

TODAY

In 1762, New York held its first St. Patrick's Day parade.

In 1776, the Revolutionary War Siege of Boston ended as British forces evacuated the city.

In 1905, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt married Franklin Delano Roosevelt in New York.

In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington, D.C.

In 1942, six days after departing the Philippines during World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia to become supreme commander of Allied forces in the southwest Pacific theater.

In 1950, scientists at the University of California at Berkeley announced they had created a new radioactive element, "californium."

In 1966, a U.S. Navy midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb that had fallen from a U.S. Air Force B-52 bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain. (It took several more weeks to actually recover the bomb.)

In 1970, the United States cast its first veto in the U.N. Security Council, killing a resolution that would have condemned Britain for failing to use force to overthrow the white-ruled government of Rhodesia.

In 2003, edging to the brink of war, President George W. Bush gave Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave his country. Iraq rejected Bush's ultimatum, saying that a U.S. attack to force Saddam from power would be "a grave mistake."

In 2010, Michael Jordan became the first ex-player to become a majority owner in the NBA as the league's Board of Governors unanimously approved Jordan's \$275 million bid to buy the Charlotte Bobcats from Bob Johnson.

In 2016, finally bowing to years of public pressure, SeaWorld Entertainment said it would no longer breed killer whales or make them perform crowd-pleasing tricks.

In 2020, the Kentucky Derby and the French Open were each postponed from May to September because of the coronavirus.

Ten years ago: Twin suicide car bombings killed at least 27 people near intelligence and security buildings in the Syrian capital of Damascus.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump and German Chancellor Angela Merkel tried to sidestep their differences in a meeting at the White House, but their first public appearance was punctuated by some awkward moments (during a photo op in the Oval Office, the two did not shake hands before reporters).

One year ago: In an unclassified intelligence report, U.S. officials warned that violent extremists motivated by political grievances and racial biases posed an "elevated threat" to the United States. President Joe Biden told ABC that senators who wanted to oppose his legislative agenda through a filibuster should have to actually stand and talk for hours, rather than simply signaling their objection.

Today's Birthdays: The former national chairwoman of the NAACP, Myrlie Evers-Williams, is 89. Former astronaut Ken Mattingly is 86. Singer-songwriter John Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 78. Former NSA Director and former CIA Director Michael Hayden is 77. Rock musician Harold Brown (War; Lowrider Band) is 76. Actor Patrick Duffy is 73. Actor Kurt Russell is 71. Country singer Susie Allanson is 70. Actor Lesley-Anne Down is 68. Actor Mark Boone Jr. is 67. Country singer Paul Overstreet is 67. Actor Gary Sinise is 67. Actor Christian Clemenson is 64. Former basketball and baseball player Danny Ainge is 63. Actor Vicki Lewis is 62. Writer-director Rob Sitch is 60. Actor Rob Lowe is 58. Rock singer Billy Corgan is 55. Rock musician Van Conner (Screaming Trees) is 55. Actor Mathew St. Patrick is 54. Olympic gold medal soccer player Mia Hamm is 50. Rock musician Caroline Corr (The Corrs) is 49. Actor Marisa Coughlan is 48. Actor Natalie Zea (zee) is 47. Sports reporter Tracy Wolfson is 47. Actor Brittany Daniel is 46. Reggaeton singer Nicky Jam is 41. TV personality Rob Kardashian (TV: "Keeping Up With the Kardashians") is 35. Actor Eliza Hope Bennett is 30. Actor John Boyega is 30. Olympic gold medal swimmer Katie Ledecky is 25. Actor Flynn Morrison is 17.

LOTTERY

Monday, March 14, 2022

Megabucks

3-5-7-17-18-34

Estimated jackpot: \$29 million

Lucky Lines

3-7-12-14-18-24-25-30

Estimated jackpot: \$31,000

Win for Life

39-40-61-63

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 3-3-2-3

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

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

10 p.m.: 4-3-5-1

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Mega Millions

9-14-28-59-60

Mega Ball: 24

Megaplier: 5

Estimated jackpot: \$29 million

Lucky Lines

3-6-10-14-18-23-25-32

Estimated jackpot: \$32,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 9-6-0-5

4 p.m.: 0-4-1-8

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

10 p.m.: 3-9-6-0

Lostine woman receives sentence

Betsy Lathrop charged with criminal mistreatment, identity theft

By BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Betsy Lathrop, charged with criminal mistreatment of an elderly person and identity theft, was sentenced Friday, March 11, in Wallowa County Circuit Court, to 36 months probation, ordered to pay \$33,252.22 in restitution and to serve 70 days in jail with credit for 30 days already served.

