

TODAY

In 1494, during his second voyage to the Western Hemisphere, Christopher Columbus landed in Jamaica.

In 1821, Napoleon Bonaparte, 51, died in exile on the island of St. Helena.

In 1925, schoolteacher John T. Scopes was charged in Tennessee with violating a state law that prohibited teaching the theory of evolution. (Scopes was found guilty, but his conviction was later set aside.)

In 1942, wartime sugar rationing began in the United States.

In 1945, in the only fatal attack of its kind during World War II, a Japanese balloon bomb exploded on Gearhart Mountain in Oregon, killing the pregnant wife of a minister and five children. Denmark and the Netherlands were liberated as a German surrender went into effect.

In 1961, astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr. became America's first space traveler as he made a 15-minute suborbital flight aboard Mercury capsule Freedom 7.

In 1973, Secretariat won the Kentucky Derby, the first of his Triple Crown victories.

In 1981, Irish Republican Army hunger-striker Bobby Sands died at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland on his 66th day without food.

In 1994, American teenager Michael Fay for vandalism, a day after the sentence was reduced from six lashes to four in response to an appeal by President Bill Clinton.

In 2009, Texas health officials confirmed the first death of a U.S. resident with swine flu.

In 2014, a narrowly divided Supreme Court upheld Christian prayers at the start of local council meetings.

In 2016, former Los Angeles trash collector Lonnie Franklin Jr. was convicted of 10 counts of murder in the "Grim Sleeper" serial killings that targeted poor, young Black women over two decades.

In 2020, Tyson Foods said it would resume limited operation of its huge pork processing plant in Waterloo, Iowa, with enhanced safety measures, more than two weeks after closing the facility because of a coronavirus outbreak among workers. Facebook said it had removed several accounts and pages linked to QAnon, taking action for the first time against the far-right conspiracy theory circulated among Trump supporters.

Ten years ago: Five Guantanamo Bay prisoners, including Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the self-proclaimed mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, were arraigned in a proceeding that dragged on for 13 hours due to stalling tactics by the defendants.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump signed his first piece of major legislation, a \$1 trillion spending bill to keep the government operating through September. The Labor Department reported a burst of hiring in April 2017 as employers added 211,000 jobs.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Pat Carroll is 95. Country singer-musician Roni Stoneman is 84. Actor Michael Murphy is 84. Actor Lance Henriksen is 82. Comedian-actor Michael Palin is 79. Actor John Rhys-Davies is 78. Rock correspondent Kurt Loder is 77. Rock musician Bill Ward (Black Sabbath) is 74. Actor Melinda Culea is 67. Actor Lisa Eilbacher is 65. Actor Richard E. Grant is 65. Former broadcast journalist John Miller is 64. Rock singer Ian McCulloch (Echo and the Bunnymen) is 63. Broadcast journalist Brian Williams is 63. Rock musician Shawn Drover (Megadeth) is 56. TV personality Kyan Douglas is 52. Actor Tina Yothers is 49. R&B singer Raheem DeVaughn is 47. Actor Santiago Cabrera is 44. Actor Vincent Kartheiser is 43. Singer Craig David is 41. Actor Danielle Fishel is 41. Actor Henry Cavill is 39. Actor Clark Duke is 37. Soul singer Adele is 34. Rock singer Skye Sweetnam is 34. R&B singer Chris Brown is 33. Figure skater Nathan Chen is 23.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-963-3161.

LOTTERY

Monday, May 2, 2022

Megabucks

12-16-24-31-35-40

Estimated jackpot: \$5 million

Lucky Lines

2-7-12-14-18-21-25-32

Estimated jackpot: \$20,000

Win for Life

13-30-31-73

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 9-3-8-0

4 p.m.: 8-3-2-3

7 p.m.: 9-3-8-9

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

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Mega Millions

15-19-27-35-57

Mega Ball: 17

Megaplier: 2

Estimated jackpot: \$70 million

Lucky Lines

2-8-12-15-17-23-26-31

Estimated jackpot: \$21,000

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 0-1-2-6

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

7 p.m.: 6-5-5-8

10 p.m.: 2-7-1-2

Raising the bar

Eastern Oregon Beer Festival will return to the Union County Fairgrounds this June

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**

The Observer

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon Beer Festival is set to return to its regular scheduling following impacts from COVID-19 over the last two years.

The festival will be held at the Union County Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 25, from 1-7 p.m. The event, which is in its eighth rendition, aims to serve as the premier beer festival in Eastern Oregon for local beer enthusiasts and tourists alike.

"We're definitely hoping to see our attendance grow back to pre-COVID levels," said Taylor Scroggins, executive director at La Grande Main Street Downtown. "We're hoping for that to include a really healthy mix of locals who have grown to love the festival every year, while also drawing in tourists from out of the area to bring in those tourist dollars to support the community."



