

TODAY

In 1732, James Oglethorpe received a charter from Britain's King George II to found the colony of Georgia.

In 1870, author Charles Dickens died in Gad's Hill Place, England.

In 1915, guitarist, songwriter and inventor Les Paul was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

In 1940, during World War II, Norway decided to surrender to the Nazis, effective at midnight.

In 1954, during the Senate Army-McCarthy hearings, Army special counsel Joseph N. Welch berated Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., asking: "Have you no sense of decency, sir? At long last, have you left no sense of decency?"

In 1969, the Senate confirmed Warren Burger to be the new chief justice of the United States, succeeding Earl Warren.

In 1972, heavy rains triggered record flooding in the Black Hills of South Dakota; the resulting disaster left at least 238 people dead and \$164 million in damage.

In 1978, leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints struck down a 148-year-old policy of excluding Black men from the Mormon priesthood.

In 1983, Britain's Conservatives, led by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, won a decisive election victory.

In 1986, the Rogers Commission released its report on the Challenger disaster, criticizing NASA and rocket-builder Morton Thiokol for management problems leading to the explosion that claimed the lives of seven astronauts.

In 1993, the science-fiction film "Jurassic Park," directed by Steven Spielberg, had its world premiere in Washington, D.C.

In 2004, the body of Ronald Reagan arrived in Washington to lie in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda before the 40th president's funeral.

In 2020, hundreds of mourners packed a Houston church for the funeral of George Floyd, a Black man whose death during a Minneapolis arrest inspired a worldwide reckoning over racial injustice.

Ten years ago: Spain became the fourth and largest country to ask Europe to rescue its failing banks (however, the bailout was averted). Maria Sharapova won the French Open, defeating Sara Errani 6-3, 6-2 to complete the career Grand Slam.

Five years ago: Punching back a day after his fired FBI director's damaging testimony, President Donald Trump accused James Comey of lying to Congress and said he was "100%" willing to testify under oath about their conversations. Actor Adam West, TV's "Batman," died in Los Angeles at age 88.

One year ago: The sponsor of the Keystone XL crude oil pipeline said it was pulling the plug on the contentious project after Canadian officials failed to persuade the Biden administration to reverse its cancellation of the company's permit; the partially built line was intended to transport crude from the oil sand fields of western Canada to Nebraska. The White House dropped executive orders from the Trump era that were intended to ban the popular apps TikTok and WeChat; officials said there would be a new review aimed at identifying national security risks with software applications tied to China.

Today's birthdays: Media analyst Marvin Kalb is 92. Sports commentator Dick Vitale is 83. Author Letty Cottin Pogrebin is 83. Rock musician Mick Box (Uriah Heep) is 75. Retired MLB All-Star Dave Parker is 71. Film composer James Newton Howard is 71. Mystery author Patricia Cornwell is 66. Actor Michael J. Fox is 61. Writer-producer Aaron Sorkin is 61. Actor Johnny Depp is 59. Actor Gloria Reuben is 58. Gospel singer-actress Tamela Mann is 56. Rock musician Dean Felber (Hootie & the Blowfish) is 55. Actor Keesha Sharp is 49. Bluegrass singer-musician Jamie Dailey (Dailey & Vincent) is 47. Actor Natalie Portman is 41. Actor Mae Whitman is 34.

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.

GRADUATION 2022



North Powder High School/Contributed Photo

The North Powder Charter School Class of 2022 is celebrated at a graduation ceremony on Saturday, June 4, 2022. The 19 seniors hauled in more than \$150,000 in scholarship aid.

North Powder graduates 19 seniors

By ISABELLA CROWLEY
The Observer

The members of North Powder Charter School's class of 2022 celebrated their graduation on Saturday, June 4. The class included 19 graduates, who collectively received more than \$150,000 in scholarship aid.

Viri Rodriguez-Medrano was named the class valedictorian and Reece Dixon was the salutatorian.

In addition to other scholarships, Rodriguez-Medrano was awarded the Oregon State University Finley academic scholarship, which provides \$4,000 a year for four years, and Dixon received the Western Undergraduate Exchange Scholarship for \$14,661.

Novalee Shoemaker and Hailey Fisher were recipients of scholarships from Eastern Oregon University.



