

TODAY

In 1764, the site of present-day St. Louis was established by Pierre Laclede and Auguste Chouteau.

In 1898, the U.S. battleship Maine mysteriously blew up in Havana Harbor, killing more than 260 crew members and bringing the United States closer to war with Spain.

In 1933, President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt escaped an assassination attempt in Miami that mortally wounded Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak; gunman Giuseppe Zangara was executed more than four weeks later.

In 1944, Allied bombers destroyed the monastery atop Monte Cassino in Italy.

In 1961, 73 people, including an 18-member U.S. figure skating team en route to the World Championships in Czechoslovakia, were killed in the crash of a Sabena Airlines Boeing 707 in Belgium.

In 1965, singer Nat King Cole, 45, died in Santa Monica, California.

In 1967, the rock band Chicago was founded by Walter Parazaider, Terry Kath, Danny Seraphine, Lee Loughnane, James Pankow and Robert Lamm; the group originally called itself The Big Thing.

In 1989, the Soviet Union announced that the last of its troops had left Afghanistan, after more than nine years of military intervention.

In 1992, a Milwaukee jury found that Jeffrey Dahmer was sane when he killed and mutilated 15 men and boys. (The decision meant that Dahmer, who had already pleaded guilty to the murders, would receive a mandatory life sentence for each count; Dahmer was beaten to death in prison in 1994.)

In 2003, millions of protesters around the world demonstrated against the prospect of a U.S. attack on Iraq.

In 2005, defrocked priest Paul Shanley was sentenced in Boston to 12 to 15 years in prison on child rape charges.

In 2020, the U.S. government said Americans who were on board a cruise ship under quarantine in Japan because of the coronavirus would be flown back home on a chartered flight, but that they would face another two-week quarantine; about 380 Americans were aboard the Diamond Princess.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Claire Bloom is 91. Author Susan Brownmiller is 87. Rock musician Mick Avory (The Kinks) is 78. Jazz musician Henry Threadgill is 78. Actor Jane Seymour is 71. Singer Melissa Manchester is 71. Actor Lynn Whitfield is 69. "Simpsons" creator Matt Groening is 68. Model Janice Dickinson is 67. Actor Christopher McDonald is 67. Reggae singer Ali Campbell is 63. Musician Mikey Craig (Culture Club) is 62. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Darrell Green is 62. Actor-comedian Steven Michael Quezada is 59. Latin singer Gloria Trevi is 54. Rock musician Stevie Benton (Drowning Pool) is 51. Actor Sarah Wynter is 49. Olympic gold medal swimmer Amy Van Dyken-Rouen is 49. Actor-director Miranda July is 48. Rock singer Brandon Boyd (Incubus) is 46. Rock musician Ronnie Vanucci (The Killers) is 46. Rock singer/guitarist Adam Granduciel (The War on Drugs) is 43. Singer-songwriter-musician Conor Oberst (Bright Eyes) is 42. Actor Ashley Lyn Cafagna is 39. Blues-rock musician Gary Clark Jr. is 38. Actor Natalie Morales is 37. Actor Amber Riley is 36. Rapper Megan Thee Stallion is 27. Actor Zach Gordon is 24.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Clouds linger over Joseph City Hall on Friday, May 7, 2021. The Joseph City Council agreed to disband its Zoning Ordinance Task Force and replace it with an official Planning Commission during the council's meeting in early February 2022, interim city Administrator Brock Eckstein said.

Joseph disbands task force

Zoning Ordinance Task Force replaced with official Planning Commission

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — The Joseph City Council agreed to disband its Zoning Ordinance Task Force and replace it with an official Planning Commission during the council's meeting earlier this month, interim city Administrator Brock Eckstein said.

"I think it was a really good step forward," Eckstein said. "Joseph's seen so much growth and expansion and this commission will give good direction to address their rapid growth."

But the ordinance to formally

create the Planning Commission had to be put on hold, as there were a couple items missing from the initial draft. In particular, the council wanted all members required to be registered voters in Wallowa County and wanted to allow property owners who own land within the city's urban growth boundary to be able to serve whether or not they live within the city limits. The UGB is the area on the outskirts of town that could likely be annexed into the city limits.