The Lostine woman, 55, appeared before Senior Judge John L. Collins, of Yamhill County, in a virtual hearing. Collins also recommended — but did not order — a substance abuse evaluation of Lathrop, given allegations of past incidents involving such abuse. Extra fines and court costs were waived. She will be allowed time off for good behavior, as her attorney requested.

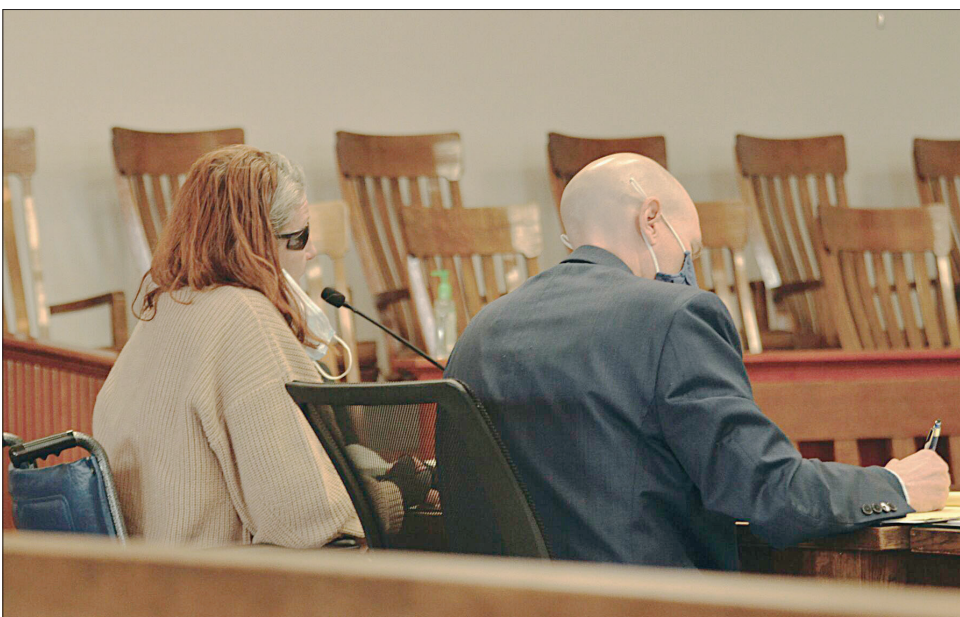
Collins was the judge who presided during her trial on multiple charges of criminal mistreatment and identity theft involving her father, Robert "Wayne" Lathrop. She was convicted Feb. 9 on four of the 28 counts in the original indictment.

Her court-appointed public defender, La Grande attorney Jim Schaeffer, said after the sentencing that Lathrop will appeal both the convictions and the sentence.

The charges

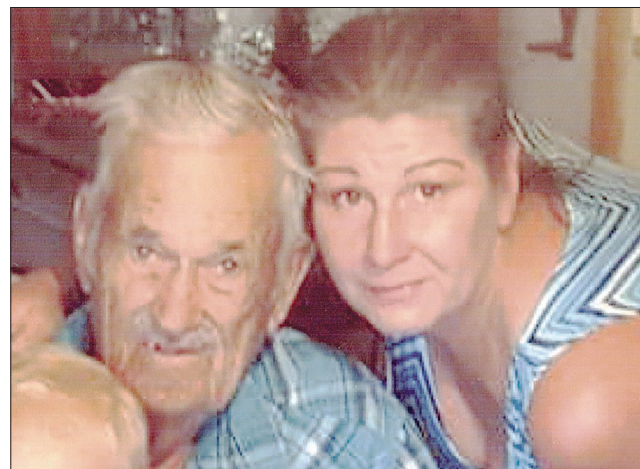
Betsy Lathrop was accused of 20 counts of first-degree criminal mistreatment and eight counts of identity theft, all Class C felonies, alleged to have taken place between Nov. 21, 2014, and July 8, 2016, in violation of her legal duty to provide care for an elderly person — her father — according to court records. The elder Lathrop died in December 2018. Betsy Lathrop was not his legal guardian, but did she have power of attorney for him, her attorney said.

