

TODAY

In 1854, Henry David Thoreau's "Walden," which described Thoreau's experiences while living near Walden Pond in Massachusetts, was first published.

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order nationalizing silver.

In 1936, Jesse Owens won his fourth gold medal at the Berlin Olympics as the United States took first place in the 400-meter relay.

In 1944, 258 African-American sailors based at Port Chicago, California, refused to load a munitions ship following a cargo vessel explosion that killed 320 men, many of them Black. (Fifty of the sailors were convicted of mutiny, fined and imprisoned.)

In 1945, three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, a U.S. B-29 Superfortress code-named Bockscar dropped a nuclear device ("Fat Man") over Nagasaki, killing an estimated 74,000 people.

In 1969, actor Sharon Tate and four other people were found brutally slain at Tate's Los Angeles home; cult leader Charles Manson and a group of his followers were later convicted of the crime.

In 1974, Vice President Gerald R. Ford became the nation's 38th chief executive as President Richard Nixon's resignation took effect.

In 1982, a federal judge in Washington ordered John W. Hinckley Jr., who'd been acquitted of shooting President Ronald Reagan and three others by reason of insanity, committed to a mental hospital.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan nominated Lauro Cavazos to be secretary of education; Cavazos became the first Hispanic to serve in the Cabinet.

In 1995, Jerry Garcia, lead singer of the Grateful Dead, died in Forest Knolls, California, of a heart attack at age 53.

In 2004, Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols, addressing a court for the first time, asked victims of the bombing for forgiveness as a judge sentenced him to 161 consecutive life sentences.

In 2014, Michael Brown Jr., a Black 18-year-old, was shot to death by a police officer following an altercation in Ferguson, Missouri; Brown's death led to sometimes-violent protests in Ferguson and other U.S. cities, spawning a national "Black Lives Matter" movement.

In 2016, at the Rio Games, Michael Phelps earned the 20th and 21st Olympic gold medals of his career as he won the 200-meter butterfly and anchored the United States to victory in the 4x200 freestyle relay. Katie Ledecky earned her second gold in Rio by winning the 200-meter freestyle. The U.S. women's gymnastics team won gold for a second consecutive Olympics.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Cousy is 94. Tennis Hall of Famer Rod Laver is 84. Comedian-director David Steinberg is 80. Actor Sam Elliott is 78. Singer Barbara Mason is 75. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player John Cappelletti is 70. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Doug Williams is 67. Actor Melanie Griffith is 65. Actor Amanda Bearse is 64. Hockey Hall of Famer Brett Hull is 58. TV host Hoda Kotb is 58. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Deion Sanders is 55. Actor Gillian Anderson is 54. Actor Eric Bana is 52. Actor Liz Vassey is 50. Actor Anna Kendrick is 37.

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

Friday, Aug. 5, 2022
Megamillions
 2-5-29-64-69
 Megaball: 18
 Megaplier: 3
 Jackpot: \$52 million
Lucky Lines
 1-5-9-16-20-24-26-30
 Jackpot: \$34,000
Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 0-0-3-2
 4 p.m.: 2-9-4-4
 7 p.m.: 4-3-5-4
 10 p.m.: 1-8-4-9
Saturday, Aug. 6, 2022
Powerball
 8-15-46-56-68
 Powerball: 3
 Power Play: 2
 Jackpot: \$26 million
Megabucks
 5-16-25-26-34-36
 Jackpot: \$4.4 million
Lucky Lines
 3-5-10-16-20-24-25-32
 Jackpot: \$35,000
Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 6-0-9-9
 4 p.m.: 0-8-6-8
 7 p.m.: 1-7-3-0
 10 p.m.: 2-1-9-4
Win for Life
 49-62-75-76
Sunday, Aug. 7, 2022
Lucky Lines
 2-6-10-14-17-21-26-30
 Estimated jackpot: \$36,000
Pick 4
 1 p.m.: 2-1-4-2
 4 p.m.: 8-3-4-0
 7 p.m.: 3-9-3-9
 10 p.m.: 0-2-8-6

Joseph sidewalk work to begin

Anticipated completion on the entire project is May 2023

Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — The long-awaited project to bring Joseph's sidewalks up to standards that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act begins the week of Aug. 8, according to a press release from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

A contractor, HP Civil Inc., will begin work on curb ramps along Joseph's Main Street between Fourth Street and College Street, and on OR 350/Wallowa Avenue. Main Street also is OR 82 and Wallowa Avenue is also OR 359.

