

TODAY

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 3, the 215th day of 2021. There are 150 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY

On August 3, 1936, Jesse Owens of the United States won the first of his four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics as he took the 100-meter sprint.

ON THIS DATE

In 1914, Germany declared war on France at the onset of World War I.

In 1949, the National Basketball Association was formed as a merger of the Basketball Association of America and the National Basketball League.

In 1966, comedian Lenny Bruce, whose raunchy brand of satire and dark humor landed him in trouble with the law, was found dead in his Los Angeles home; he was 40.

In 1972, the U.S. Senate ratified the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union. (The U.S. unilaterally withdrew from the treaty in 2002.)

In 1981, U.S. air traffic controllers went on strike, despite a warning from President Ronald Reagan they would be fired, which they were.

In 1993, the Senate voted 96-3 to confirm Supreme Court nominee Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

In 2004, the Statue of Liberty pedestal in New York City reopened to the public for the first time since the 9/11 attacks.

In 2014, Israel withdrew most of its ground troops from the Gaza Strip in an apparent winding down of a nearly monthlong operation against Hamas that had left more than 1,800 Palestinians and more than 60 Israelis dead.

In 2018, Las Vegas police said they were closing their investigation into the Oct. 1 shooting that left 58 people dead at a country music festival without a definitive answer for why Stephen Paddock unleashed gunfire from a hotel suite onto the concert crowd.

In 2019, a gunman opened fire at a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas, leaving 22 people dead; prosecutors said Patrick Crusius targeted Mexicans in hopes of scaring Latinos into leaving the U.S., and that he had outlined the plot in a screed published online shortly before the attack. (A man who was wounded in the shooting died in April 2020 after months in the hospital, raising the death toll to 23. Crusius has pleaded not guilty to state murder charges; he also faces federal hate crime and gun charges.)

Ten years ago: The Muscular Dystrophy Association announced that Jerry Lewis was no longer its national chairman and would not be appearing on the Labor Day telethon. Former NFL star and actor Bubba Smith died at age 66.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama cut short the sentences of 214 federal inmates, including 67 life sentences, in what the White House called the largest batch of commutations on a single day in more than a century. An Emirates Boeing 777 crash-landed in Dubai and caught fire; all 300 people on board survived.

One year ago: The St. Louis Cardinals became the second team sidelined by the coronavirus since the shortened baseball season began July 23; seven Cardinals players and six staff members tested positive, causing the team's four-game series at Detroit to be postponed.

LOTTERY

Friday, July 30, 2021

MegaMillions

19-26-31-52-68

Megaball: 10

Megaplier: 3

Jackpot: \$179 million

Lucky Lines

2-5-10-15-20-22-26-32

Jackpot: \$43,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 7-1-5-6

4 p.m.: 9-5-2-6

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

10 p.m.: 4-7-1-8

Saturday, July 31, 2021

Powerball

1-21-22-34-47

Powerball: 4

Power Play: 2

Jackpot: \$211 million

Megabucks

1-10-11-16-33-35

Jackpot: \$1.2 million

Lucky Lines

2-7-10-16-18-24-25-29

Jackpot: \$44,000

Pick 4

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

4 p.m.: 2-0-9-8

7 p.m.: 8-2-2-7

10 p.m.: 0-0-1-7

Win for Life

21-26-49-51

Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021

Lucky Lines

1-6-9-14-20-22-28-31

Estimated jackpot: \$45,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 8-9-7-1

4 p.m.: 1-7-6-2

7 p.m.: 6-2-4-4

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

Event returns with a bang

Huckleberry Fest draws crowd to North Powder

By ALEX WITTMER

The Observer

NORTH POWDER — The annual Huckleberry Festival in North Powder saw its biggest crowd in years on Saturday, July 31.

Hundreds of residents and visitors flocked to the small town on the edge of Union County where the streets were filled with music, vendors and kids eating shaved ice. The Hot-Rod Show-n-Shine car show also had its largest turnout, according to event organizer Bryan Karolski.

