

TODAY

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 7, the 250th day of 2021. There are 115 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY

On Sept. 7, 1977, the Panama Canal treaties, calling for the U.S. to eventually turn over control of the waterway to Panama, were signed in Washington by President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos.

ON THIS DATE

In 1812, the Battle of Borodino took place as French troops clashed with Russian forces outside Moscow. (The battle, ultimately won by Russia, was commemorated by composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky with his "1812 Overture.")

In 1936, rock-and-roll legend Buddy Holly was born Charles Hardin Holley in Lubbock, Texas.

In 1940, Nazi Germany began its eight-month blitz of Britain during World War II with the first air attack on London.

In 1986, Desmond Tutu was installed as the first Black clergyman to lead the Anglican Church in southern Africa.

In 1996, rapper Tupac Shakur was shot and mortally wounded on the Las Vegas Strip; he died six days later.

In 2005, police and soldiers went house to house in New Orleans to try to coax the last stubborn holdouts into leaving the city shattered by Hurricane Katrina.

In 2007, Osama bin Laden appeared in a video for the first time in three years, telling Americans they should convert to Islam if they wanted the war in Iraq to end.

In 2008, troubled mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were placed in government conservatorship.

In 2015, Hillary Clinton, interviewed by The Associated Press during a campaign swing through Iowa, said she did not need to apologize for using a private email account and server while at the State Department because "what I did was allowed."

In 2019, President Donald Trump said he had canceled a secret weekend meeting at Camp David with Taliban and Afghan leaders, just days before the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, after a bombing in Kabul that killed 12 people, including an American soldier.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Sonny Rollins is 91. Singer Gloria Gaynor is 78. Singer Alfa Anderson (Chic) is 75. Actor Susan Blakely is 73. Actor Julie Kavner is 71. Rock singer Chrissie Hynde (The Pretenders) is 70. Rock musician Benmont Tench (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 68. Actor Corbin Bernsen is 67. Singer/songwriter Diane Warren is 65. Singer Margot Chapman is 64. Actor J. Smith-Cameron is 64. Actor W. Earl Brown is 58. Actor Toby Jones is 55. Actor-comedian Leslie Jones (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 54. Model-actor Angie Everhart is 52. Actor Diane Farr is 52. Country singer Butter (Trailer Choir) is 51. Actor Monique Gabriela Curnen is 51. Actor Tom Everett Scott is 51. Rock musician Chad Sexton (311) is 51. Actor Devon Sawa is 43. Actor JD Pardo is 42. Actor Benjamin Hollingsworth (TV: "Code Black") is 37. Actor Alyssa Diaz (TV: "Ray Donovan"; "Zoo") is 36. Singer-musician Wes Willis (Rush of Fools) is 35. Actor Evan Rachel Wood is 34. Actor Jonathan Majors is 32. Actor Ian Chen (TV: "Fresh Off the Boat") is 15.

LOTTERY

Friday, Sept. 3, 2021

Megamillions

7-10-12-61-65

Megaball: 3

Megaplier: 2

Jackpot: \$345 million

Lucky Lines

4-6-9-16-17-21-25-31

Jackpot: \$78,000

Pick 4

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

4 p.m.: 8-5-1-2

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

10 p.m.: 7-5-8-1

Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021

Powerball

32-35-4-52-54

Powerball: 1

Power Play: 5

Jackpot: \$375 million

Megabucks

7-9-12-15-26-35

Jackpot: \$2.7 million

Lucky Lines

4-8-12-15-19-22-27-29

Jackpot: \$10,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 1-3-0-9

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

7 p.m.: 4-7-5-6

10 p.m.: 2-7-2-2

Win for Life

6-26-52-64

Sunday, Sept. 5, 2021

Lucky Lines

4-5-12-16-20-22-28-29

Estimated jackpot: \$11,000

Pick 4

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

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

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

10 p.m.: 9-5-2-2

Greenwood shows its pride



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Students participate in Greenwood Elementary School's annual Pride Parade on Friday, Sept. 3, 2021. The parade saw cohorts from all classes take to the streets with homemade signs, accompanied by the La Grande High School marching band.