There will be no work downtown along Main Street between Daggett Lane and Third Street before Labor Day, ODOT said.

Anticipated completion on the entire project is May. The contractor will work Monday through



Wallowa County Chieftain File Photo

Oregon Department of Transportation employee Grant Sharp adjusts his theodolite transit in Joseph on June 25, 2020. Sharp is part of an ODOT crew surveying and designing new sidewalk ramps for Wallowa, Lostine, Enterprise and Joseph. The new ramps are being constructed statewide to make all Oregon highways compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act. Work has been done in other cities in the county and is slated to begin the week of Aug. 8 in Joseph.

Friday. The work, while well-

come, has created concern among the busi-

ness community as some merchants were worried it would disrupt the tourist season. The Joseph Chamber of Commerce and city government worked with ODOT to ensure the work schedule would create as little disruption as possible.

After an informational meeting on the project by ODOT with local residents April 4, the city collected written concerns and addressed them at the next week's meeting.

Pro-Tem Administrator Brock Eckstein said April 11 that the new plan is for work to be done on sidewalks and ramps on the south end of town during the height of the tourist season. Then, about mid-September, ODOT would transition to working downtown.

ODOT also agreed to let the city do its own landscaping work.

ODOT said that during construction, travelers can expect to see minor delays, lane restrictions, sidewalk and crosswalk closures and pedestrian detours.

People are urged to watch for signs, flaggers and work crews.

County OK's funding for public land projects

By BILL BRADSHAW
 Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The Wallowa County Board of Commissioners approved \$588,675 worth of projects on public lands Wednesday, Aug. 3, with Title II money received through the federal Secure Rural Schools Act.

The act provides critical funding for schools, roads and other municipal services to more than 700 counties across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, funding that comes mostly from public lands.

Commission Chairwoman Susan Roberts explained the three parts of the act. She said that Title I is money that comes directly into the county,

75% of which goes to the road department and 25% of which goes to schools. Title II is money that goes to projects on public lands. Title III can be used for such things as the sheriff's office and work it does on the national forests.

"Years ago when this first came about, Title III was so hard to deal with, it was just onerous, and so Wallowa County chose at that time not to do Title III, so all of our money is split between Title I and II," Roberts said.

Each year, the county will have to decide on how to divide money up. That would be affected by a hearing later that morning on the road service district voters will be asked to form in November.

"If folks pass that, we will be able to separate that money. This way, the money goes to the education service district and the road district, not the county," Roberts said. "They won't do their formula anymore and our PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) money should increase for the next couple of years and then we'll see after that, because none of it is set in stone."

Katy Nesbitt, the county's director of natural resources and economic development, discussed the process with the commissioners.

"The county has traditionally run these projects, and we vet them and then give recommendations to the commissioners," she said. "This year, the Forest Service came out with the announcement at a different time of year and gave us too short a time period to get all the projects queued up for the tech committee, but the standing committee was able to look at all the projects on the Wallowa-Whitman (National Forest) except for two. It's noted on there that they're not ranked because they came in later than our standing committee meeting."

Nesbitt mentioned the vetting process that happens prior to it going to the commissioners.

"When something goes through the RAC — the RAC being the Regional Advisory Committee which Commissioner (Todd) Nash is a part of," Roberts interjected. "That Umatilla forest weed piece we have always done, so that is something to indicate to our members that we would like to see that move forward if it comes through the RAC."

Nesbitt said there should be a surplus on requests made for the Umatilla National Forest.

"On the Umatilla side, there's about \$85,000 to spend and we only have an application for about \$19,000," Nesbitt said.

Hopkins receives noteworthy Lions award

Honor among the most prestigious Lions awards given in the state

By DICK MASON
 The Observer

ELGIN — Gerald Hopkins, a member of the Elgin Lions Club, was absent from the annual Oregon Lions District Convention in Springfield earlier this year.

Absent, but far from forgotten.

