillions

13-17-19-40-69

Megaball: 17

Megaplier: 3

Jackpot: \$153 million

Lucky Lines

3-8-9-16-18-23-28-31

Jackpot: \$36,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 0-0-0-8

4 p.m.: 3-2-2-7

7 p.m.: 0-9-4-0

10 p.m.: 2-0-2-8

Saturday, July 24, 2021

Powerball

1-4-11-59-67

Powerball: 10

Power Play: 2

Jackpot: \$186 million

Megabucks

5-22-30-32-37-41

Jackpot: \$5.8 million

Lucky Lines

3-8-9-16-18-24-27-30

Jackpot: \$37,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 2-2-6-9

4 p.m.: 0-3-5-2

7 p.m.: 6-9-8-0

10 p.m.: 8-9-0-3

Win for Life

6-17-47-68

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Lucky Lines

1-6-9-14-18-24-27-32

Estimated jackpot: \$39,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 0-4-4-2

4 p.m.: 1-7-7-5

7 p.m.: 8-5-0-6

10 p.m.: 9-9-1-1

Library names interim director

Carrie Bushman takes over at Cook Memorial Library

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Cook Memorial Library has a new director at its helm.

The city of La Grande appointed Carrie Bushman as interim director of Cook Memorial Library in downtown La Grande when former director Kip Roberson departed earlier this month. Bushman takes the one-year interim role following 20 years of working at the library and will likely take over as permanent director at the end of her term.

"I've just found my niche in life and getting to work with kids has just made it the perfect job," she said.

Making some new beginnings

Bushman came to the library as a temporary employee in 2001 when it was housed in the Carnegie building and most recently served as the children's services librarian. Over the years, Bushman was elevated to higher part-time positions until becoming a full-time employee.

In her time with the library, Bushman has worked under three different library directors, which she said has given her more perspective heading into this interim position.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Carrie Bushman, shown here at Cook Memorial Library, La Grande, in July 2021, has been named the library's interim director.

"I've seen all different styles," she said. "There were some things that worked and some things that didn't, some things I agreed with and didn't agree with. In the end they all did great, so I've learned something from all of them."

Roberson, who took over as Cook Memorial Library's director in October 2019, and La Grande City Manager Robert Strobe both saw Bushman as the best fit for the job. At the La Grande City Council meeting on Wednesday, July 7, councilors voted on a memorandum of understanding with the La Grande Employees Association Union, allowing Bushman to officially switch from employee to director and opening the door for her previous position to be backfilled by Mackenzie Isaak.

"It is my hope that at the end of the one-year interim position that Carrie has done an outstanding job and is interested in con-

tinuing," Strobe said at the meeting.

Prior to Roberson departing — to be the director of library services at the Teton County Library in Jackson, Wyoming — he was able to secure two new part-time positions at the library, which will likely allow it to be open on Saturdays and was regarded by Roberson as one of his fondest personal achievements. For Bushman, the task of filling those positions coincided with backfilling her own spot as well as learning the ropes of the director job.

This summer, Cook Memorial Library is holding children's summer reading programs as well as programs and events for teens and adults. Long-term programs that Bushman aims to conduct at the library are the "Books for Babies" initiative and improvement of the adult learning programs focused on helping adults acquire their GED.

Under Roberson, Cook Memorial Library

landed a WorkSource grant that will allow for more spending on adult learning. According to Bushman, the library plans on installing a public-use laptop that will be specifically geared toward resume building, job interviews, learning resources and other tools for adult education.

The library is also partnering with Grande Ronde Hospital in coordinating the "Books for Babies" program, which gives newborns their first book and provides a library card, a parent guide, bookmarks and more reading resources.

Opening doors to the public

Cook Memorial Library joined many other businesses and city buildings in reopening as the COVID-19 infection numbers have decreased. With the library back open as a public resource, Bushman says the rush of visitors has been challenging but welcomed.

"It's been overwhelming how busy we've been. It feels a bit like normal again," Bushman said. "It's great to start having everyone back in."

The library is starting to put out the remainder of public-use computers and other resources as infection numbers remain low.

"We're still being careful," she said. "We do have all of the entrances open now, but we'll always still provide masks and sanitizer as needed."

Cook Memorial Library hosts new exhibit

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The Observer

LA GRANDE — A new traveling exhibit is on display throughout the library in La Grande.

Cook Memorial Library revealed the "Black in Oregon: 1840-1870" exhibit on Thursday, July 22, in its main reception area. The series of visual displays includes information about Black individuals who came to Oregon during overland migrations in the 19th century.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for the community to learn about a part of Oregon history that might not be as well known," said Cook Memorial Library's interim director, Carrie Bushman.

Oregon Black Pio-

neers, an educational nonprofit based in Salem, owns the exhibit and displays it in libraries across Oregon. The panels on the walls of Cook Memorial Library contain information graphics, photographs and stories about Black pioneers. Oregon State Archives originally developed the exhibit in partnership with Oregon Black Pioneers and others to compile the stories and information.

The exhibit describes various excursions taken by Black pioneers looking to avoid slavery in the southern states of America. At the time, provisional and territorial governments in Oregon barred Blacks from residency in the state. The pioneers described in the exhibit subsequently became the foundation

for many Black communities in the region. In pursuit of a better life, these pioneers risked their lives in a time when their legal status was in turmoil. The exhibit not only tells the story of various pioneers, but also illustrates the history of racial conditions in Oregon and the United States.

