

**TODAY**

**In 1860**, a congressional resolution authorized creation of the United States Government Printing Office, which opened the following year.

**In 1888**, abolitionist Frederick Douglass received one vote from the Kentucky delegation at the Republican convention in Chicago, effectively making him the first Black candidate to have his name placed in nomination for U.S. president. (The nomination went to Benjamin Harrison.)

**In 1931**, aviators Wiley Post and Harold Gatty took off from New York on a round-the-world flight that lasted eight days and 15 hours.

**In 1947**, the Senate joined the House in overriding President Harry S. Truman's veto of the Taft-Hartley Act, designed to limit the power of organized labor.

**In 1956**, Gamal Abdel Nasser was elected president of Egypt.

**In 1967**, President Lyndon B. Johnson, Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin opened a three-day summit at Glassboro State College in New Jersey.

**In 1969**, Warren E. Burger was sworn in as chief justice of the United States by the man he was succeeding, Earl Warren.

**In 1972**, President Richard Nixon signed Title IX barring discrimination on the basis of sex for "any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." (On the same day, Nixon and White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman discussed using the CIA to obstruct the FBI's Watergate investigation. Revelation of the tape recording of this conversation sparked Nixon's resignation in 1974.)

**In 1985**, all 329 people aboard an Air India Boeing 747 were killed when the plane crashed into the Atlantic Ocean near Ireland because of a bomb authorities believe was planted by Sikh separatists.

**In 1994**, the movie "Forrest Gump," starring Tom Hanks as a simple yet kindhearted soul and his serendipitous brushes with greatness, was released by Paramount Pictures.

**In 1995**, Dr. Jonas Salk, the medical pioneer who developed the first vaccine to halt the crippling rampage of polio, died in La Jolla, California, at age 80.

**In 2016**, Britain voted to leave the European Union after a bitterly divisive referendum campaign, toppling Prime Minister David Cameron, who had led the campaign to keep Britain in the EU.

**In 2020**, the Louisville police department fired an officer involved in the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor more than three months earlier, saying Brett Hankison had shown "extreme indifference to the value of human life" when he fired ten rounds into Taylor's apartment. (A second officer was also fired; Hankison was found not guilty on charges that he endangered neighbors.)

**Ten years ago:** Syria and Turkey desperately sought to ease tensions following an incident in which Syria shot down a Turkish reconnaissance plane, saying the plane had entered its airspace.

**Five years ago:** California Gov. Jerry Brown blocked parole for Charles Manson follower and convicted killer Bruce Davis.

**One year ago:** After 13 years of near silence in the conservatorship that controlled her life and money, pop star Britney Spears told a judge in Los Angeles that the conservatorship controlled by her father and others had made her feel demoralized and enslaved, and that it should come to an end. (The judge would agree to that request in November 2021.)

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Ted Shackelford is 76. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas is 74. "American Idol" ex-judge Randy Jackson is 66. Actor Frances McDormand is 65. Writer-director Joss Whedon is 58. Actor Selma Blair is 50. Rock singer KT Tunstall is 47. Actor Emmanuelle Vaugier is 46. Singer-songwriter Jason Mraz is 45. Football Hall of Famer LaDainian Tomlinson is 43. Actor Melissa Rauch is 42.

**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, June 20, 2022**

**Megabucks**  
3-11-12-23-26-44  
Estimated jackpot: \$2.4 million  
**Lucky Lines**  
2-5-12-14-19-23-26-29  
Estimated jackpot: \$14,000  
**Win for Life**  
36-44-54-61  
**Pick 4**  
1 p.m.: 4-0-9-9  
4 p.m.: 8-9-3-7  
7 p.m.: 8-9-0-6  
10 p.m.: 6-1-4-9

**Tuesday, June 21, 2022**

**Mega Millions**  
8-13-18-32-42  
Mega Ball: 20  
Megaplier: 3  
Estimated jackpot: \$312 million  
**Lucky Lines**  
3-7-9-16-19-21-27-30  
Estimated jackpot: \$15,000  
**Pick 4**  
1 p.m.: 1-6-3-6  
4 p.m.: 2-1-6-0  
7 p.m.: 0-0-0-3  
10 p.m.: 0-3-1-2

# Donors step up to give blood

### La Grande remains on pace to top 1,000 units of blood donations this year

**By DICK MASON**

The Observer

**LA GRANDE** — The community of La Grande is on pace to have its best year for blood donations in at least two decades.

A total of 232 units of blood were collected earlier this month during a two-day American Red Cross blood drive in La Grande, boosting the total number of units donated during 2022 in three two-day blood drives to 678. The strong results mean La Grande, with a pair of two-day blood drives remaining in 2022, is on track to collect 1,130 units for the year, 165 units more than the 965 units collected in 2021 and 487 more than the total of 643 donated in 2020.

