

TODAY

In 1860, the nation's first successful silver mill began operation near Virginia City, Nevada.

In 1919, Germany's Weimar Constitution was signed by President Friedrich Ebert.

In 1934, the first federal prisoners arrived at Alcatraz Island (a former military prison) in San Francisco Bay.

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman nominated General Omar N. Bradley to become the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In 1952, Hussein bin Talal was proclaimed King of Jordan, beginning a reign lasting nearly 47 years.

In 1956, abstract painter Jackson Pollock, 44, died in an automobile accident on Long Island, New York.

In 1965, rioting and looting that claimed 34 lives broke out in the predominantly Black Watts section of Los Angeles.

In 1992, the Mall of America, the nation's largest shopping-entertainment center, opened in Bloomington, Minnesota.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton named Army Gen. John Shalikashvili to be the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, succeeding the retiring Gen. Colin Powell.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton made the first use of the historic line-item veto, rejecting three items in spending and tax bills. (However, the U.S. Supreme Court later struck down the veto as unconstitutional.)

In 2014, Academy Award-winning actor and comedian Robin Williams, 63, died in Tiburon, California, a suicide.

In 2016, the Obama administration said it had decided marijuana would remain on the list of most dangerous drugs, rebuffing growing support across the country for broad legalization, but said it would allow more research into its medical uses.

In 2020, Democrat Joe Biden named California Sen. Kamala Harris as his running mate; Harris was the first Black woman on a major party's presidential ticket. The newly elected district attorney in Portland, Oregon, said he would not prosecute people arrested on non-violent misdemeanor charges during protests.

Ten years ago: Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney announced his choice of Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin to be his running mate. Usain Bolt capped his perfect London Olympics by leading Jamaica to victory in a world-record 36.84 seconds in the 4x100 meters. Allyson Felix won her third gold medal as the Americans rolled to an easy victory in the women's 4x400 relay.

Five years ago: A federal judge ordered Charlottesville, Virginia, to allow a weekend rally of white nationalists and other extremists to take place at its originally-planned location downtown. (Violence erupted at the rally, and a woman was killed when a man plowed his car into a group of counterprotesters.)

One year ago: California's largest single wildfire in recorded history continued to grow after destroying more than 1,000 buildings, nearly half of them homes, in the northern Sierra Nevada.

Today's Birthdays: Songwriter-producer Kenny Gamble is 79. Rock musician Jim Kale (Guess Who) is 79. Magazine columnist Marilyn Vos Savant is 76. Country singer John Conlee is 76. Singer Eric Carmen is 73. Computer scientist and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak is 72. Wrestler-actor Hulk Hogan is 69. Singer Joe Jackson is 68. Actor Viola Davis is 57. Actor-host Joe Rogan is 55. R&B musician Chris Dave is 54. Actor Anna Gunn is 54. Actor Ashley Jensen is 54. Rock guitarist Charlie Sexton is 54. Hip-hop artist Ali Shaheed Muhammad is 52. Actor Nigel Harman is 49. Actor Will Friedle is 46. Rock singer Ben Gibbard is 46. Actor Rob Kerkovich is 43. Actor Merritt Wever is 42. Actor Chris Hemsworth is 39. Rock musician Heath Fogg (Alabama Shakes) is 38. Rapper Asher Roth is 37. Actor Alyson Stoner is 29.

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, Aug. 8, 2022
Megabucks
5-7-10-41-43-47
Estimated jackpot: \$4.5 million
Lucky Lines
2-6-9-15-18-24-27-29
Estimated jackpot: \$37,000
Win for Life
21-41-52-58
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 2-0-7-5
4 p.m.: 7-0-6-7
7 p.m.: 4-3-9-3
10 p.m.: 5-4-6-2

Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022
Mega Millions
1-8-10-25-32
Mega Ball: 13
Megaplier: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$65 million
Lucky Lines
4-7-9-13-20-21-28-29
Estimated jackpot: \$38,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 3-6-8-1
4 p.m.: 9-4-4-3
7 p.m.: 4-7-1-6
10 p.m.: 6-4-8-9

Some object to politics at CJD rodeo

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — Politically charged banter coming from the announcer's booth and the rodeo clown at the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo has stirred up objections from some in the audience, even to the point of decisions to not return to the rodeo.

David Olmos, of Portland, said rodeo announcer Jody Carper should keep his political views to himself.

"It's a rodeo, not a Trump rally, pardner," he wrote in a letter to the editor to the Wallowa County Chieftain.

Olmos said he wouldn't return "until you get back in the saddle of showing respect to all of your patrons."

Joseph resident Mike Mercer said Carper "needs to leav his continued cheap political shots out of the event."