North Powder High School/Contributed Photo

Salutatorian Reece Dixon, left, and valedictorian Viri Rodriguez-Medrano celebrate the close to their senior year at North Powder Charter School's graduation on Saturday, June 4, 2022. Dixon received more than \$18,000 in scholarships and Rodriguez-Medrano was awarded more than \$25,000.

A nontraditional pair

Mother-daughter duo join the Pinnacle Honor Society at EOU

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Tradition may be a cornerstone of academics, but what actually defines a student as traditional is not applicable to everyone. For two remote Eastern Oregon University students, their success transcends any restrictive ideas of tradition.

Mother and daughter pair Hillary (who requested her name not be capitalized) and Victoria Dochow, nontraditional EOU students from Seaside, were initiated into the Pinnacle Honor Society on Wednesday, May 18, in recognition of their academic achievements.

"Pinnacle Honor Society is our nontraditional student honor society at EOU. Our age for who is eligible is 22 and over. These two are both online students, which is something we really appreciate. They are both excelling and have 4.0s. They're not just a mother-daughter pair, they're academic super stars," said Administrative Program Assistant Kate Gekeler.

Their co-academic journey started as a



Eastern Oregon University/Contributed Photo

Mother and daughter pair Hillary and Victoria Dochow, nontraditional online Eastern Oregon University students from Seaside, were initiated into EOU's Pinnacle Honor Society on Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

response to Hillary's dissatisfaction with the public school system's adherence to her daughter's Individualized Education Program. Removing Victoria from public school in junior high, the two shifted toward online learning where Victoria achieved significant academic success.

"I pulled her out of public school in junior high because they were constantly violating her IEP and told her that she was unteachable. Originally, they refused to do the autism testing on her until we went into an IEP meeting and asked for mediation," Hillary said. "I tried to homeschool her on my own for the rest of that year. I then found the Oregon Virtual Academy

and signed her up. That was the best thing that ever happened."

Though initially testing at only fourth- or fifth-grade level when she entered junior high at the virtual academy, Victoria quickly found herself in the top-95 percentile of her online high school class.

Hillary worked as her daughter's academic coach and then college study partner when Victoria started classes at Clatsop Community College in the fall of 2018. Hillary began classes at Clatsop in the spring of 2019 and both she and Victoria would join the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Each graduated from Clatsop in 2021 with an associate degrees

before transferring to EOU.

"Me being in school is kind of weird. I started going to school because I was studying with her and then realized as she was getting ready to take finals that I could have been passing those finals too. It's like we work as a team. It's nice and the honor society thing is just awesome to be able to do that together," Hillary said.

Currently, Hillary is a junior at EOU majoring in accounting and Victoria is a senior majoring in business administration with plans on opening a specialty food truck after graduation.

"For a student who was pulled out of public school for being told I was unteachable, mentally I can slap them across the face with it. It feels amazing because to get somewhere after being told I would never get there is something that not many people get to do," Victoria said.

Victoria and Hillary were initiated into EOU's Pinnacle Honor Society as part of a hybrid virtual-in-person ceremony.

"This is what Eastern Oregon University and our online programs are all about. Bringing people together, having students be an active part of our campus, even from afar, and providing opportunities for growth and recognition," Gekeler said.

WALLOWA COUNTY

New health clinic opens doors

Sarah Peterson opens Hillock Family Medicine

By ANN BLOOM
For the Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Listening to Sarah Peterson for a few minutes, it becomes clear she is passionate about rural health care. Her devotion to her patients runs deep.

"The biggest thing I want to be able to do is give my patients the time and care they deserve," she said.

Peterson believes in treating the patient as a whole. From focusing on preventative medicine — the disease processes to end-of-life care — birth to death, for all ages.

"I take on the responsibility of caring for my patients. It doesn't end at 5 o'clock," she said. "It's 24/7. Being able to be there after hours for patients' minor care needs is beneficial for my patients and frees up a very busy ER in the county."

Hillock Family Medicine opened June 6, 2022, and is accepting new patients. The office is located at 107 N. River St., Enterprise, next to Sugar Time Bakery. Peterson is also doing telehealth appointments.

Peterson said when it became time to do her clinical experience, she visited Wallowa County and "just fell in love with it."

"It's the people," she said. "They're down-to-earth, hardworking and it's a friendly community."