"It's a great opportunity for a high-quality traveling exhibit," said Celine Vandervlugt, Cook Memorial Library teen services director. "Oregon history exhibits are always welcome to have."

Thirteen panels will remain on the walls at La Grande's library from Thursday, July 22, to Wednesday, Aug. 25. Twelve new panels will be placed in the library

from Thursday, Aug. 26, until the exhibit's conclusion on Saturday, Sept. 25.

The exhibit is aimed at creating an enlightening learning experience about a lesser-known subject matter for library patrons and other visitors. The exhibit was originally compiled in 2018 and has since been digitally produced for online viewing.

The "Black in Oregon 1840-1870" exhibit makes its first appearance of the summer in La Grande, before being moved to the Harney County Library in Burns and then the Lake County Library in Lakeview.

The front desk employees at Cook Memorial Library have additional information resources available regarding the exhibit.

NEWS BRIEFS

Four people injured in Interstate 84 crash

LA GRANDE — Four people were injured Sunday, July 25, in a single-vehicle accident on Interstate 84 about 5 miles west of La Grande.

The crash occurred at 7:38 a.m. when a Mazda CX-9 driven by Mark Duffin, 62, of Boise, Idaho, went around a guardrail and off the freeway just before an overpass, according to the Oregon State Police. The vehicle, whose driver had fallen asleep, then rolled down an embankment for about 200 feet before coming to rest on the driver's side on the bank of the Grande Ronde River. A witness told an OSP trooper that the car was on fire when he arrived but that he was able to put the blaze out with water from the river, according to the OSP press release.

The vehicle's three passengers were the driver's wife, Karen Duffin, 62, of Boise, and two of the couple's grandchildren, both juveniles, who were in the backseat.

Extrication equipment had to be used to get the driver and the front passenger out of the vehicle. The two juveniles in the back were removed by the witness, the individual told an OSP trooper.

Mark and Karen Duffin were both transported by Life Flight Network helicopters to medical centers outside the area. The two juveniles were driven to Grande Ronde Hospital by ambulance.

None of the crash victims suffered



La Grande Rural Fire Protection District/Contributed Photo

Rescue personnel respond to the scene of a single-vehicle crash on Sunday, July 25, 2021. Four people were injured in the accident on Interstate 84 about 5 miles west of La Grande.

life-threatening injuries, according to Oregon State Police Sgt. Grant Jackson.

Everyone in the Mazda CX-9 was wearing seat belts and the vehicle's airbags deployed during the crash. Jackson said no citations will be issued.

Starkey forest and range closed to overnight use

LA GRANDE — The Starkey Experimental Forest and Range is closed to overnight camping or other overnight uses in response to extreme fire danger, according to a press release from the U.S. Forest Service.

Starkey remains open to public entry, but visitors must adhere to cur-

rent fire-prevention measures established for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest under Phase C Public Use Restrictions.

"The extreme fire danger this early in the fire season necessitated our decision to close Starkey to overnight camping," said Mike Wisdom, a research wildlife biologist with the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station. "We will be monitoring fire risk and how best to adapt to the situation going forward."

The 25,000-acre experimental forest and range is 28 miles southwest of La Grande on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The area is jointly managed by the Pacific Northwest Research Station and the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

— The Observer

WALLOWA COUNTY

County takes aim at river bill

Wallowa County commissioners oppose 'Rivers Democracy Act'

By BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — A resolution opposing a bill in the U.S. Senate that would expand the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to include waterways in Wallowa County was passed recently by the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners.

The "Rivers Democracy Act," a.k.a. S.192 introduced to the Senate by Oregon's Democrat Sens. Ron



Roberts

Wyden and Jeff Merkley, would add 404 additional miles of Wallowa County rivers, streams, gulches, draws and unnamed

tributaries, most of which are not classified as rivers and are not free-flowing or do not carry water year around, according to the resolution read by Commissioner Susan Roberts during the commissioners' Wednesday, July 21, meeting.

As she read, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 was to preserve certain rivers with "outstanding natural, cultural and recreation values in a free-flowing condition" and it already includes 300 miles of Wallowa County rivers.

In addition, Roberts said, S.192 expands buffer zones along such waterways from a quarter-mile to a half-mile.

This would affect "economic development, public access, water resource management, forest and vegetation management, ranching and grazing and other responsible multiple-use activities on an estimated 240,000 acres of public lands and an additional 16,000 acres of private land in Wallowa County," Roberts read.

The resolution says such "arbitrary land designations ... impose restrictions and additional federal bureaucracy on multiple-use land management activities and federal courts have upheld legal challenges to those activities..."

The resolution also notes that the county "has experienced severe wildfires that have threatened and displaced our citizens, damaged private properties, affected water resources, impacted recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat and other natural resource values and affected the county's economy."

Such wildfires have burned "unnaturally overgrown and fire-prone lands administered by federal land management agencies and those agencies have failed to adequately mitigate the risks to Wallowa County communities and natural resources."

S. 192 doesn't direct federal agencies to use tools at their disposal to reduce fire risk or restore lands after fires.

The resolution also noted that rural counties, their businesses and landowners were not consulted in the designation of waterways to include in the act. Only a "few select individuals and organizations" were consulted, the resolution reads.

Wallowa County's commissioners are not the first in Oregon to oppose the act. Earlier this month, Union County's commissioners voted to oppose it and in February, Grant County did likewise.