The Observer, File

Jake Hines, owner of Hines Meat Co., slices up barbecued meats at the Eastern Oregon Beer Festival at the Union County Fairgrounds on Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021.

La Grande Main Street Downtown is organizing the event after moving the festival to August last year and canceling it as a whole in 2020. With lowered COVID-19 restrictions since the last festival, attendees will have the choice of wearing a mask or not in the beer house this year.

Scroggins expects dozens of beers to be available at this year's festival, including breweries from Oregon, Idaho, Washington and California. Last year's event included 10 brewery representatives and beer and cider from more than 30 breweries. According to Scroggins, last year's rendition drew a crowd of roughly 450 attendees after the festival was canceled in the previous year.

"For that first year back, it was really excellent," he said. "We're looking to once again have a pretty good selection of beer from a bunch of different brewers, with many brewers in attendance



The Observer, File

Festival-goers claim their seats as The Wasteland Kings prepare to perform at the August 2021 Eastern Oregon Beer Festival at the Union County Fairgrounds in La Grande.

MORE INFORMATION

On the EObeerfest.org website, presale general admission and VIP tickets are currently available. VIP passes allow participants to enter the event early and take part in a VIP event on the evening before the festival — the goal of the VIP pass is to connect beer aficionados with representatives and experts who are attending the event. Last year's pre-festival party took place the night before on the rooftop of Market Place Fresh Foods, creating a one-on-one environment for festival-goers to mingle with visiting brewery representatives. "That seemed to go really well," Taylor Scroggins, executive director of La Grande Main Street Downtown, said. "Our VIPs seemed to really enjoy getting to try some beers before the actual festival and getting to rub elbows with beer reps and other aficionados. We're definitely looking to have something similar this year."

serving their beer."

The beer tasting will primarily revolve around the beer house at the Union County Fairgrounds, but the entire venue will serve as part of the larger event. Local food and craft vendors are set to be positioned throughout the fairgrounds, while La Grande Main Street Downtown is in the process of finalizing local bands to play live music during the festival.

Scroggins noted that the event serves as a great opportunity for the city to bring in tourist dollars, which benefits future local event planning through La Grande Main Street Downtown. The stream of out-of-town attendees also adds a monetary boost and increased exposure for vendors, sponsors and bands at the event.

This year's festival is back to its regular time frame, ending at 7 p.m. —

last year's festival experimented with a later end time, but Scroggins noted that the primary attendance of the event was earlier in the afternoon and evening.

In its eighth year, the Eastern Oregon Beer Festival continues to grow as a local favorite in La Grande. Scroggins noted that the organizers are fond of the event's growth and hope to see it continue to evolve as the go-to beer festival in this region.

"It has really grown and developed," Scroggins said. "It's hard to put into numbers since COVID kind of threw things off, but I do think we're on track to see the festival grow and to have it become a tourist-destination event while still being very welcoming to the locals. It is already, but it can grow even more into being the premier beer festival in Eastern Oregon."

Wallowa County to-go senior meals now cost \$14

Senior centers prefer people to come in and socialize

By **BILL BRADSHAW**

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — As the COVID-19 pandemic winds down, not everyone is benefitting; those who received free to-go meals from the senior centers in Enterprise and Wallowa are being charged a suggested donation of \$14 per meal.

"They were free, by donations," said Danielle Brockamp, interim manager of the Enterprise-based Community Connection of Wallowa County. "There was a suggested donation of \$4."

But since the senior centers are no longer closed because of the pandemic, Community Connection has deemed it necessary to charge for the to-go meals, which it did not regularly provide before the pandemic.

"If someone wants a meal to go,



Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Senior citizens line up for a meal at the Community Connection of Northeast Oregon meal site in Enterprise. Community Connection prefers having seniors come in to socialize while eating, rather than take advantage of to-go meals, which now cost \$14.

they're required (to) pay \$14 now," Brockamp said.

She said the senior nutrition program's goal under the Older Americans Act of 1965 is to see that seniors are well fed. But there's another goal.

"It's more than just for a meal. It's for seniors to get out and have somewhere to go," she said. "Now

that COVID cases are declining, we want to get back to pre-COVID socialization."

The senior meals are served Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays starting at 11:30 a.m. in Enterprise and at noon at the Wallowa Senior Center. Both places cease serving at 1 p.m., Brockamp said.

Community Connection started offering the to-go meals in late March 2020 after meal sites were shut down because of the pandemic.

Brockamp said from six to 12 to-go meals were served daily from the Enterprise meal site and 15-20 in Wallowa. About 20 people come into the Enterprise site, she said.

But without any subsidization to help pay for the meals and the cost of food rising, Brockamp said Community Connection needs to implement the charge. The same \$14 donation is suggested regardless of the age of the recipient.

