

**TODAY**

In 1812, the U.S. House of Representatives approved, 79-49, a declaration of war against Britain.

In 1919, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which said that the right to vote could not be denied or abridged based on gender. The amendment was sent to the states for ratification.

In 1939, the German ocean liner MS St. Louis, carrying more than 900 Jewish refugees from Germany, was turned away from the Florida coast by U.S. officials.

In 1940, during World War II, the Allied military evacuation of some 338,000 troops from Dunkirk, France, ended. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared: "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway began, resulting in a decisive American victory against Japan and marking the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

In 1944, U-505, a German submarine, was captured by a U.S. Navy task group in the south Atlantic; it was the first such capture of an enemy vessel at sea by the U.S. Navy since the War of 1812. The U.S. Fifth Army began liberating Rome.

In 1967, "Mission: Impossible" won outstanding dramatic series, "The Monkees" outstanding comedy series at the 19th Primetime Emmy Awards.

In 1985, the Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling striking down an Alabama law providing for a daily minute of silence in public schools.

In 1986, Jonathan Jay Pollard, a former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, pleaded guilty in Washington to conspiring to deliver information related to the national defense to Israel. (Pollard, sentenced to life in prison, was released on parole on Nov. 20, 2015; he moved to Israel after completing parole in December 2020.)

In 1989, a gas explosion in the Soviet Union engulfed two passing trains, killing 575.

In 1990, Dr. Jack Kevorkian carried out his first publicly assisted suicide, helping Janet Adkins, a 54-year-old Alzheimer's patient from Portland, Oregon, end her life in Oakland County, Michigan.

In 1998, a federal judge sentenced Terry Nichols to life in prison for his role in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

In 2020, in the first of a series of memorials set for three cities over six days, celebrities, musicians and political leaders gathered in front of George Floyd's golden casket in Minneapolis.

**Today's Birthdays:** Sex therapist and media personality Dr. Ruth Westheimer is 94. Actor Bruce Dern is 86. Musician Roger Ball is 78. Actor-singer Michelle Phillips is 78. Jazz musician Anthony Braxton is 77. Rock musician Danny Brown (The Fixx) is 71. Actor Parker Stevenson is 70. Actor Keith David is 66. Blues singer-musician Tinsley Ellis is 65. Actor Eddie Velez is 64. Singer-musician El DeBarge is 61. Actor Julie White is 61. Actor Lindsay Frost is 60. Actor Sean Pertwee is 58. Former tennis player Andrea Jaeger is 57. Opera singer Cecilia Bartoli is 56. R&B singer Al B. Sure! is 54. Actor Scott Wolf is 54. Actor-comedian Rob Huebel is 53. Comedian Horatio Sanz is 53. Actor James Callis is 51. Actor Noah Wyle is 51. Rock musician Stefan Lessard (The Dave Matthews Band) is 48. Actor-comedian Russell Brand is 47. Actor Angelina Jolie is 47. Actor Theo Rossi is 47. Alt-country singer Kasey Chambers is 46. Actor Robin Lord Taylor is 44. Rock musician JoJo Garza (Los Lonely Boys) is 42. Model Bar Refaeli is 37. Olympic gold medal figure skater Evan Lysacek is 37. Americana singer Shakey Graves is 35. Rock musician Zac Farro is 32.

**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**  
**Wednesday, June 1, 2022**  
**Megabucks**  
8-13-18-20-21-33  
Jackpot: \$1.6 million  
**Lucky Lines**  
2-8-9-15-20-21-27-30  
Estimated jackpot: \$50,000  
**Powerball**  
11-41-56-57-63  
Powerball: 2  
Power Play: 2  
Jackpot: \$184 million  
**Win for Life**  
20-24-27-44  
**Pick 4**  
1 p.m.: 3-1-3-3  
4 p.m.: 4-5-2-4  
7 p.m.: 3-7-6-2  
10 p.m.: 4-5-3-8  
**Thursday, June 2, 2022**  
**Lucky Lines**  
1-5-11-15-19-23-25-32  
Jackpot: \$51,000  
**Pick 4**  
1 p.m.: 0-4-7-3  
4 p.m.: 4-1-1-2  
7 p.m.: 1-6-3-8  
10 p.m.: 9-3-9-3

**LA GRANDE**

# City council passes budget for 2022-23

Budget includes funding for assistant fire chief position

By **DICK MASON**  
The Observer

LA GRANDE — The city of La Grande will be adding at least one position to its fire department in 2022-23.

The La Grande City Council voted Wednesday, June 1, to adopt a total budget of \$61 million for 2022-23. The budget includes funding for the creation of a second-in-command position within the La Grande Fire Department.