The charges on which Lathrop was convicted involved the purchase and installation of flooring



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Betsy Lathrop, left, addresses Judge John Collins during her sentencing Friday, March 11, 2022, at the Wallowa County Courthouse. Her attorney, James Schaeffer, sits at right. Lathrop was charged with criminal mistreatment and identity theft.



Kathleen Weeks/Contributed Photo

Wayne Lathrop, left, and his daughter Betsy Lathrop pose for a photo at his birthday celebration on July 7, 2016. Betsy Lathrop was convicted of four counts of criminal mistreatment of her father and sentenced Friday, March 11, 2022.

and a washer and dryer in her Lostine home and the appropriation of money for expenses she said was for her father's benefit.

During the sentencing, Betsy Lathrop asked Collins for some leniency, primarily because of her poor health, in reporting to jail. She is to serve the 40 days at the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton. Collins allowed her to wait until 5 p.m. March 21 to report to the jail. He also allowed her to have medical furloughs for doctor's appointments while in jail.

For and against

Both the prosecution — headed March 11 by Chris-

tian Stringer — and the defense had witnesses to support their cases.

For the prosecution, Betsy's brother, Nick Lathrop, recounted what he believed were wrongs she had done to their father.

"I will not ever forgive her for what she did to our dad for two years and how she treated him," Nick Lathrop said.

Speaking on Betsy Lathrop's behalf, Kathleen Weeks, who had submitted a letter to the court, explained how she had only known Lathrop since 2017 and had a limited knowledge of the situation.

"I came in pretty objec-

tively without any preconceived opinions," Weeks said. "What I heard from the prosecution witnesses as well as the defense was that Mr. Wayne Lathrop was in poor condition and he'd call Betsy and have her come. There were various testimonies of his improved hygiene, nutrition, demeanor and no complaints from community members about the care or that Mr. Wayne Lathrop had complained about the care."

Another of Betsy Lathrop's siblings, Jack Lathrop, joined his brother in denying the quality of care that Betsy gave their father. He said he had to "file for guardianship to get Betsy out of there."

He said it appeared she was operating the house she shared with him "as a boarding house for Betsy and her friends."

Jack Lathrop said drug paraphernalia was found in rooms Betsy's friends were using.

In her statement to the court, Betsy Lathrop said family relationships were far from the best.

"The closest thing my father and I had was our relationship, because attempts to have relationships with other parts of the family dwindled," she told the judge.

Merkley: Russia's actions in Ukraine 'horrific'

Senator discusses invasion, energy, forest health during virtual town hall

By RONALD BOND

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The crisis between Ukraine and Russia is providing an opportunity to move the world further away from fossil-fuel dependence.

That was one of the take-aways shared by U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley during a Wallowa County virtual town hall Tuesday, March 8.

Merkley briefly touched on the war, and called the actions by Russia "horrific."

When asked about the opportunity the conflict has given to move away from foreign oil — and fossil fuels in general — Merkley said there is a real incentive to make that move.

"For 50 years presidents (of) both parties have said we're going to end our dependence on foreign oil, we're going to transition away from fossil fuels, but in the early period of that

50 years we didn't have the climate effect, and renewables weren't inexpensive," he said. "There's already a huge reason, but you throw in this situation that you see producers like Russia using their leverage with fossil fuels to attempt to kind of (keep) Europe from not supporting Ukraine... The biggest way to take away the leverage is to reduce the world demand for oil and gas. A lot can be done."

The senator spoke of the benefits of solar energy, and said efforts need to be made to improve charging stations for electric vehicles across the state. He also said costs are cheaper for renewable energy, and that electrifying more of the planet will be a benefit. He even cited Wallowa County as being a solar leader.

"The big picture, if we simplify this — it's basically electrify everything with renewable energy," he said. "If we do that, we will cut our costs, undermine the Russias and Irans of the world, and save our planet."

The senator also addressed questions about recycling, forest health and the rural community getting federal support.

On recycling, Merkley touted his Break Free of Plastic Pollution Act and referred to the concerns brought about by microplastics in the air and in food.