WALLOWA COUNTY

Public gets to comment on East Moraine plan

By BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — About 50 Wallowa County residents tuned in to a virtual public hearing Wednesday, Sept. 1, to express their opinions on the East Moraine Forest Management Plan.

The hearing originally had been scheduled to be at the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise, but was changed to virtual within a day or two of the hearing because of the recent surge in coronavirus cases, according to Wallowa County Commissioner Todd Nash.

The moraine, a parcel of land of roughly 1,800 acres, was purchased and moved to county ownership in January 2020. A draft management plan has since been worked on by the Wallowa Lake Moraines Partnership — made up of Wallowa County, the Wallowa Land Trust, Wallowa Resources, the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Nez Perce Tribe's cultural and forestry divisions, as well as community members.

The final plan will ultimately be what governs management and stewardship of the property.

Kathleen Ackley, executive director of the Wallowa Land Trust, said comments received during the Wednesday hearing were largely productive, giving the partnership ideas for any changes that may be needed to the management plan.



Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Arrowleaf balsamroot blooms on the terminal moraine above Wallowa Lake in May 2020. Such wildflowers are one element of nature the East Moraine Forest Management Plan seeks to protect.

"It was a good meeting," Ackley said. "A lot of people had a lot of thoughtful input."

Nash agreed. "There was a wide variety of opinions and that was what it was for," he said.

Issues heard

There are five main uses for the moraine: wildlife habitat, cultural resources, range management, forestry and recreation.

Nash, who is cattle rancher, was pleased that there was no backlash on grazing, which falls under the range management realm.

"Everybody seemed congenial with it," he said.

Nash added that there

was only one comment on logging.

"Most of (the comments) revolved around recreation and how we should utilize it or limit it," he said.

Nash added that while most comments were not opposed to public use, many were in favor of some limits.

Next steps

"It becomes a balancing act now," Nash said. "There were people on both sides of the issues."

Ackley said the public comment period on the proposed management plan ends Oct. 2. After that, the plan's management committee will review it and the public comment during October and make appropriate changes. In November, the county commissioners will review and approve the revised plan, as will the ODF. In December, it is expected the plan will be adopted and implemented by the commissioners.

But for now, public comment can still be taken. Ackley and Nash encouraged interested members of the public to visit the county's website and make their comments there. Ackley urged using the form available on the website but said emails also can be sent.

"We're urging people to continue to write in comments," Nash said. "I did urge people (during the hearing) to be succinct and not have a long rambling letter. We'll see if we can massage it to accommodate it."

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"Most of (the comments) revolved around recreation and how we should utilize it or limit it," he said.

Nash added that while most comments were not opposed to public use, many were in favor of some limits.

"There were quite a lot of the comments that didn't say 'closed,' but (there was) consideration for wildlife, for managing large numbers of people and they didn't want to see it overwhelmed," he said. "That was a main thrust of it. There were other concerns of maintaining that open space for everything from bicycles to horseback riding to hiking."

One issue that did raise concerns on both sides was

Buswell resigns as Joseph mayor

By RONALD BOND and BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — Joseph has a new mayor.

The city council — in a virtual meeting last week — was read a letter from former Mayor Belinda Buswell that was effective the previous day resigning her position. She said in the letter that she had moved outside the city limits of Joseph. Section 27 of the Joseph City Charter, she wrote, notes actions that can create a vacancy in the mayoral position automatically, and one of them is "removal of residency from the city."



Buswell

Buswell said she has moved to Elgin, "because I am forwarding my life relationship I have with my boyfriend."

Buswell took over as mayor in January after defeating then-Mayor Teresa Sajonia in the November 2020 election.

"I didn't want to give up being mayor. We had so much left to do. We've come so far, (and it's) been awesome to watch the council find their voice," she said. "I think I'm leaving the city in good hands."