“We really went all out this year,” he said. “We put stuff out on social media, and we also advertised with probably 1,000 flyers. This is five times bigger than it was three years ago.”

Karolski ran the both the car show and festival from Huckleberry Headquarters on Second and E streets. He also sold confections made with huckleberries that he had hauled in.

In the moments he wasn't juggling the responsibilities of running the show — including acting as the announcer and tracking down the festival's Grand Marshals Dottie and Myron Miles — he was doting on his newborn baby girl, Sabrina May-Jean Karolski, who was only a few days old.

The car show featured about two dozen classic rides lined up along E Street. Karolski looked through the vehicles with the eye of an enthusiast, noting the original engine still bolted inside one of the classic pickup trucks.

Among the standouts



Alex Wittmer/The Observer

A young girl reacts to being sprayed by a firehose at the parade during a hot Saturday, July 31, 2021, at the North Powder Huckleberry Festival.



Alex Wittmer/The Observer

Festival Grand Marshals Dottie and Myron Miles stand for the national anthem during the Huckleberry Festival in North Powder on Saturday, July 31, 2021.

were Ken Schuh's all-black Chevrolet Corvette C1 with red interior and Ken Meeker's 1966 blue Dodge Coronet.

Meeker is unable to walk but that didn't stop the hobbyist from driving his soft-top convertible to the show.

“When you're in my condition, you got to find a hobby,” he said.

Just before noon, the crowds filled every free space available along

Second Street for the parade. Kids and families sheltered in the shade beneath Powder Club, while a few others held aloft umbrellas to deflect the sun's rays.

“It's looking good,” Karolski said in passing.

Dottie Miles, from the back of a horse-drawn carriage, sang along to the national anthem as it boomed out over a loudspeaker.

As the parade con-

tinued, candy was tossed out and kids scrambled to grab their prizes. Not soon after, fire trucks began spraying water through the street allowing attendees a chance to cool off in the sweltering sun.

“Hose 'em down, boys,” Karolski said over the loudspeaker, as children as well as adults darted in and out of the spray.

After the parade came to an end, the attendees took off to watch the popular mud volleyball event near the train tracks. Teams took turns waddling through mud attempting to score against each other, and some of the contestants dramatically dove for the ball only to get a face full of mud.

Back at Huckleberry Headquarters, Karolski attended to his family, his huckleberries and his festival. Though the crowds started to thin as the afternoon faded, Karolski knew he had put on one of the best Huckleberry Festivals in the town's history.

La Grande bakery helps fire victims

Le Bebe Cakes collects donations for people displaced by Bootleg Fire

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The Observer

LA GRANDE — A local bakery is doing what it can to help people in need in Oregon.

Le Bebe Cakes on Washington Avenue in La Grande collected supplies and food for victims of the Bootleg Fire in Southern Oregon. The bakery is partnering with Relief Angels, who picked up the donations on Sunday, Aug. 1.

“We wanted to do what we can to help the victims affected by the fire,” Le Bebe Cakes owner Spring Roberts said. “ReMax and others in the community have really helped us out for this good cause.”

Le Bebe Cakes

accepted donations throughout the week and compiled the supplies and food in the store. This is the second year in a row the bakery has collected donations for those affected by wildfires. In 2020 goods were donated to those fighting the blazes as well as individuals and families who were

impacted by wildfire. The donations collected this year are going specifically to people displaced from their homes by the Bootleg Fire.

Relief Angels is a non-profit organization based out of Klamath Falls with the primary mission of disaster relief. The group collected donations

from across the state on Sunday before heading to Southern Oregon to deliver the goods to the victims.

The Bootleg Fire is currently the nation's largest wildfire, stretching over 413,000 acres. The fire began on Tuesday, July 6, forcing many in the area to evacuate their homes.



Davis Carbaugh/The Observer

Donations fill the back corner of Le Bebe Cakes in La Grande on Saturday, July 31, 2021. The local bakery collected supplies and nonperishable goods for wildfire victims in Southern Oregon who were evacuated due to the Bootleg Fire.