"Right now we're eating (and breathing) the equivalent of one credit card of plastic a week," he said. "Who wants to eat plastic? Microplastics are a problem."

On forest health, he talked about what he saw from the Labor Day wildfires in 2020 and said there needs to be collaborative efforts to improve forest health — and he said that does include having some logging in place.

"I am working and have succeeded in getting a lot more funds for forest health. What that means is a strategy of thinning in places where it increases fire resilience, and when you get that win-win you get jobs in the woods, jobs in the trucks, you get saw logs for the mills, and you get a forest that is more fire resilient," he said.

He also said the recently passed infrastructure bill provides much-needed financial dollars for rural development, especially in the areas of transportation, broadband and water projects.

"We did get a tremendous amount of funding that we never have had in this infrastructure bill," he said.



Merkley

Car club promotes shared interest in vehicles

Eastern Oregon Car Club celebrating one-year anniversary

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The Observer

LA GRANDE — A local club is aiming to bring together car enthusiasts of all ages.

The Eastern Oregon Car Club is celebrating its one-year anniversary, drawing in local car owners with a mutual love for cars of all kinds. The club is set to celebrate its one-year anniversary with a car show at Riverside Park Sunday, March 20, from noon to 4 p.m.

"Our whole goal is to have a wide range to make everyone feel welcome," said Selena Giambitti, a co-founder of the Eastern



Selena Giambitti/Contributed Photo

Members of the Eastern Oregon Car Club gather around their vehicles on a sunny day in 2021. The club, which welcomes a wide range of car enthusiasts, is set to celebrate its first anniversary with a public car show on the afternoon of Sunday, March 20, 2022, at Riverside Park, La Grande.

Oregon Car Club. "Even if maybe you're not interested in cars at first, we definitely have a place for you to be there and hang out."

Giambitti and Kyle Micovich started the club after purchasing a C5 Corvette and looking to get like-minded individuals involved. The club cur-

rently has about 20 regular attendees and a Facebook group with more than 400 car enthusiasts.

The group meets weekly, getting together for coffee and going on cruises around the area. The club has no restrictions on joining, with its members owning a variety of auto-

mobiles from sports cars to repair jobs.

In hosting gatherings centered around a passion for cars, the group's organizers noted that the age range of those involved shows that anyone can share an interest.

"One of the coolest things is seeing kids who are just starting to drive being able to relate to someone that's maybe 70 or 80," Giambitti said.

The club's car show at Riverside Park is open to the public. Cars on display will be judged in categories such as best exhaust, best sound system and best beater with a heater.

"It's something for the community to do, bringing like-minded people together to enjoy mutual interests," Giambitti said. "You don't have to have a cool car to come. We just all enjoy getting together."

NEWS BRIEFS

Marissa Lane chosen to be OTEC Youth Tour delegate

LA GRANDE — Marissa Lane, a La Grande High School junior, will be heading to Washington, D.C., in June.

Lane is one of four high school juniors in Union, Baker and Harney counties who have been selected to attend an all-expense-paid trip to the nation's capital.

Lane will be one of Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative's Youth Tour delegates, representing Oregon and the Northwest in a week-long trip as part of the 2022 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. OTEC's 2022 Youth Tour delegates will be among

more than 1,500 other students from across the United States.

On the June trip Lane will join fellow Northeast Oregon OTEC 2022 Youth Tour delegates Tayleur Baker, of Crane Union High School, Harney County; Isabella Beckner, of Eagle Cap Innovation High School, Baker City, Baker County; and Makenzie Flanagan, of Baker High School, Baker County.

The four juniors were selected on the basis of their community involvement, leadership skills and submitted essays.

"Youth Tour delegates come back energized with a broader understanding of their government, the nation's history and the electric

cooperative way of life and business model," said Joe Hathaway, communications manager at OTEC. "Sponsoring students to attend the Youth Tour each year is an investment in the future leaders of Eastern Oregon."

Over the course of the tour, OTEC's delegates will visit famous historical sites, meet with Oregon's congressional leaders and learn valuable leadership skills. The students will also create podcasts and digital photo projects as they learn about electric cooperatives and current issues in energy and climate change legislation that face their communities and our nation, according to an OTEC press release.

— The Observer