She settled on Olive Branch Medical to do her clinical with Theresa Russel because they shared the same vision — a family provider for all needs of the patient.

Peterson graduated with a bachelor of science in nursing from Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho. She was a critical care nurse at Tri-State Memorial Hospital doing the pain clinic, gastroenterology and wound care. Then she decided she "could do more and give more," so she pursued a doctor of nursing science at Idaho State University in Pocatello. She is also a certified family nurse practitioner.

Originally from Southern Idaho, her goal always was to be a rural nurse practitioner: "Being able to work in a rural area and give care to people and treat people like I saw people treat my grandfather, and care for people throughout their life."

Her practice offers primary care and medical aesthetics for both cosmetic and medical purposes, from using Botox to treat varicose veins or migraine headaches to wrinkle treatment and prevention.

"I have a passion for dermatology. It's really exciting. It's something I can offer to the community," she said.

Her goal is to offer the community a comfortable, beautiful and relaxing environment for primary care and other needs they have. Peterson encourages people not only to schedule their wellness exams but annual skin cancer checks, which she says are "very important."

Peterson is immersing herself in the life of Wallowa County, getting to know the community. She has joined the Elks and plans to make Wallowa County her "forever home."

"Andrew Hillock and I want to raise our daughter here. I want to build a practice that cares for individuals or entire family units and is people's forever provider," she said. "I want to provide hometown health care that seems to be diminishing anymore. I want to be able to leave a legacy for my daughter, if she so chooses to follow in my shoes."



Peterson

NEWS BRIEFS

Joseph man hurt, woman dies in cycle crash

LA GRANDE — A Wallowa County man was injured and woman killed in a motorcycle crash Sunday, June 5, in Union County.

Robert E. Scott, 50, of Joseph, was traveling eastbound on Highway 82 near milepost 32 when he lost control of his Harley-Davidson motorcycle and crashed, according to a report from the Oregon State Police. The weather, which was rain and fog, is being investigated as contributing factors, police said.

Scott suffered serious injuries and was transported to an area hospital. A passenger, Linda S. Walker, 52, of Joseph, was transported via Life Flight but suffered fatal injuries and later died.

OSP was assisted at the scene by the Union County Sheriff's Office, Elgin Fire Department, La Grande Fire Department, Life Flight and Oregon Department of Transportation.

Planning commission set to meet June 14

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Planning Commission will meet at 6 p.m., Tuesday, June 14.

Four public hearings for conditional use permits will be conducted at the meeting. The meeting will be held in the city council chambers at La Grande City Hall, 1000 Adams Ave.

Public comment now being accepted on proposed Union water project

UNION — A public comment period is now being conducted for people who have concerns about the environmental impact of the city of Union's planned installation of a backup power generation system for its water system.

A contractor for the city earlier determined that there would not be an environmental impact. City officials then asked state agencies and other interested parties if they had concerns

about the environmental impact and none were expressed, according to city of Union Administrator Doug Wiggins.

Now anyone in the general public who has concerns, or believes anything was missed in the environmental study process, is invited to contact the city and express their reservations. Comments will be shared by city officials with Business Oregon, a state organization that oversees the Community Block Grant program. Business Oregon could determine that steps need to be taken to address any issues brought to its attention via the public comment process.

Union will receive a Community Block Grant to fund for the backup power generation system if it is determined that all environmental concerns have been addressed.

Comments regarding the environmental impact of the program must be submitted by Monday, June 20. For additional information call Union City Hall at 541-562-5197.

—The Observer

LOTTERY

Monday, June 6, 2022
Megabucks
7-15-30-37-38-46
Estimated jackpot: \$1.8 million
Lucky Lines
1-8-12-16-19-22-25-31
Estimated jackpot: \$55,000
Win for Life
4-7-44-62
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 3-2-1-1
4 p.m.: 3-8-2-9
7 p.m.: 0-5-0-1
10 p.m.: 8-7-7-9
Tuesday, June 7, 2022
Mega Millions
4-34-40-41-53
Mega Ball: 3
Megaplier: 4
Estimated jackpot: \$226 million
Lucky Lines
3-8-9-13-19-23-26-30
Estimated jackpot: \$56,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 5-7-9-3
4 p.m.: 6-2-7-2
7 p.m.: 6-1-4-2
10 p.m.: 2-4-8-1