La Grande is part of the American Red Cross' Idaho District, which encompasses all of Idaho and a portion of Eastern Oregon.

"La Grande has the most productive two-day blood drives in the dis-



Dick Mason/The Observer

Phil Gillette gives blood at an American Red Cross blood drive in La Grande on Wednesday, June 15, 2022. Nicolle Potts, a phlebotomist with the American Red Cross, is on the left.

trict," according to Stephen Dalmas, manager of the Idaho District.

Dalmas gives much of the credit for La Grande's successful blood drives to the work of its managers, the husband and wife team of Linda and Sheldon Strand. He said their work is the reason the blood drives are well run.

The total 232 units donated during the June drive exceeded the Strands' goal of 220 units. It also was the highest total donated during an American Red Cross blood drive this year.

A total 202 people donated during the June blood draw, which was conducted at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The total included Phil Gillette, of La Grande, who said he felt compelled to donate because of the unpredictable times the United States is experiencing.

"With all the stuff going on in the country, I know my blood is needed," Gillette said at the blood drive.

Everyone at the blood drive was required to wear masks because

Oregon rules addressing COVID-19 protocol in medical facilities make them mandatory. Sheldon Strand explained that the site of a blood drive is considered to be a temporary medical facility in the eyes of the state.

The two remaining 2022 American Red Cross blood drives in La Grande will be conducted Sept. 13-14 and Nov. 8-9. Each will run from noon to 6 p.m. the first day and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the second day at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1802 Gekeler Lane.

## Elgin School District adopts 2022-23 budget

### Budget to bring back academic counseling position

**By DICK MASON**

The Observer

**ELGIN** — The Elgin School District's 2022-23 budget picture is now in sharp focus and it looks solid.

The Elgin School Board voted 3-0 on Monday, June 20, to adopt a total 2022-23 budget of \$9.37 million, up about 8% from the 2021-22 budget of \$8.57 million. The budget calls for the Elgin School District to maintain all of its staff and programs



Greif

and restore an academic counseling position at Elgin High School that was cut about four years ago for financial reasons, according to Elgin Superintendent Dianne Greif.

The total budget adopted by the school board also includes an increase of 7% to the general fund, which consists of money from taxes, fees, interest earnings and other sources that can be used for general operation purposes.

Chuck Anderson, chair of the Elgin School Board, likes where the school district is financially.

"I feel really good about the budget," he said.

The board chair said the school district is moving in a positive direction after having to overcome the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic the

past two years.

"We are over the hump," he said.

Anderson said steady enrollment is one of the factors helping the school district's financial status. Enrollment is a critical piece of the funding puzzle since Oregon's public school districts receive more than \$8,000 from the state per student.

Anderson also said grants the school district has received are boosting the budget. Denise Ludwig, the school district's deputy clerk, credits Greif with successfully applying for many of the grants it has received.

"She is a grant writing machine," Ludwig said.

**Personnel changes**

Near the end of the June 20 meeting Randy Laber announced that he

was stepping down from the board for personal reasons. Laber has served on the Elgin School Board for five years. Laber said he has enjoyed serving on the board and that the experience has been particularly meaningful for him because he grew up in Elgin. He said he has enjoyed having the opportunity to serve the community and to help young people as a school board member.

Greif said she was disappointed to see Laber leave because he has been an important part of a board she has enjoyed working with.

The school board will appoint someone to fill the remainder of Laber's term. The individual appointed will serve through November of 2023.

## Summerville man injured in paragliding accident

The Observer

**LA GRANDE** — A 25-year-old Summerville man was injured in a late-afternoon paragliding accident Monday, June 20, on a steep hillside close to a half mile north of the west Interstate 84 La Grande exit.

The accident was reported at about 3:45 p.m., according to Union County Emergency Manager Nick Vora.

Union County Sheriff Cody Bowen arrived at the accident site first and then directed first responder traffic to it, Vora said. Rescuers had to hike up a steep hillside to reach the injured man. First responders packed the patient into a wheeled



Union County Search and Rescue/Contributed Photo

Rescuers load a 25-year-old Summerville man onto a litter Monday, June 20, 2022, after he was injured in a paragliding accident outside La Grande.

