

TODAY

In 1846, U.S. annexation of California was proclaimed at Monterey after the surrender of a Mexican garrison.

In 1865, four people were hanged in Washington, D.C. for conspiring with John Wilkes Booth to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln: Lewis Powell (aka Lewis Payne), David Herold, George Atzerodt and Mary Surratt, the first woman to be executed by the federal government.

In 1898, the United States annexed Hawaii.

In 1930, construction began on Boulder Dam (later Hoover Dam).

In 1946, Jimmy Carter, 21, married Rosalynn Smith, 18, in Plains, Georgia.

In 1948, six female U.S. Navy reservists became the first women to be sworn in to the regular Navy.

In 1976, the United States Military Academy at West Point included female cadets for the first time as 119 women joined the Class of 1980.

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan announced he was nominating Arizona Judge Sandra Day O'Connor to become the first female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1990, the first "Three Tenors" concert took place as opera stars Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras performed amid the brick ruins of Rome's Baths of Caracalla on the eve of the World Cup championship.

In 2005, terrorist bombings in three Underground stations and a double-decker bus killed 52 victims and four bombers in the worst attack on London since World War II.

In 2010, Los Angeles police charged Lonnie Franklin Jr. in the city's "Grim Sleeper" serial killings. (Franklin, who was sentenced to death for the killings of nine women and a teenage girl, died in prison in March 2020 at the age of 67.)

In 2013, Andy Murray became the first British man in 77 years to win the Wimbledon title, beating Novak Djokovic 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 in the final.

In 2016, Micah Johnson, a Black Army veteran who served in Afghanistan, opened fire on Dallas police, killing five officers in an act of vengeance for the fatal police shootings of Black men; the attack ended with Johnson being killed by a bomb delivered by a police robot.

Today's birthdays: Musician-conductor Doc Severinsen is 95. Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough is 89. Rock star Ringo Starr is 82. Comedian Bill Oddie is 81. Singer-musician Warren Entner (The Grass Roots) is 79. Actor Joe Spano is 76. Pop singer David Hodo (The Village People) is 75. Country singer Linda Williams is 75. Actor Shelley Duvall is 73. Actor Roz Ryan is 71. Actor Billy Campbell is 63. Rock musician Mark White (Spin Doctors) is 60. Singer-songwriter Vonda Shepard is 59. Actor-comedian Jim Gaffigan is 56. R&B musician Ricky Kinchen (Mint Condition) is 56. Actor Amy Carlson is 54. Actor Jorja Fox is 54. Actor Cree Summer is 53. Actor Robin Weigert is 53. Actor Kirsten Vangsness is 50. Actor Troy Garity is 49. Actor Berenice Bejo is 46. Actor Hamish Linklater is 46. Olympic silver and bronze medal figure skater Michelle Kwan is 42. Rapper Cassidy is 40. Country singer Gabbie Nolen is 40. Actor Ross Malinger is 38. Actor-comedian Luke Null (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 32. Pop singer Ally Hernandez (Fifth Harmony) (TV: "The X Factor") is 29. Pop musician Ashton Irwin (5 Seconds of Summer) is 28. Country singer Maddie Font (Maddie and Tae) is 27.

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, July 4, 2022
Megabucks
6-10-22-24-32-42
Estimated jackpot: \$3 million
Lucky Lines
2-8-11-13-19-24-28-32
Estimated jackpot: \$28,000
Win for Life
19-24-61-77
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 3-3-5-9
4 p.m.: 0-5-9-5
7 p.m.: 9-2-3-9
10 p.m.: 6-4-9-3
Tuesday, July 5, 2022
Mega Millions
27-31-50-51-61
Ball: 21
Megaplier: 4
Estimated jackpot: \$400 million
Lucky Lines
4-8-12-13-17-21-26-30
Estimated jackpot: \$29,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 6-9-3-5
4 p.m.: 3-3-5-6
7 p.m.: 9-3-9-8
10 p.m.: 2-3-8-9



Dick Mason/The Observer

A vehicle finishes crossing the Second Street bridge over Interstate 84 in La Grande on Tuesday, July 5, 2022. The bridge opened at 3 p.m. July 1 after having being closed since March 21 for repairs.

Second Street Bridge over I-84 now open in La Grande

Bridge had been closed since March 21 for repairs

By **DICK MASON**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — Driving between La Grande and the Union County Fairgrounds is now much easier

The Second Street Bridge over Interstate 84, which had been closed since March 21 for repair work by crews contracted by the Oregon Department of Transportation, reopened to all traffic at 3 p.m. Friday, July 1. The bridge was closed while the bridge rails were updated to current standards, deck surfaces were repaired and sealed,

and other repairs performed. The bridge was closed again July 6 for 20-minute intervals during the day to allow for work crews to complete the bridge deck overlay on the northbound shoulder.

Drivers crossing the bridge are urged to use caution since there remain some construction materials on the shoulders of the bridge and small bumps at each end of the bridge.

The detour around the bridge was lengthy and the reopening removes the inconvenience for people living south of the Union County Fairgrounds. At least for now. There is still a substantial amount of work to be done to complete the Second Street Bridge repairs.

Two more full closures later this summer will be needed. One closure will allow for asphalt paving at each end of the bridge to match the new bridge deck overlay, which will require one- or two-day closures. A second closure will be needed to allow bridge bearings to be replaced. The bridge will have to be lifted up for this work, according to Tom Strandberg, an ODOT spokesperson.

Strandberg said this is a standard procedure ODOT does on all of its bridges regularly. This closure will likely be for two to three weeks.

