

TODAY

In 1919, the ratification of the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which launched Prohibition, was certified by Acting Secretary of State Frank L. Polk.

In 1929, The Seeing Eye, a New Jersey-based school which trains guide dogs to assist the blind, was incorporated by Dorothy Harrison Eustis and Morris Frank.

In 1936, the first inductees of baseball's Hall of Fame, including Ty Cobb and Babe Ruth, were named in Cooperstown, New York.

In 1963, the first charter members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame were named in Canton, Ohio (they were enshrined when the Hall opened in September 1963). Poet Robert Frost died in Boston at age 88.

In 1964, Stanley Kubrick's nuclear war satire "Dr. Strangelove Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" premiered in New York, Toronto and London.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter formally welcomed Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping to the White House, following the establishment of diplomatic relations.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan announced in a nationally broadcast message that he and Vice President George H.W. Bush would seek reelection in the fall.

In 1995, the San Francisco 49ers became the first team in NFL history to win five Super Bowl titles, beating the San Diego Chargers, 49-26, in Super Bowl XXIX.

In 1998, a bomb rocked an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Alabama, killing security guard Robert Sanderson and critically injuring nurse Emily Lyons. (The bomber, Eric Rudolph, was captured in May 2003 and is serving a life sentence.)

In 2002, in his first State of the Union address, President George W. Bush said terrorists were still threatening America — and he warned of "an axis of evil" consisting of North Korea, Iran and Iraq.

In 2007, Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro was euthanized because of medical complications eight months after his gruesome breakdown at the Preakness.

In 2020, a charter flight evacuating 195 Americans, including diplomats and their families, left the Chinese city of Wuhan, the epicenter of the new viral outbreak; they would undergo three days of testing and monitoring at a California military base. World health officials expressed concern that the virus was starting to spread between people outside China.

Today's Birthdays: Feminist author Germaine Greer is 83. Actor Katharine Ross is 82. Feminist author Robin Morgan is 81. Actor Tom Selleck is 77. R&B singer Bettye LaVette is 76. Actor Marc Singer is 74. Actor Ann Jillian is 72. Rock musician Louie Perez (Los Lobos) is 69. R&B singer Charlie Wilson is 69. Talk show host Oprah Winfrey is 68. Actor Terry Kinney is 68. Country singer Irlene Mandrell is 66. Actor Diane Delano is 65. Actor Judy Norton (TV: "The Waltons") is 64. Rock musician Johnny Spampinato is 63. Olympic gold-medal diver Greg Louganis is 62.

CORRECTION

The Page A2 story "New law will automatically expunge juvenile arrest records," published Thursday, Jan. 27, incorrectly stated both the Senate's vote count and the date SB 575 was passed. The Senate's vote count was 26-3, the House's vote count was 54-1, and the date the law was passed was June 25, 2021. Its effective date was Sept. 25, 2021.

LOTTERY

Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022

Megabucks

5-12-17-19-31-47

Jackpot: \$8.8 million

Lucky Lines

3-8-10-13-20-23-28-29

Estimated jackpot: \$13,000

Powerball

4-11-38-49-69

Powerball: 16

Power Play: 3

Jackpot: \$91 million

Win for Life

52-64-66-71

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 1-9-1-5

4 p.m.: 9-3-9-7

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

10 p.m.: 9-6-6-8

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022

Lucky Lines

3-5-12-14-20-24-25-32

Jackpot: \$14,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 5-6-5-0

4 p.m.: 2-3-6-7

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

10 p.m.: 8-6-7-6

Commons a hit at Union High School

Site provides students a place to eat lunch and meet

By **DICK MASON**

The Observer

UNION — The aroma of espresso is missing, but a portion of Union High School's main floor hallway now sports a coffee shop atmosphere.

A new student commons area is creating this tenor, one which features tables that are about 4 feet high and have built-in stools.

"They are cafeteria tables with a bistro style," said Mendy Clark, the Union School District's deputy clerk.

Complementing the tables is an expansive Union High School sign on the wall — the 20-foot sign was installed about a month ago — and a stylish new wooden floor that extends throughout the hallway. All of this was built with a portion of a \$8 million bond package voters approved in 2019 for capital construction and upgrades.

Clark said the commons area has the feel of a coffee shop, even though no coffee is brewed or served there. She noted that this ambience is evident when students are seen there working on projects together.

"They are collaborating," Clark said. Union High School



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group

Students at Union High School study in the new commons area in the renovated main hall on Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022.

senior Callie Glenn said the commons area provides a needed place to socialize.

"We didn't have a site where we could hang out before. It is easier to interact here," Glenn said.

UHS senior Emma Ricker agreed.

"I get to see friends here," she said.

Union School District Superintendent Carter Wells believes the commons area is adding an important dimension to the high school's main floor.