One of the most prestigious honors awarded at the convention, the 2022 state Lions Leadership Award went to Hopkins, who missed the convention for the first time in many years.

Hopkins, who joined Lions International in 1973, was rocked when told later he had received

the leadership award.

"It was kind of a shock," said Hopkins, a retired educator.

Hopkins said there are many people in Oregon with Lions International at least as deserving of the honor as he is, which is given to just one person a year.

"There are many fabulous people in the state who are Lions members. It is a great honor," said Hopkins, who lives in Island City with his wife, Mary, who is also a Lions Club member.

Dan Cosner, a member of the Island City Lions Club, said Hopkins is richly deserving of the honor. He noted, for example, that Hopkins has helped lead the Elgin Lions Club to greater heights after joining it



Hopkins

about a decade ago.

"Since he joined the Elgin Lions Club it has exploded," he said.

The Elgin Lions Club has increased its support for community projects and the Lions Oregon Sight and Hearing Foundation since Hopkins joined. The foundation screens the sight and hearing of more than 200,000 children and adults a year. It also provides eyeglasses and hearing aids to those in need.

Kathy Oliver, of the Elgin Lions Club, accepted the award on Hopkins' behalf at the convention in Springfield. Oliver has long admired Hopkins for his dedication to Lions International and his compassion.

"He loves it because we are helping people and that is what he loves," she said.

Hopkins has been a part of the Lions organi-

Board retreat to Boardman a 'great opportunity'

Eastern Oregon University board of trustees visiting Morrow County

By ANDREW CUTLER
 The Observer

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University's board of trustees is holding its 2022 annual retreat in Boardman.

The meetings, which began Monday, Aug. 8, will include engagement with local and regional business leaders, local representatives and regional stakeholders to discuss the university's role in business, industry and education in the area.

The two-day Boardman session is part of a larger program by the board to conduct fact-finding tours across the region, said Tim Seydel, vice president for University Advancement at Eastern Oregon University.

"The board has been intentional about going out, not wanting to do a retreat (in La Grande). Let's go out into the region and meet with, you know, the parts of that we serve," he said.

Trustees will host a public reception from 5-6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, in the SAGE Center Gallery. The public is invited to attend the reception and share their EOU stories and hear comments from



East Oregonian, File

Flags flutter Jan. 11, 2022, at the entrance to the Port of Morrow Industrial Park, Boardman. Eastern Oregon University's board of trustees will tour the port as part of its annual retreat.

President Tom Insko and the board's chair, Richard Chaves.

"This is a great opportunity for community members, alumni and friends to meet with trustees and the president and hear about what we are doing, and for EOU to learn more about the needs of the area," Seydel said.

During the retreat, the board also plans to host panels on economic development and education and conduct regular business. A full agenda will be made available in early August.

Seydel said the board previously conducted retreats in places such as Ontario, Baker City, Enterprise and Pendleton along with remote sessions.

The outreach sessions

are important to the board, said Seydel.

"Most of our board is from the greater Eastern Oregon region so they all have a vested interest in the success of the university and what it does and how we serve the region," he said.

The retreats are also part of the university's heritage, Seydel said.

"This goes back to our founding, you know, that's why we were founded in 1929 is to serve this area, serve this region," he said.

Seydel said the retreats also highlight the amount of activity — both economic and educational — in the region.

"I think a lot of times (people) think it's just a large, you know, big vast area with more cows than

people. Like we tell people on the west side, there is a lot going on. And when they get out here, they're always amazed," he said.

The outreach sessions also provide board members with valuable knowledge regarding what area residents see as crucial priorities for the university.

"What better way to inform the trustees and the senior staff at the university than to go do it in person," Seydel said.

Seydel said, for example, the trustees plan on doing a tour of the Port of Morrow, and the board will also sponsor panels on various subjects during the outreach session.

"One on education, as you might guess, with people from the area. And like Blue Mountain Community College and the school districts around the area and the ESDs," he said.

Another panel will address economic development issues, including challenges with workforce priorities.

"Because that is where we hear the largest needs are particularly in that region," Seydel said.

The trustees enjoy the outreach sessions, Seydel said.

"They are 'Hey, who should we be talking to? What areas should we be making sure we cover?' And they're usually jumping right on board and are helping us out," he said.