

TODAY

In 1876, Lt. Col. Colonel George A. Custer and his 7th Cavalry were wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians in the Battle of the Little Bighorn in Montana.

In 1938, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 was enacted.

In 1942, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was designated Commanding General of the European Theater of Operations during World War II. Some 1,000 British Royal Air Force bombers raided Bremen, Germany.

In 1947, "The Diary of a Young Girl," the personal journal of Anne Frank, a German-born Jewish girl hiding with her family from the Nazis in Amsterdam during World War II, was first published.

In 1950, war broke out in Korea as forces from the communist North invaded the South.

In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that recitation of a state-sponsored prayer in New York State public schools was unconstitutional.

In 1973, former White House Counsel John W. Dean began testifying before the Senate Watergate Committee, implicating top administration officials, including President Richard Nixon as well as himself, in the Watergate scandal and cover-up.

In 1990, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its first "right-to-die" decision, ruled that family members could be barred from ending the lives of persistently comatose relatives who had not made their wishes known conclusively.

In 1993, Kim Campbell was sworn in as Canada's 19th prime minister, the first woman to hold the post.

In 1996, a truck bomb killed 19 Americans and injured hundreds at a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia.

In 2009, death claimed Michael Jackson, the "King of Pop," in Los Angeles at age 50 and actor Farrah Fawcett in Santa Monica, California, at age 62.

In 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld nationwide tax subsidies under President Barack Obama's health care overhaul in a 6-3 ruling that preserved health insurance for millions of Americans.

In 2016, Pope Francis visited Armenia, where he recognized the Ottoman-era slaughter of Armenians as a genocide, prompting a harsh rebuttal from Turkey.

Ten years ago: A divided U.S. Supreme Court threw out major parts of Arizona's tough crack-down on people living in the U.S. without legal permission, while unanimously upholding the law's most-discussed provision: requiring police to check the immigration status of those they stop for other reasons, but limiting the legal consequences.

Five years ago: In eastern Pakistan, an overturned oil tanker burst into flames, killing at least 150 people who had rushed to the scene to gather leaking fuel.

One year ago: Former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin was sentenced to 22-1/2 years in prison for the murder of George Floyd, whose dying gasps under Chauvin's knee led to the biggest outcry against racial injustice in the U.S. in generations. The Justice Department sued Georgia over the state's new election law, saying it was intended to deny Black voters equal access to the ballot. (The lawsuit is pending.)

Today's birthdays: Actor June Lockhart is 97. Civil rights activist James Meredith is 89. R&B singer Eddie Floyd is 85. Actor Barbara Montgomery is 83. Actor Mary Beth Peil is 82. Basketball Hall of Famer Willis Reed is 80. Singer Carly Simon is 77. Actor-comedian Jimmie Walker is 75. Actor-director Michael Lembeck is 74. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor is 68. Rock musician David Paich (Toto) is 68. Actor-writer-director Ricky Gervais is 61. Basketball Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo is 56. Rapper-producer Richie Rich is 55. Actor Angela Kinsey is 51. Rock musician Mike Kroeger (Nickelback) is 50. Rock musician Mario Calire is 48. Actor Busy Philipps is 43.

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 22, 2022

Megabucks

1-4-12-23-31-44

Jackpot: \$2.5 million

Lucky Lines

3-5-11-15-17-24-28-29

Estimated jackpot: \$16,000

Powerball

6-10-31-48-56

Powerball: 12

Power Play: 3

Jackpot: \$335 million

Win for Life

36-40-65-68

Pick 4

1 p.m.: 3-0-0-6

4 p.m.: 1-1-5-6

7 p.m.: 0-2-5-2

10 p.m.: 7-0-4-6

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Lucky Lines

2-7-12-13-17-24-27-30

Jackpot: \$17,000

Pick 4

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

4 p.m.: 2-8-2-1

7 p.m.: 8-1-7-9

10 p.m.: 5-9-3-5

Annual 4th of July traditions continue in Wallowa County

Parade, fireworks at lake planned

By BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA COUNTY — The 246th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence will once again get a rip-roaring recognition from one end of Wallowa County to the other, Monday, July 4, with the Old-Time Fourth of July Parade and Celebration in Wallowa and the Shake the Lake fireworks show at Wallowa Lake.