He seems to be playing to a TV audience in order to improve ratings, rather than lifting up what makes the rodeo and this community special," Mercer wrote in a letter to the editor to the Wallowa County



A Tuckerette brings the American flag into the Harley Tucker Memorial Arena during the final night of the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo on Saturday, July 30, 2022. Some who attended objected to the political banter between rodeo announcer Jody Carper and clown/barrel man John Harrison. Wallowa County Chieftain

Chieftain. Another Joseph resident, Eric Pippert, addressed the issue in an open letter to the Chief Joseph Days board.

"This wasn't my first rodeo, but I promise you it is my last of your rodeo I'll attend," adding that he'd heard similar complaints about "Jingoistic, dog whistle political commentary, with a sprinkling of misogynistic and racial tropes by the announcer and rodeo 'clown.'"

Board President Terry Jones said he understood how some rodeo fans might object, but hopes to

eliminate concerns fans may have.

"I'll visit with our announcer," Jones said. "We'll deal with it. It's OK for some people to say political things and it's not OK for others."

Clown and barrel man John Harrison defended his statements.

"We are in the entertainment business. Just like not all movies, comedians, singers, music genres appeal to all people we may not appeal to all," he said. "The autograph lines, handshakes, comments of how much people enjoyed the show far outweigh the

negative, but that wouldn't make a sensational news story, would it?"

Carper, who bills himself as the "patriotic announcer," was unapologetic in his response to critics. He said he's been criticized in print twice in the 31 years he's been announcing, both times in the Chieftain.

Jones was a bit philosophical about the controversy and eager to see the event not be controversial.

"It goes on every time someone opens their mouth," Jones said. "I try my best to put on a good show for everybody."

West Nile virus detected in Union County

Positive test in county the first since 2020

The Observer

UNION — West Nile virus, which is spread by mosquitoes, has been detected in mosquitoes at a testing site in Union County, according to Oregon Public Health officials.

The mosquitoes, found just east of Imbler, are the first to test positive for the disease in the county in 2022. Union County was informed by the state at 6 p.m., Friday, Aug. 5 that the mosquitoes had tested positive for the West Nile virus, according to Union County Vector Control District Manager Chris Law. This is the first time since 2020 that West Nile virus has been found in Union County.

Health officials are advising people in Union County to take precautions against mosquitoes to avoid the risk of infection, including preventing

mosquito bites. West Nile virus is spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most infected people will show little or no signs of disease.

About one in five people who are infected develop a fever with other symptoms such as headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea or rash. Most people with febrile illness due to West Nile virus recover completely, but fatigue and weakness can last for weeks or months. It is important that you contact your health care provider if you experience any of these symptoms.

The incubation period is usually two to 14 days. Rarely, infected individuals may develop neuro-invasive disease (infection of the brain or spinal cord) that can be severe or may cause death. This is especially of concern to people 50 and older, people with immune-compromising conditions and people with diabetes or high blood pressure.

Communities and individuals living in or spending significant time outdoors, particularly near irrigated land, waterways, standing water, and used tires — including those working in agriculture, such as migrant and seasonal farm workers — may be at increased risk of mosquito bites and related diseases.

While risk of West Nile disease is low, a handful of people get it each year in Oregon. The virus also affects wildlife and domesticated and farm animals. People should consult their health care providers if they have these symptoms. Health care providers can contact the Union County Health Department for information on West Nile virus testing.

The number of mosquito pools — samples of 10-50 mosquitoes — that test positive in any area may indicate the risk of human exposure and infection, Law said. He recommends people and animals be protected against mosquito bites.

Forest Service restarts forest plan revisions

Baker City Herald

BAKER CITY — The U.S. Forest Service is reviving its oft-delayed effort to update the long-term management plans for the three national forests in the Blue Mountains.

The current plans for the Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla and Malheur national forests, which cover almost 5 million acres in Northeastern Oregon, date to the early 1990s.

Forest plans typically are updated every 10 to 15 years.

A draft version of the revised plans for the three forests was finished in 2014

after about 15 years of work.

But after hearing complaints from people who believe the proposed plans allow too much logging, livestock grazing and other uses, and from people who think the plans were overly restrictive, Forest Service officials decided to come up with new proposals.

The agency released a final environmental impact statement in 2018, but that, too, prompted widespread complaints.

The Forest Service withdrew the proposed updates on March 14, 2019.

That prompted the creation of the Blues Intergovernmental Council, which

includes representatives from counties, federal and Tribal agencies. Over the past two years the Forest Service has been working with the council to address some of the major concerns residents and groups have expressed about previous forest plan revision proposals.

The Forest Service announced on Friday, Aug. 5 that the agency is putting together a team of agency employees to write draft separate management plans for each of the three national forests.

"The Forest Service is eager to begin the official planning process and

hear input on Tribal, individual, and community values," according to a press release. "Public involvement will help the Forest Service gain local knowledge about existing forest conditions and understand concerns about community or resource impacts from proposed changes in the revised Forest Plans.