Stokes basket and he was wheeled down the hill to a waiting Life Flight helicopter, which had landed at a gravel pit about 500 yards from the base of the slope. The man was then flown to a trauma center

in Richland, Washington, with potentially life-threatening injuries at about 5 p.m., Vora said.

The patient, who was alone, was located after he called 911 with his cellphone. The Union

County Dispatch Center was able to find him by using Global Positioning System equipment, which determines a cellphone's coordinates.

The city of La Grande Fire Department, Union County Sheriff's Office, Union County Search and Rescue, La Grande Rural Fire Department, Oregon State Police and Life Flight Network all responded to the accident.

Vora said teamwork among the first responders allowed them to get the injured man off the hillside and to the trauma center quickly.

"This really exemplifies how well the people from all these agencies work well together as a team," he said.

### IN BRIEF

**Horse injures man in the Starkey Experimental Forest**

**STARKEY** — A man was injured by a horse early in the afternoon of Tuesday, June 21, in the Starkey Experimental Forest area.

The individual was transported by ambulance to Grande Ronde Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, according to Union County Emergency Manager Nick Vora.

No other details were available. The La Grande Fire Department, Union County Sheriff Cody Bowen and Vora all responded to the accident.

**COVID-19 community levels for Eastern Oregon stable**

**LA GRANDE** — The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention monitors community levels of COVID-19 to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions and the total number of reported new COVID-19 cases in an area.

The CDC listed the following levels for Eastern Oregon as of Tuesday, June 21:

- Union County: Medium
- Baker County: Medium
- Wallowa County: Medium
- Umatilla County: Low
- Malheur County: Medium

The CDC recommends staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Those who have symptoms should get tested.

For communities with medium levels, additional precautions are issued for those at high risk for severe illness, including talking to a health care provider about the need to wear a mask.

# ODFW approves killing more wolves

### State authorizes lethal take of four wolves from Chesnimnus Pack

**By GEORGE PAVLEN**

Capital Press

**JOSEPH** — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved killing more wolves from the Chesnimnus Pack in Wallowa County to curb attacks on livestock.

ODFW issued its second kill permit for Chesnimnus wolves on Friday, June 17, after two yearling males were removed from the pack under a separate permit earlier this spring.

Since April 25, ODFW biologists have attributed five confirmed and two "probable" depredations of cattle to the pack in grazing pastures north of Joseph. The two most recent incidents were investigated June 4.

The agency issued its first permit April 29 to cull two wolves from the pack. One yearling male was shot May 3 and the second on June 10.

Days later, ODFW again authorized lethal take — this time for four Chesnimnus wolves, citing an ongoing threat to livestock in the area. The permit runs through July 17.

The decision has again inflamed emotions among both ranchers and wildlife advocates who disagree sharply about how wolves should be managed. Oregon has at least 175 wolves statewide, though that is a minimum estimate based on verified evidence.

Sristi Kamal, senior Northwest representative for Defenders of Wildlife, said that if the latest permit is fully executed, it will jeopardize the survival of the Chesnimnus Pack. The pack had at least nine members by the end of 2021, according to ODFW's annual population survey.

"We are hoping that ODFW will not target helpless pups again but that means the permit will essentially wipe out most of the adult and yearling members," Kamal said in a statement. "Depending on which two (or) three wolves are left, the survival chances of the pups decreases significantly."

Kamal said the timing of the permit was also concerning, since there were no further documented depredations after the June 10 take of the second wolf from the pack.

"This permit feels unjustified," she said.

Ranchers, meanwhile, have argued for killing the entire Chesnimnus Pack, claiming that nonlethal deterrents such as patrolling cattle and adjusting grazing schedules are not working to prevent losses.

John Williams, wolf committee co-chairman for the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, said one heavily affected producer on Crow Creek has done everything humanly possible to keep wolves away from his herd.

"He's still getting harassed, cattle chased and run through fences," Williams said. "It's ongoing and it's continuing. The wolves that are there have decided to turn to livestock."

ODFW agreed, stating that while the rancher has increased human presence to scare off wolves and removed potential attractants such as bone piles and carcasses, attacks on cattle have continued.

"Based upon all evidence available, ODFW believes that cattle continue to be at high risk of wolf depredation in this area," the agency wrote.