Eckstein said the final draft of the ordinance is expected to be ready for passage at the council's March meeting.

In another matter, Public Works Lead Levi Tickner was hired to take the new position of water and sewer plant operator on a full-time basis.

Eckstein said state guidelines show that the city needs a 1.15 full-time equivalent employee to handle the plants.

At present, the work has fallen to the entire public works crew and no single employee has been devoted to the task.

"There's not enough time in the day to address all the plants' needs," Eckstein said. "Right now, there's no one dedicated to the plant operations to make sure plants are operating at 100% all the time."



Eckstein

The council agreed to seek a replacement for Tickner as Public Works lead. Eckstein said that just as Tickner was entitled to having the first chance at the new position, any current employee who is qualified and desires the Public Works lead position has a similar first chance.

Cooler temperatures in the forecast

By **DICK MASON**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — A limited amount of snow is in the National Weather Service's forecast for the Grande Ronde and Wallowa valleys over the next week.

The National Weather Service is reporting a 10% chance of snow in La Grande and a 30% chance of snow in Enterprise early on Tuesday, Feb. 15.

"By the afternoon it will be dry," said Larry Nierenberg, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

No snow, rain or high winds is in the forecast for the Grande Ronde and Wallowa valleys at least through Feb. 19.

"The higher pressure system will be building up until the weekend."

— **Larry Nierenberg**, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Pendleton

Nierenberg said this will be due to a high pressure system coming into Northeastern Oregon.

"The higher pressure system will be building up until the weekend," he said.

The meteorologist said that early in the morning Feb. 20 there may be some snow in the Blue Mountains and the Wallowas.

The weather is projected to be cooler in La Grande and Enterprise than it was over the past week. La Grande's high temperatures are forecast to be 38 degrees on Feb. 15, 39 degrees on Feb. 16, 44 degrees on Feb. 17, 45 degrees on Feb. 18 and 44 degrees on Feb. 19. Enterprise's high temperatures are projected by the National Weather Service to be 31 degrees on Feb. 15, 33 degrees on Feb. 16 and 38 degrees on Feb. 17-19.

The low temperatures for La Grande are expected to be 26 degrees on Feb. 15, 27 degrees on Feb. 16, 31 degrees on Feb. 17, 31 degrees on Feb. 18 and 32 degrees on Feb. 19. Enterprise's low temperatures are forecast to be 16 degrees on Feb. 15, 15 degrees on Feb. 16, 21 degrees on Feb. 17-18 and 23 degrees on Feb. 19.



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group, File

Positive cases of COVID-19 have been low among Eastern Oregon University students in February 2022. After a spike earlier in the year, EOU reported only five cases on Feb. 7 and three on Feb. 8.

COVID-19 cases remain steady at EOU

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — After a spike in COVID-19 cases that reflected statewide trends early in the year, cases at Eastern Oregon University plateaued over the last week.

From Sunday, Feb. 6, through Feb. 13, the university reported eight total cases. The weekly trend comes in the wake of 182 cases in January.

Eastern tallied five cases on Feb.

7 and three cases on Feb. 8. Since the university began tracking cases in July of 2021, there have been 287 total COVID-19 cases among those associated with Eastern Oregon University. There have been 158 cases among off-campus students, 52 cases among employees and 42 cases among on-campus students.

As of Feb. 13, the university's test positivity rate is 11.6% — Eastern has conducted 2,482 total tests. The percentage takes into account double-testing posi-

tive individuals.

Eastern totaled one off-campus isolation/quarantine during the past week. The university has 50 total isolation rooms available on campus.

As of the fall semester, in-person vaccination among students stands at 75.7%. There is a 24.2% exemption rate for on-campus students.

For employees, 80.1% are vaccinated and 17.7% received an exemption.