La Grande City Manager Robert Strope said the position is needed to help the fire department deal with the increasing number of calls it receives. Presently, the fire department's leadership hierarchy includes a fire chief and three captains.

The budget also contains funding for the addition of three firefighters. Strope said he is not certain the fire department will be able to add these positions because funding from a Federal Emergency Management Administration grant the city has applied for will be needed to make the hires. Strope said it is



The Observer, File

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not known if the city will receive the FEMA grant.

La Grande Fire Chief Emmitt Cornford said he is excited about the prospect of adding a new position.

"It will help us accomplish things we have not been able to do," he said.

Cornford said the job description for the second-in-command position is now being created. One of the individual's responsibilities will be to serve as a business fire safety inspector, Cornford said.

The fire chief also said the new hire may be responsible for managing



**Cornford**



**Strope**

department training the staff receives for emergency medical services and firefighting.

Cornford said the individual's title may be that of assistant fire chief or deputy fire chief.

The city's budget is also up because it contains \$3.2 million in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act for COVID-19 relief and \$195,000 for the purchase of a new ambulance.

The American Rescue Plan Act funding may be used, Strope said, for things like street repair funding, water and sewer

project work and the purchase of wildland firefighter equipment.

Strope said the city can use its ARPA funding for anything connected to government services up to the amount of revenue it lost due to COVID-19.

The city manager said the city's 2022-23 budget will allow it to retain all of its employees and programs. The city's staff includes 113 full-time employees. Strope, according to his budget message, said that the city continues to have more capital and maintenance needs than it can meet with existing resources. He said the city is continuing to use cash on hand so that it can meet these needs.

# Stout receives 'well-deserved' honor

EOU faculty member honored as the IMA Accounting Faculty of the Year

The Observer

LA GRANDE — An Eastern Oregon University assistant professor has received some well-deserved recognition.

EOU Assistant Professor Brooke Stout was awarded the IMA Accounting Faculty of the Year award by the Association of Accountants and Financial Professionals in Business, EOU's business program's accreditor.

The award is for candidates who meet a series of 10 criteria and can fully demonstrate their excellence in teaching accounting and commitment to the International

Accreditation Council for Business Education.

Stout was notified of the honor in April, during the monthly College of Business meeting, by Dr. Pat Hafford, IACBE president, and Dr. Phyllis Okrepkie, IACBE vice president of operations. Stout is the first EOU accounting faculty member to receive the award.

"Even before accepting the position with us, Brooke had already had strong established ties and a high-quality reputation within the accounting community. This immediately gave her credibility with her students and her colleagues," Dean of the College of Business Edward Henninger said in a press release.

Her relationships with

the accounting community and her faculty colleagues have led to the development of an advisory committee, a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, an honor society and internship and post-graduate employment opportunities for her students.

She also remains very active in the accounting profession through part-time tax and audit season accounting practice and her involvement in professional accounting organizations.

Stout is also pursuing a doctorate degree with an emphasis on public and nonprofit accounting, her specialty area of practice.

"I've been helping students find internships and reaching out to employers that aren't even necessarily in our area. We have some placements in Boise, we have some placements in the Tri-Cities area, we've had placements in the Port of

Morrow, so getting students outside of Union County and reaching out to those resources," Stout said.

According to the release, Stout's enthusiasm for the profession and teaching is evident in her continual efforts to adapt and improve her in-person and online instructional approaches to better engage her students and help them learn.

"Brooke is always open to discussing pedagogy with her colleagues and myself, and is frequently looking for creative ways for her students to grow in their accounting knowledge and in their critical thinking and communication skills while focusing on the application of those principles to real world clients and issues. This Accounting Faculty of the Year honor is well deserved," Henninger said.

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Lane closures on Bear Creek Bridge begin June 6**

ENTERPRISE — Motorists in Wallowa County will see single lane access controlled by an automated traffic signal on Oregon Highway 82 at the Bear Creek Bridge.

The lane closures begin Monday, June 6.

The contractor, HP Civil, Inc., will begin work on foundations for the new bridge. The lane reduction will last through summer and is needed to accommodate excavation along the riverbank for the new bridge foundation and abutments.

As part of this work, the contractor will be drilling vertical shafts into the bedrock then filling them with rebar and concrete. In August, the contractor will begin work on the new bridge abutments and river embankment retaining wall.

At the end of summer, the contractor will reconstruct the existing roadway. Both lanes will then be open until work resumes in 2023. Abutment construction will be complete and girders will be set in spring 2023. The remainder of the new structure will be completed in fall 2023.