Parade

The parade, which usually includes 30-40 entries, kicks off at 11 a.m. from Wallowa's high school football field.

"We're hoping we have a lot," said Carolyn Harshfield, city recorder.

This year's parade is not expected to have the spirit of rebelliousness exhibited two years ago when, against state government orders, Wallowans went ahead and held their Independence Day Parade without government sanction — or an official closure of Highway 82 through town. With the COVID-19 pandemic virtually over, there's no need to close such events, Harshfield said.

Ruby Frazier will serve as grand marshal of the parade.

Entrants are asked to sign up by June 30, Harshfield said.

"There can be last-minute ones but we prefer for them to sign up," she said.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the parade winners.

After the parade, people are welcome to buy corn dogs, tacos, hamburgers or barbecued meat at one of the numerous food vendors that will be set up on Pine Street. Then they can gather at the Wallowa Fire Hall to eat while listening to live music. Gary and Terri Moffitt of Wallowa are to perform, Harshfield said.

There is no entry fee for the



Wallowa County Chieftain, File

The annual Shake the Lake Independence Day fireworks display will begin at dark Monday, July 4, 2022. The pyrotechnics will be fired from a raft anchored in the north end of Wallowa Lake.

parade or for vendors' booths, but vendors are asked to check with City Hall to reserve a space. In addition to food booths, Harshfield said the city is hoping to have vendors selling crafts, jewelry and "flea-market" items.

Shake the Lake

Later on the Fourth, at the other end of the county, the rockets' redness will glare over Wallowa Lake for the annual Shake the Lake fireworks display.

As usual, a raft will be towed out in the middle of the northern end of the lake from which a pyrotechnician will shoot off about 22 minutes of fireworks for the revolutionary thrills of viewers along the shoreline and throughout the area who can see the display.

Jude Graham, of the Joseph Chamber of Commerce, which is one of the chief organizers of the event, said it is expected to begin at "9-9:30-ish."

"It depends on if we have clouds or not, but it's always at dark," she said.

She encourages anyone planning to attend at the lake to come early and get a parking space and somewhere to lay out a blanket.

"There's thousands of people there," she said.

Imbler school budget appears strong

By DICK MASON

The Observer

IMBLER — Only bright colors are needed to paint the Imbler School District's budget picture for 2022-23.

The Imbler School Board voted on Tuesday, June 21, to adopt a 2022-23 total budget of \$12.23 million, up 16% from 2021-22, that will allow the school district to retain all of its staff

and programs.

The general fund budget within the total budget is \$6.058 million, up 14% from the current general fund budget, which consists of money from taxes, fees, interest earnings and other sources that can be used for general operation purposes.

The school district's budget is being boosted by steady enrollment, said interim Imbler

School District Superintendent Doug Hislop, a huge factor since Oregon public school districts receive at least \$8,000 from the state per student.

Hislop said enrollment in Oregon's schools has dropped about 30,000 over the past year but the amount of money allotted by the state for school districts in 2022-23 has not changed, meaning the state has more money

available per student.

Hislop noted that the school district's enrollment outlook also looks good because it has a waiting list of students from outside the school district for some grades. Because the Imbler School District was granted charter status by the state about 15 years ago, it can accept students whose families live outside of the district when it has openings.

IN BRIEF

La Grande Police make arrest in arson case

LA GRANDE — A La Grande man was arrested for allegedly starting a fire earlier this month at Wildflower Lodge.

Teryn Demoss, 20, was taken into custody on Thursday, June 23, on charges of arson and reckless endangering and lodged into the Union County Jail without incident, according to a press release. Demoss was an employee of the Wildflower Lodge and served as the lodge's cook. He had been employed at the assisted living facility for more than a year.

The La Grande Fire Department and the La Grande Police Department responded to a report of a fire inside the Wildflower Lodge, 508 16th St., La Grande, shortly before 2 p.m. on June 11.

Emergency crews arrived moments later and quickly extinguished a fire in a storage room near the Memory Care Ward. The La Grande Fire Department assisted by the Wildflower Lodge staff, the La Grande Police Department and the Union County Sheriff's Office evacuated residents from the facility until the scene was safe. No one was injured in the fire.