Neither closure will occur during the Union County Fair, which takes place Aug. 3-6. ODOT will send out notices in advance to notify the public of the closures.

Cove City Hall will be getting a new look

City council voted to accept bid on expansion, remodel

By **ISABELLA CROWLEY**
The Observer

COVE — The Cove City Council approved a bid for the renovation and expansion of city hall on Tuesday, July 5.

The bid was awarded to Cornerstone Home Builders, of La Grande, for \$68,960. Cornerstone Home Builders was the only contractor to submit a bid.

Cove Mayor Sherry Haeger said the project will be paid for with funding from the federal government provided to help cities deal with issues related to COVID-19. Currently, the central room of city hall acts as both the meeting location for the city council and the offices of City Recorder Sherry Riley and Public Works Director Dave Johnson.

The base bid included the expansion and remodel of city hall, with two additional items contractors could price out: redoing the existing lighting



Isabella Crowley/The Observer

The Cove City Hall building, shown here on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, is slated to be remodeled in the spring of 2023 to increase security and provide more space for city offices.

and redoing the existing flooring. Johnson suggested that the flooring project could be completed in house for a lower price.

"It will be nice to have an actual office and more space. We'll have a meeting room and it will also be better for security," he said.

Councilor Jason Stone brought forward a motion

to accept the base bid with the lighting addition, which was seconded by Councilor Lana Shira. All council members present at the meeting — Stone, Shira, Alan Cadinha and Shawn Parker — voted in favor of the bid. Council President Matt McCowan and Councilor Jordan Hackwith were absent from the meeting.

The bids were originally due in May, but after none were received it was determined that the original deadline had been too short and it was extended. The project is slated to start during the spring of 2023 and should be completed within two months, barring any complications or unforeseen events.

Man arrested after downtown skirmish

Justin Ransford arrested on multiple charges, including coercion, harassment

By **DICK MASON**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — A man who allegedly held a woman against her will on the 1700 block of Adams Avenue was arrested on multiple charges by the La Grande Police Department.

Justin Ransford, 21, unknown address, was arrested Saturday, July 2,

and charged with coercion, harassment, resisting arrest, stalking and second-degree disorderly conduct at about 11:15 p.m. When police officers arrived at the scene, Ransford was involved in an argument with a group of men who were upset because Ransford was harassing a woman.

After law enforcement officers arrived, Ransford

grabbed the woman and held her against her will in an attempt to prevent law enforcement officers from arresting and handcuffing him, according to La Grande Police Lt. Jason Hays. Law enforcement officers then used mild force to separate Ransford from the woman before taking him into custody.

Ransford suffered minor injuries in the incident. The La Grande Police was assisted by the Union County Sher-

iff's Office and the Oregon State Police. Hays said Ransford did not have a weapon.

Hays said that Ransford has been arrested multiple times by La Grande law enforcement officers on charges including disorderly conduct, reckless endangering and escape since September 2021. Hays said he believes most of the charges are related to mental health issues and drug dependency.

NEWS BRIEFS

Calf killed by wolves in Wallowa County

MINAM — Another confirmed case of a wolf killing livestock in Wallowa County was reported last week when a cattle producer in the Minam area found a 4-month-old, 350-pound calf dead, according to a report from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The calf was found Monday, June 27, when the rancher was distributing salt in a partially timbered 6,000-acre private pasture. The calf was believed to have died within 24 hours before the investigation.

Examination of the carcass led ODFW investigators to determine the wounds were consistent with wolf attacks on calves.

The packs known to frequent the area where the attack occurred include the Clark Creek Pack, the Bear Creek Pack and the Minam Pack.

ODFW stated it will monitor for continued wolf activity in the area.

On June 17, the ODFW issued a permit to take four more Chesnimnus Pack wolves in the Crow Creek area after repeated depredations and the killing of two Chesnimnus wolves under a previous kill permit. The current permit is good until July 17.

Bridge replacement to begin soon

WALLOWA — A contractor will be installing erosion-control measures in advance of drilling foundations for a bridge replacement that is expected to begin the week of July 11 on Highway 82 near Wallowa.

A temporary traffic signal is in place. Traffic will be controlled by flaggers or the temporary traffic signal during working hours, and by the temporary traffic signal during nonworking hours. Up to 20-minute delays can be expected at all times. The signal is expected to remain in place until both travel lanes are available again early this fall.

Joseph hearing on Iwetemlaykin, UGB

JOSEPH — A public hearing to consider modifying the city of Joseph's urban growth boundary will take place Thursday, July 7, during the city council's monthly meeting.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Joseph Community Events Center. The public is welcome to attend in person or via Zoom.

Under the city's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, the city is required to maintain an adequate supply of land for residential use within its UGB to meet housing needs.

The city intends to accomplish this through a UGB swap by including new lands within the UGB (73.4 acres currently zoned Wallowa County rural residential) to be rezoned city of Joseph Urban-Growth Residential to replace approximately 69.9 acres of land currently in the UGB that comprise the Oregon State Park known as the Iwetemlaykin State Heritage Site, which will be removed from the UGB currently zoned UG-R, to be rezoned R-1.

The city's plan currently identifies the Iwetemlaykin State Heritage Site as zoned for residential use; however, the site is no longer available to meet the city's housing needs due to the site's establishment as a state park.

Public opposition put a stop to a planned "hospitality project" on a parcel adjacent to Iwetemlaykin in March when more than 70 people showed up at the events center on a requested change for a zoning request. Only two of the public comments were in favor of the project, the rest being opposed.