She held the seat for just eight months but also oversaw the city during a time of turmoil within the city government, including the resignation of former city Administrator Larry Braden in April and, in July, the resignation of Councilwoman Kathy Bingham, who had previously been censured. Harassment allegations also swirled around the council.

"It's been difficult the entire time," she said.

Lisa Collier, the current mayor pro-tem, accepted the position of mayor during a Thursday, Sept. 2, city council meeting. Pro-Tem Administrator Brock Eckstein said.

Collier had but one proviso, Eckstein said.

"She said she would only take it if the full council supported the decision," he said.

They did and she did.

"I will do whatever the council would like me to do, but I want to make sure there's support," Collier said.

She said her only agenda is simple.

"I feel like we've been through a lot," she said. "I want to build trust with the city, the city staff, the business owners, the public. I want to run the city with the citizens' wishes and livelihood in mind. I don't have a personal agenda."

She'll get to work at her new post with the next council meeting

"At our next council meeting in October she will reassign committees," Eckstein said.

Collier will serve out the remainder of Buswell's four-year term, and will take the reins as the council has two vacancies to fill — her own and Bingham's.

Eckstein said the city already has three applications for the vacant seats. The city will continue taking applications until Oct. 4 and consider them at the Oct. 7 meeting.

Buswell said she worked closely with Collier during the time she was the pro-tem.

"She was a great sounding board for me," Buswell said.

Collier, who grew up in Joseph, was appointed to the council about two years ago under then-Mayor Sajonia. She currently serves on the Main Street Motif Committee and the Parks and Recreation Committee.

One man injured in single vehicle crash near Imbler

IMBLER — One person was injured in a single-vehicle evening when his car crashed into a power pole on Highway 82 about 1 mile north of Elgin on Saturday, Sept. 4.

The accident, which ignited a small fire and was reported at about 7:20 p.m., occurred when the driver of a southbound vehicle lost control and then hit a power pole on the east side of Highway 82, according to Forrest Warren, assistant chief of the Imbler Rural Fire Department.

The collision sheared off the pole, causing its electrical lines to fall to the ground and start a fire. The blaze was quickly put out by Imbler Rural Fire Department firefighters. At the same time, other Imbler Rural Fire Department firefighters used extrication equipment to remove the driver of from his vehicle.

The driver, an adult male, was the only occupant of the vehicle. He was transported by ambulance to Grande Ronde Hospital by the La Grande Fire Department.

Warren was impressed by how quickly his department's firefighters

NEWS BRIEFS

arrived at the scene.

"Our crew members came out of everywhere as usual. They did a great job," he said.

Those assisting the Imbler Rural Fire Department at the scene included members of the Elgin Rural Fire Department and the Oregon Department of Transportation, who assisted with traffic control at the accident scene.

Man injured after falling from tree

STARKEY — A 20-year-old man was injured Saturday, Sept. 4, when he fell from a tree in the greater Starkey area.

The man, who is believed to have been in a tree stand while bow hunting, fell around 2:30 p.m. His partner then made a phone call for help. The individual later met an ambulance crew from the La Grande Fire Department along Highway 244 and led it to the victim, about a mile from the highway on Forest Service Road 5160, according to Union County Emergency Manager Nick Vora. The victim was then driven via ambulance to Grande Ronde Hospital.

Vora said an attempt was made to get a Life Flight helicopter to transport the patient to a medical center but the helicopter's flight to the Starkey area was canceled because of poor visibility due to wildfire smoke.

Those who responded to the accident in addition to the La Grande Fire Department and Life Flight, included the Union County Sheriff's Office, Union County Search and Rescue and the La Grande Rural Fire Department. In addition to Life Flight, Union County Search and Rescue and the La Grande Rural Fire Department were canceled while en route to the accident.

Nobody hurt in morning accident

LA GRANDE — Nobody was injured when a pickup pulling a trailer overturned Saturday, Sept. 4, on a La Grande on-ramp to Interstate 84.

The accident occurred just after 6 a.m., according to the La Grande Fire Department, and took place at I-84 milepost 259 near the east edge of La Grande.

— The Observer