"It is important because it creates a welcoming environment for the student body," Wells said.

The gathering place is particularly busy at midday when students are eating lunch there. UHS language arts teacher Sara Dyche

said it is a good place for students to go if they don't want to eat in the S.E. Miller gym, which serves as the school district's cafeteria, or go outside.

"It is a nice lunch option," Dyche said.

Dyche also said the commons area is a place she likes to have her students use during class sessions to do projects.

"I love all the open space. There is room to spread out," the language arts teacher said.

UHS senior Audrey Wells said the commons area has a unifying effect because students enjoy meeting there.

"It allows us to come together," Wells said.

One of the secrets to the success of the commons is the choice of tables, which

are 42 inches high. Clark said this was important because if they were too low students would sit on them. Another plus is their stools, which are attached to the tables to prevent students from taking them for use in other portions of the high school.

The commons area is in front of a new row of lockers for juniors and seniors. The old lockers were behind a wall, and students had to walk through a small hallway to get to them.

Removal of the wall means the locker bay flows seamlessly into the commons, adding to the energy the area exudes.

"I really love having this here," Dyche said. "It makes everything so much brighter."

Race Central brings course home to public

By **BILL BRADSHAW**

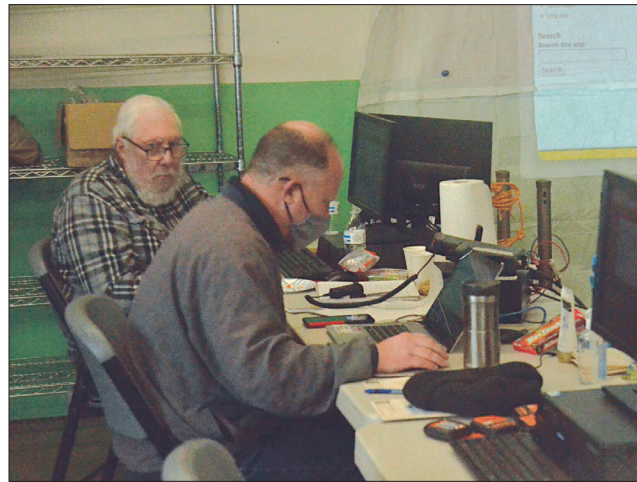
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The centuries-old practice of using dog sleds for transport in snow-covered terrain met the 21st century at Race Central for the Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race at Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise.

Starting Thursday, Jan. 20, as the race kicked off at Ferguson Ridge Ski Area east of Joseph, racers equipped with Global Positioning System trackers relayed their progress back to Race Central and from there to the race website at www.eaglecapextreme.com.

"We'll be able to watch them — it's updated every 10 minutes — and we'll be able to see where the mushers (are) on the course," said volunteer Sherry Murphy prior to the race, pointing out the computer screens set up at Cloverleaf Hall.

She was one of six who were there to greet anyone interested.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Dave Sanford, left, and Michael Abernathy keep track of the mushers' progress at Race Central at Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise on Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022, just after the start of the Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race.

"We're here to provide information for mushers' families, the public, our volunteers and for anybody who's interested in getting some information on the race," she said.

In the back room — the communications room — was a more technical setup where volunteers kept in radio contact with other volunteers and tracked the mushers' GPS

signals. Communications volunteers Dave Sanford and Michael Abernathy were so busy with their jobs they didn't have time to answer questions.

Murphy said some of the information the public could see at Race Central included live videos of the Ollokot Campsite, including a rest tent.

"The 100s and 200s are required to spend a six-

hour time resting themselves and their dogs before they continue on their journey or start back," she said. "People can get an idea of what it actually looks like up there. We have a crew who stays up there to provide meals and checks on the dogs to make sure that everything is going perfectly OK and check their feet and their breathing and all of that kind of stuff."

The progress that the communications crew tracked was displayed on the race website, volunteer Paige Sully said.

Murphy said this year's race — after having to cancel last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic — was short on volunteers. In addition to the six in the front room selling souvenirs and showing the view screens of live action on the course, four were at work in the communications room. They rotated with volunteers during the course of the race, which ended Saturday, Jan. 22.

ODFW reports calf killed by wolves near Keating

By **JAYSON JACOBY**

Baker City Herald

BAKER COUNTY — Wolves killed a 500-pound, year-old calf near Keating late Monday, Jan. 24, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) confirmed after an investigation the following day.

A rancher found the dead calf on the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 25, on a 25-acre private pasture near Tucker Creek, according to ODFW.

Tucker Creek flows into the Powder River near Keating School, at the intersection of Keating Cutoff Road, Keating Grange Road and Miles Bridge Road.