**Cove mayor, council seats up for grabs in November**

COVE — Cove voters will decide on three council seats, as

well as mayor, during the November general election.

The city announced in a press release Wednesday, June 1, that candidate packets are now available for those wishing to run for city council or the office of mayor.

Packets can be picked up at Cove City Hall, 504 Alder St., Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

City councilors are elected to four-year terms, and three sitting council members' terms — Shawn Parker, Lana Michel Shira and Council President Matt McCowan — are up at the end of 2022.

Mayor Sherry Haeger was elected to her first term as mayor in 2020, defeating Nathiel Conrad. The position of mayor is a two-year term.

To qualify as a candidate for mayor or city councilor, individuals must be a qualified elector and have resided in the city of Cove during the 12 months immediately preceding the election being filed for.

All petitions need to be returned to the city of Cove office at City Hall by noon on Aug. 8.

**Parks commission to meet in Enterprise June 14-15**

ENTERPRISE — The Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission announced Wednesday, June 1, it will tour local sites and convene June 14-15 in Enterprise.

On June 14, commissioners will

tour Wallowa Lake State Park and Iwetemlaykin State Heritage Site starting at 8 a.m., followed by a work session and training at Cloverleaf Hall at the Wallowa County Fairgrounds.

On June 15, commissioners will convene an executive session at 8:30 a.m. at the same location to discuss real estate and legal issues. Executive sessions are closed to the public.

A business meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will be open to the public.

Anyone may attend or listen to the business meeting; instructions on how to listen will be posted on the commission web page prior to the meeting.

The business meeting includes time for informal public comment related to any items not on the agenda.

Registration is required to speak at the meeting, and is available online at bit.ly/registerjunecommission.

Time per speaker is limited to three minutes.

Written public comments must be submitted by 5 p.m. June 13 to chris.havel@opr.d.gov.

The full agenda and supporting documents are posted on the commission web page at www.oregon.gov/opr/CAC/Pages/CAC-oprc.aspx.

—EO Media Group

# Wallowa County invests in digital security

By **BILL BRADSHAW**  
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Two major technology purchases were approved Wednesday, June 1, by the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners — a cybersecurity system and a new telephone system.

The purchases were approved because the technology currently being used in both systems is becoming outdated, said Stacey Fregulia, information technology director for the county.

**Cybersecurity**

Fregulia told the commissioners she recently went to an Oregon Government Information Technology conference, where representatives of counties and cities in the state go to learn more about vendors, security issues "and things that are happening in society today."

She became familiar with a system called Darktrace. Drew Staudacher of Darktrace attended the commission meeting via Zoom, but deferred to Fregulia on her presentation.

Fregulia said that for more than a month, there has been a Darktrace device on the county network in a trial run testing everything. She said Darktrace has an artificial intelligence element built into it to monitor the traffic on every computer workstation, switches and all elements of the network to determine what is normal activity and what is not.

"When it goes outside its normal path, say, someone put a virus on your computer, if that all of a sudden spikes and is out of the normal processes of where it would normally send emails or have normal traffic to some other person's IP (internet protocol) address in another country or another city or somewhere that's outside of the normal scope of where it normally works in, it'll shut it down," she said.

Once Darktrace's Antigena element shuts the system down, it flags whatever anomaly caused the shutdown and issues an alert so the system administrator can see what is happening and determine if the activity is acceptable or not.

During the trial run, Darktrace has detected a few anomalies.

"During that time, there has been a few things it has picked up that are out of normal, one being Dropbox because of the file sizing," she said.

Dropbox has been flagged, though it didn't shut the system down, she said.

"This only happens once or twice a month and I was able to say, 'This is OK.' But what if it was our finance department or IT department, it would say, 'No, wait a minute. You guys don't do this,' and it would shut that down. It would flag it and you'd come back and look at the logs and see who did it," Fregulia said.

She emphasized the importance of improving the cybersecurity of the county systems.

"This is another step into the cybersecurity infrastructure that will help the county, in a sense, because we can't hire someone to come in and go through those logs and monitor them 24/7," she said. "We just can't afford it. This, however, cuts down the cost of bringing those cybersecurity/IT-type issues in and lets you see it."

Fregulia said it would cost at least \$80,000-\$100,000 a year for an IT expert to monitor and protect the county's computer systems.

"With that being said, Darktrace, where it's just monitoring for a shutdown, is just \$12,000 a year," she said.

Adding the Antigena autonomous response element brings the total to \$20,071 a year. That's a 40% discount from the regular price the county can get if it approves Darktrace by June 15.