"The fully allocated price of a meal is more than we're charging," she said.

IN BRIEF

Hospital names new senior director of human resources

LA GRANDE — Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande announced the hiring of new Senior Director of Human Resources Kathy Dagnon on Tuesday, May 3.

Dagnon fills the position after previously serving as the interim at the position twice over the last few years. She served as interim HR senior director for a brief stint in 2018 and has also held the position since last January. According to a press release from the hospital, Dagnon is eager to take on the position full-time and move to Northeastern Oregon.

"I am so happy to call

La Grande my home and am honored to be able to join the amazing team I have come to know and to admire here at Grande

Ronde," Dagnon said in the press release. "I am passionate about working together for the benefit of our organization and the communities we serve."

Dagnon earned a master's of business administration with a human resources emphasis in 2005 at the University of Phoenix. She also has undergraduate experience in social work and psychology.

Before joining Grande Ronde Hospital, Dagnon worked for a national recruiting firm and was located in Oregon, California, Arizona, Wis-

consin and Texas. Dagnon later worked as vice president of human resources for the Ector County Health Care District in Odessa, Texas, before opening her own human resources consulting firm.

Coming off the two stints as interim senior director of human resources, Dagnon is now set to take on the position full-time at Grande Ronde Hospital.

Circle 100 Club moving closer to birthing bed purchase

ENTERPRISE — The Circle 100 Club has raised more than 75% of the funds needed to purchase a new bed for birthing mothers, with much of that funding coming during

a recent annual meeting and fundraising event on Thursday, April 7.

The club, sponsored by the Wallowa Valley Health Care Foundation, is buying the new bed, which has an estimated cost of about \$20,000. About 40 women attended the annual get-together, which was the first time the event had been held in person since 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

So far, about \$15,400 has been raised for the bed, said Stacy Green, WVHCF director.

"It was so nice to see everyone," Green said in a press release. "We really missed getting together."

For more information about Circle 100, contact the WVHCF at 541-426-1913.

—EO Media Group

Dragon boats prepare to return to lake

By **BILL BRADSHAW**

Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA LAKE — After being mothballed since 2019 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the dragon boats that regularly appear on Wallowa Lake are getting ready to breathe fire again.

The Dragons on the Lake Paddle Club had a meeting Tuesday, April 26, and is planning a ceremony to "resurrect" the boats in coming weeks, said Trudy Turner, one of the organizers of the club.

She said this time around, the club will include more than the dragon boats, such as kayaks, outriggers and canoes. The participants also will focus more on physical fitness than just racing.

"We wanted a club that was more recreational and not so race-focused," Turner said.

Work day planned

But to get the new version of the club launched will take some work. The club is planning a work day Saturday, May 7, to get the dragon boats fit to go in the water, Turner said.

"Before we can get them into the water, we have to get them waterworthy," she said.

The boats have been stored behind the old Edelweiss Inn at the base of the Wallowa Lake Tram. Turner said she needs volunteers to help move them to her place in Joseph, where there is a shop and they can sand, refinish, repair and pressure-wash the 41-foot-long crafts.

Each boat has a beam (width) of just over 45 inches and weighs 551 pounds. They have 10 seats for the oarsmen.

"We'll get them all seaworthy and ready to go," she said.

Turner said she hopes to have the dragon boats ready to go by International Dragon Boat Day on June 12. However, if they can't make that deadline, they'll just get them ready as soon as possible.

"We will have an 'awakening ceremony' and launch right after (they're ready)," she said. "All that is contingent upon having the boats waterworthy."

She said that ceremony consists of a special finish to the boats.

"You awaken the dragon by painting its eye so he can see on the water," she said.

Turner said the plan is to launch the boats at the gated dock near the Wallowa Lake Marina where the club has two slips where the boats tie up.

Racing and fitness, too

The boats generally are crewed by 22 people, who sit in close quarters rowing. Each boat has a helmsman to steer and a caller who sets the pace for the oarsmen. Smaller dragon boats have 12-person crews, Turner said.

The boats lift a bit out of the water during the race, which is a quick, one-minute sprint. She said they race at about 45 mph.

"The boat has to rise out of the water and get to the other end quickly," she said. "It's quite a popular sport."

The racing aspect of dragon boats "burns a lot of calories, like running fast," Turner said. "We're hoping to have involvement from physical fitness trainers to help improve not only our physical bodies but also our paddling skills."

But, she said, it's not all about racing. She said dragon boat crews use not only their arms to row — their legs and hips get a workout, too, as they twist and move to use the oars.

"It has a lot of fitness effects," she said. "This year we're more of a recreational team and focusing more on fitness. There are several of us who race and use (the club) as practice."