"Multiple uses provided by the national forests (including livestock grazing, timber harvest, forest recreation, tourism, and subsistence activities) are all important to economic and social life in the Blue Mountains area," the press release states.

NEWS BRIEFS

State seeks public's help to find missing Hermiston teen

HERMISTON — The Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare Division is asking for the public's help finding Davin Moore, 14, a child in foster care who went missing Friday, Aug. 5, from Hermiston.

"He is believed to be in danger," according to ODHS.

The announcement also asks the public to contact 911 or local law enforcement if someone believes they see him.

Davin is suspected to be in the Oregon cities of Pendleton, La Grande or Richland. He is 5-feet, 6 inches tall, weighs 229 pounds and has brown hair and brown eyes.

Sometimes when a child is missing they may be in significant danger and Oregon Department of Human Services may need to locate them to assess and support their safety. As ODHS works to do everything it can to find these missing chil-

dren and assess their safety, media alerts will be issued in some circumstances when it is determined necessary. Sometimes, in these situations, a child may go missing repeatedly, resulting in more than one media alert for the same child.

La Grande infant still missing, police say

LA GRANDE — The whereabouts of a 3-month-old boy from La Grande are still unknown after he was reported missing last week by the Oregon Department of Human Services.

Officials believe that the infant, Oakley Miller, went missing with his mother, McKinzie Simonis, on Wednesday, Aug. 3.

"Oakley, as of this morning, is still missing and we are still looking for him," said Jake Sunderland, press secretary of the Oregon Department of Human Services.

According to Union County Sheriff Cody Bowen, Oakley was

supposed to be turned over to Child Protective Services and law enforcement believe Simonis took off with the infant.

Bowen said that anytime CPS looks to take custody of a child they are doing so for the safety of that child.

"Now they don't know where the child is at, don't know where the mother is at, that just intensifies it," the sheriff said.

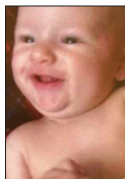
Due to federal child privacy laws, the Oregon Department of Human Services was unable to disclose any additional information outside of what was shared in the initial press release.

The sheriff's office is actively investigating and searching for Oakley. Officers are checking known locations, speaking with family members and following all leads.

Oakley has blonde hair and blue eyes. Anyone who has knowledge of Oakley's whereabouts or believes they have seen him are encouraged to contact the sheriff's office.



Moore



Oakley

Oregon drinking water systems fare well

By **TRACY LOEW**
Salem Statesman Journal

SALEM — Oregon has just finished testing 140 drinking water systems across the state for PFAS, or per- and poly-fluorinated substances.

The results: Only five small systems had detectable levels of PFAS, and none exceeded the state's health advisory level.

PFAS are referred to as "forever chemicals," meaning they don't break down in the environment or human body, and can accumulate over time.

Officials tested drinking water sources that were close to sites that either had PFAS use or PFAS contamination.

"We wanted to identify sources at highest risk and sample those," said Kari Salis, a manager in the Oregon Health Authority's Drinking Water Services program.

PFAS are a family of chemicals used since the 1940s for their heat-, moisture-, grease- and stain-resistant, as well as non-stick, qualities. They're found in everyday items like non-stick pans, waterproof outerwear, food packaging and fire-fighting foam.

Growing evidence points to health effects including increased cholesterol levels, changes in liver enzymes, small decreases in infant birth weights, decreased vaccine response in children, increased risk of high blood pressure or pre-eclampsia in pregnant women, and increased risk of kidney or testicular cancer.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's laboratory tested drinking water samples for 25 PFAS compounds, in partnership with OHA.

OHA has established drinking water health advisory levels for four PFAS compounds most commonly found in people. They are PFOS, PFOA, PFNA and PFHxS.

The advisory level is exceeded when the sum of the four compounds combined is over 30 parts per trillion.

Health advisory levels are not regulatory. Instead, they provide information on health risks so health officials can take steps to protect consumers.

Locally, the water systems that were tested included three well sites in Elgin, a well in the Sacajawea Mobile Home Park on Riddle Road in La Grande, and a well in the city of Joseph.

None of the tested sites in the two counties reported any results at the minimum reporting level.

Four sites remain to be tested, said Harry Esteve, communications manager for DEQ. Those systems only operate during summer, so couldn't be tested earlier.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has identified about 120,000 locations around the country, including nearly 600 in Oregon, where people may be exposed to PFAS.

In Oregon, as well as nationwide, the sites are associated with landfills and waste incinerators, airports, military installations and fire-training facilities.

Other Oregon industries on the list include manufacturing of cement, chemicals and cleaning products, electronics, furniture and carpets, glass products, metal machinery, paints, petroleum and plastics, as well as metal coating, printing and paper mills.

Although PFAS can be found in air and soil, the main route for exposure in Oregon is from potential drinking water contamination.