Church replaces defunct bell system

Enterprise's 'Big Brown Church' gets new carillon

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — After a couple of years of silence, the bells at the Enterprise Community Congregational Church are ringing again, since a new carillon was installed Thursday, Feb. 10.

Church member Stacy Green said the old carillon ceased to work a couple years ago. A carillon is a set of bells in a tower, played using a keyboard or by an automatic mechanism similar to a piano roll. According to the Guild of Carilloneurs of North America there are 166 traditional carillons in the USA and Enterprise has one of those.

The carillon, installed by Skip Pepers of the Verdin Co., who drove up from Boise, Idaho, is largely the legacy left by longtime musical director and pianist at the "Big Brown Church," Gail Swart.

"We have had a carillon, according to Verdin's records, since 1964," Green said. "Verdin replaced the 1964 model in the 1990s and that lasted until a couple of years ago. We were trying to repair it and we couldn't repair it and we just decided we needed a new one, but that was \$12,000, so it was a big expense."

Swart was instrumental in getting the new sound system in place.

"It was something that was important to Gail Swart, who was our longtime music director. Gail passed away Jan. 28," Green said. "She helped raise the money. She sent out letters and put the word out that we were trying to raise the money. That was last fall. Shortly after that, she was diagnosed with cancer. This was a project that was important to her and she was thrilled to know that it would go forward."

Ken Holt, chairman of the church's board of trustees, recalled Swart's longstanding commitment to music at the church.

"She started playing here when she was 12 years old," he said.

Mark Green, Stacy's husband, said the success of the fundraising showed the church's and the community's affection for Swart.

"People just got together and made it happen," he said. "Personally, I was skeptical we were going to be able to, but it's a testimony to who Gail was."

The carillon

The carillon has no real bells, Pepers said. He replaced the electronics: the control system and the amplifier, which sends a digitally recorded sound of bells through four large speakers mounted on the church's roof.

"They're actually all digital," Pepers said. "They're not real bells. Even the old system was all digital; they're not real swinging bells. What's up on the tower are four big horns that are in an array facing out. ... It's a complete digital system with recorded bells on it."

As for the times the bells will ring, that will be up to the church leadership.

"We've talked about doing it at noon and at six," Mark Green said.

The church likely will keep it limited to those two times. There have been times in the past when middle-of-the-night bells disturbed church neighbors.

"We already did that and it didn't work out so well," Stacy Green said.

"We had some young families with babies that were awakened," Holt said. "That's why we thought midnight and 3 a.m." were not suitable.

"That's what got us the most heat was when the programming was dying and it was going off in the middle of the night," Mark Green said.

But that was an anomaly, his wife said.

"We didn't have any trouble that I heard of when it was functioning normally," she said.

Many people in the community donated toward the new carillon, many in the memory of someone they cared about and others to honor Swart, Stacy Green said.

"We hope every time people hear the bells, it'll bring joy to the neighborhood," she said.

LOTTERY

Friday, Feb. 11, 2022

Megamillions
11-16-23-24-30
Megaball: 24
Megaplier: 3
Jackpot: \$53 million

Lucky Lines
3-7-12-14-18-21-25-29
Jackpot: \$23,000

Pick 4
1 p.m.: 0-8-8-7
4 p.m.: 4-0-8-6
7 p.m.: 7-9-2-1
10 p.m.: 7-3-9-3

Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022

Powerball
8-10-21-41-62
Powerball: 7
Power Play: 3
Jackpot: \$183 million

Megabucks
9-14-25-32-37-41
Jackpot: \$1.6 million

Lucky Lines
3-6-11-16-17-23-28-30
Jackpot: \$24,000

Pick 4
1 p.m.: 3-7-3-5
4 p.m.: 1-8-5-8
7 p.m.: 7-9-5-2
10 p.m.: 5-5-8-1

Win for Life

4-17-23-59

Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022

Lucky Lines
2-8-11-14-20-24-27-32
Estimated jackpot: \$25,000

Pick 4
1 p.m.: 9-3-4-6
4 p.m.: 6-0-7-9
7 p.m.: 6-0-2-6
10 p.m.: 2-4-4-3