NEWS BRIEFS

OCA seeking donations for farmers affected by wildfire

SALEM — The Oregon Cattlemen's Association is seeking donations for its Wildfire Stewardship Fund to support producers who lost profit as a result of recent wildfires.

In 2020, 15 farmers impacted by wildfires requested over \$258,000 from the association, which was able to distribute \$45,000.

This year, requests are expected to be even higher because of the drastic effects of the Bootleg Fire, according to Robyn Smith, communications director of OCA.

“It's really important because they're going through so much this year, with drought conditions and insects and pest issues because of the high heat,” Smith said. “Any help would be valuable. It's going

to be a tough year.”

The organization is also accepting supply donations, such as medical supplies for cattle, nutritional supplements and fence material.

Grange Co-op has pledged to match up to \$5,000 in relief funds donated by customers at any of their Oregon locations.

Donations can be made online at orcattle.com, or mailed to the association at 1320 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301.

Elbow Creek Fire now 78% contained

WALLOWA — Rainfall over the weekend helped firefighters battle the Elbow Creek Fire, which is now 78% contained and has remained at 22,960 acres for several days.

Mop-up operations are in prog-

ress around the perimeter of the fire, according to a statement Monday, Aug. 3. The main priorities are the Elbow Creek Drainage, Grossman Creek and Sickfoot Creek.

The night of Aug. 2 was the final night operation, according to the statement.

August 3 was the final day for ODF's Type 1 Incident Management Team 3. A Type 3 team will take over for remaining efforts on the fire.

There are now 786 personnel on site, as many crew members were sent away over the weekend due to the progress.

The statement emphasized that there are still fire hazards in the area, including stump holes, ash pits and fire weakened trees. Because of this, the Promise, Wallupa and Troy Roads all remain closed to the public.

— The Observer

Mercury kept climbing in July

La Grande average temperature 7.8 degrees above normal for month

The Observer

LA GRANDE — The La Grande area experienced much warmer than normal temperatures during the month of July, according to preliminary data received by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service Office in Pendleton.

The average temperature during the month was 77.4 degrees, 7.8 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 94.8 degrees, 9.4 degrees above normal, according to the monthly climate summary.

The highest temperature was 108 degrees recorded on July 1.

The 77.4 average temperature was the second warmest recorded during the month of July, the report said. The warmest was 79 degrees in 2013.

Low temperatures averaged 60 degrees, 6.2 degrees above normal. The lowest temperature for the month was 47 degrees, recorded on July 24.

Precipitation for the month totaled 0.12 inches, which was 0.56 inches below normal, the report said. Measurable precipitation — at least 0.01 inch — was received on two days, with the heaviest, 0.06 inches, reported on July 1.

Precipitation for the year is 6.38 inches, which is 3.64 inches below normal. Since October 2020, the water year precipitation in La Grande has been 10.96 inches, 4.04 inches below normal.

The outlook for August from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal highs for La Grande are 85.7 degrees and normal lows are 52.4 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 0.58 inches.

Temperatures up in Wallowa County also

Wallowa County also experienced warmer temperatures for the month of July, the report said.

The average temperature for Joseph during July was 67.8 degrees, 2.8 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 86.7 degrees, 6.1 degrees above normal. The highest temperature was 94 degrees on July 31.

The temperature exceeded 90 degrees on six days during the month, the report said.

Low temperatures averaged 48.8 degrees, 0.5 degrees below normal. The lowest temperature for the month was 38 degrees, recorded on July 23.

Precipitation for the month in Wallowa County totaled 0.28 inches, which was 1.12 inches below normal, the report said. Measurable precipitation — at least 0.01 inch — was received on three days, with the heaviest, 0.14 inches, reported on July 31.

Precipitation for the year is 3.83 inches, which is 6.86 inches below normal. Since October 2020, the water year precipitation in Joseph has been 4.70 inches, 9.94 inches below normal.

The outlook for August from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal highs for Joseph during August are 81.5 degrees and normal lows are 46.9 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 1.23 inches.