Brian Ratliff, district wildlife biologist at ODFW's Baker City office, said on Friday morning, Jan. 28, that the rancher who owns the calf has done "everything right" to avoid attracting wolves to the property, and has also

been instrumental in the past in encouraging other ranchers to bury carcasses and take other steps to thwart wolves.

Ratliff said that in the most recent confirmed wolf attack in the Keating Valley — a herding dog killed on a ranch on Friday, Jan. 14 — six unburied cow carcasses attracted wolves.

Although the area where the calf was killed is within the known range of the Keating Pack, none of the four wolves from the pack fitted with tracking collars had been in the area the night the calf was killed.

Ratliff said he has flown over the area in a helicopter three times this week, most recently on Thursday, Jan. 27, but didn't see any wolves on those flights.

He said it's possible that uncollared wolves from the Keating pack killed the calf. It's also possible that wolves that aren't part of any pack have moved into

the area and have not been identified.

"We don't know at this point," Ratliff said.

He said late January and early February is a common time for young adult wolves to disperse from packs.

The Keating pack consists of at least 10 wolves.

With calving season underway on some ranches and starting soon on others, Ratliff said he understands the anxiety resulting from the two recent wolf attacks in Keating Valley.

"Everybody's really on high alert because calving season is just starting," he said.

Ratliff said ranchers in the Keating area have set up a text message group that allows them to spread information — such as the attack on the calf this week — rapidly.

"It's a good way to quickly tell a bunch of people, your neighbors," Ratliff said.

Depredation report

The carcass of the calf found Tuesday, Jan. 25, was mostly intact but the organs and most of the hide and muscle tissue from the calf's hind-quarters had been eaten, according to the ODFW report.

ODFW biologists who examined the carcass said the calf had died the preceding night.

They found a struggle scene in the snow about 20 yards in diameter, with fresh calf and wolf tracks, and blood.

Biologists shaved and skinned the carcass.

They found multiple premortem tooth scrapes on the remaining hide on the left rear leg above the hock, as well as premortem tooth scrapes on the calf's throat and back.

The size and location of the tooth scrapes are consistent with wolf attacks on calves, the biologists concluded.

NEWS BRIEFS

State reports 140 COVID cases in Union County in two days

SALEM — Over a two-day stretch, the Oregon Health Authority reported 140 new cases of COVID-19 in Union County, as well as the 66th death associated with the disease. In the same time span, Wallowa County had 51 new cases and reported its 14th death.

The OHA reported 55 new cases of COVID-19 in Union County on Wednesday, Jan. 26, and 85 cases Jan. 27. The Jan. 26 report showed an 84-year-old woman from Union County who tested positive Jan. 14 died at Grande Ronde Hospital on Jan. 25. OHA reported that the woman had underlying conditions.

The next day, in Wallowa County, it was reported a 70-year-old woman died at home Dec. 15, 2021. The woman had tested positive Aug. 4 and was reported to have had underlying conditions.

Wallowa County had 26 reported cases Jan. 26, and 25 cases on Jan. 27.

The new update increased Union County's total case count to 4,453 since the start of the pandemic. Wallowa County's total increased to 1,089.

Combined, the two reports showed 16,078 new cases and 73 deaths in the state. Over the course of the pandemic, there have been 613,221 cases and 6,067 deaths in Oregon.

The state also released its breakthrough report Jan. 27, which showed that 16,417 (28.8%) out of the 57,011 cases between Jan. 16 and Jan. 22 were breakout cases among vaccinated individuals. There were 40,594 (71.1%) positive cases among unvaccinated individuals. In that time range, in Union County there 95 breakthrough cases, and in Wallowa County there were 28.

Cove City Council set to meet for February regular session

COVE — The Cove City Council is scheduled to meet for its February regular session, which includes two items on the consent agenda and one item of unfinished business.

The meeting, which is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 1, at Cove City Hall, will begin with a public comment section regarding agenda items before moving onto the consent agenda.

Counselors will consider the approval of prior council minutes, as well as the approval of bills to be paid by the city. The council will then address the appointment of a new budget officer.

In the unfinished business section, the Cove City Council will make a final vote on the council's rules of procedure for meetings during 2022. The item was previously discussed during the January regular session.

In other related agenda items, the council will consider a letter from the Blue Mountain Humane Association, in addition to a council vote resolution regarding WastePro rate increases. The council will also discuss the city's transportation system plan, which will be presented in a committee report. In this session, the council will discuss a potential new road.

The meeting will conclude with another public comment section, this time for any non-agenda items, before the council goes over suggestions for future workshops and meeting agendas. Public comments can also be submitted ahead of time by emailing cityadmin@cityofcove.org prior to 6:45 p.m. on Feb. 1.

The meeting can be viewed online at www.gotomeet.me/CityofCove. To listen in on the phone, dial 1-877-309-2073. The access code is 566-891-733.

— The Observer