The State Fire Marshall's Office, along with the La Grande Fire Department, the La Grande Police Department and the Oregon State Police, conducted a thorough investigation and determined the cause of the fire was arson. Several items of eviden-

tiary value were collected and sent to the Oregon State Police Forensic Lab for analysis.

This case remains under investigation and more charges may occur, police said. Anyone with information in regard to this arson is asked to contact La Grande Det. Scott Norton at 541-963-1017.

La Grande changing out analog water meters

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Public Works Department will be installing high-tech meters to all homes and businesses within the La Grande city limits as part of the city's City Water Meter Change Program.

These new meters will allow the city to monitor water usage and to alert property owners about possible leaks. La Grande residents may notice a disturbance in their water for about 10-15 minutes while crews change out the water meter.

Water meter changes are expected to take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday until all meters have been changed.

For more information, call Public Works at 541-962-1325.

Annual fire hydrant tests will begin in July

LA GRANDE — The city of La Grande's annual fire hydrant testing and maintenance program will begin Tuesday, July 5, and continue from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. until all hydrants are tested.

— The Observer

County prepares for the 'big one'

Union County agencies, groups to participate in Regional Cascadia Earthquake exercise

By ANDREW CUTLER

The Observer

LA GRANDE — The "big one" is coming to Union County next week — in practice form anyway.

The county will be joining several other Northeastern Oregon counties in a Regional Cascadia Earthquake exercise on Monday, June 27, and Tuesday, June 28. The exercise will test communications, lines of succession, priority assessments, such as debris removal, roadway damages, response times and fuel distribution, as well as mass care and sheltering.

"In the exercise we may find that some aspects were solid and are great and others we may find that we need to generate this information, that we maybe don't have the most efficient mechanisms in place," Union County Emergency Manager Nick Vora said. "And then coming out of this it'll be a good learning opportunity to identify how we can do some trainings and have some coordination meetings in the future. So if this does happen for real, we'll be able to respond in a deliberate and prepared manner."

The Cascadia earthquake is based on the Cascadia Subduction Zone, which is a convergent plate boundary that stretches from Vancouver Island to Northern California. Subduction zone earthquakes can exceed a magnitude of 9.0, according to a press release. While Northeastern Oregon is located far from the center of the subduction zone, extreme shaking may be felt for several minutes that could potentially affect buildings, utilities and transportation throughout the area.

Vora said Baker County was awarded a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for planning a Cascadia earthquake exercise, and several neighboring counties, including Union County, were able to take advantage of that grant and the support that FEMA had to offer in planning and then conducting the exercise.

"Multiple counties got together and we identified some of the objectives that as a group we thought were a high priority to exercise because we can't practically exercise all aspects of response to a major emergency at once," he said.

Malheur, Umatilla, Union, Baker and Harney counties will be holding training in each county's respective emergency operation centers. In Union County, next week's training will be held at the law enforcement building, 1109 K Ave., La Grande.

The two-day training is a continuation of the 2016 Great Oregon Shakeout, a mass casualty exercise that took place in Union County. The 2016 event was a full-scale exercise with no simulation — other than the "patients" weren't actually hurt. However, the 2022 training is a functional exercise that will be contained.

"So as people drive around Union County on (June 27-28), they're not going to notice anything different," Vora said. "But in our emergency operations center we'll be simulating a significant emergency has occurred."

Vora said simulations will include power and communication outages, gas line, ruptures, fires, traffic management and fuel management.

"Pretty much every aspect of emergency response in Union County was really eager to participate in this," Vora said.

WHO'S TRAINING?

The two-day Regional Cascadia Earthquake exercise in Union County will involve a host of local volunteer groups and agencies, including the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, American Red Cross, and members from Union County Search and Rescue, La Grande Fire, La Grande Police, La Grande Public Works and Wastewater Treatment, La Grande Rural Fire District, Center for Human Development/Union County Public Health, Grande Ronde Hospital, Avista Utilities, Oregon Trail Electric Cooperation, Ziply Fiber, Union County Commissioners, 911 Dispatch, Union County Emergency Services, Union County Public Works, Union County Sheriff's Office, Oregon Department of Emergency Management, Oregon Department of Transportation and the Federal Emergency Management Association.