

## TODAY

In 1776, the Battle of Long Island began during the Revolutionary War as British troops attacked American forces who ended up being forced to retreat two days later.

In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa erupted with a series of cataclysmic explosions; the resulting tidal waves in Indonesia's Sunda Strait claimed some 36,000 lives in Java and Sumatra.

In 1894, Congress passed the Wilson-Gorman Tariff Act, which contained a provision for a graduated income tax that was later struck down by the Supreme Court.

In 1939, the first turbojet-powered aircraft, the Heinkel He 178, went on its first full-fledged test flight over Germany.

In 1949, a violent white mob prevented an outdoor concert headlined by Paul Robeson from taking place near Peekskill, New York. (The concert was held eight days later.)

In 1967, Brian Epstein, manager of the Beatles, was found dead in his London flat from an accidental overdose of sleeping pills; he was 32.

In 1979, British war hero Lord Louis Mountbatten and three other people, including his 14-year-old grandson Nicholas, were killed off the coast of Ireland in a boat explosion claimed by the Irish Republican Army.

In 1998, two suspects in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Kenya were brought to the United States to face charges. (Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-Owhali and Mohammed Sadiq Odeh were convicted in 2001 of conspiring to carry out the bombing; both were sentenced to life in prison.)

In 2001, Israeli helicopters fired a pair of rockets through office windows and killed senior PLO leader Mustafa Zibri.

In 2004, President George W. Bush signed executive orders designed to strengthen the CIA director's power over the nation's intelligence agencies and create a national counterterrorism center.

In 2005, coastal residents jammed freeways and gas stations as they rushed to get out of the way of Hurricane Katrina, which was headed toward New Orleans.

In 2008, Barack Obama was nominated for president by the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

In 2020, speaking on the White House South Lawn, President Donald Trump accepted his party's renomination, blasting Joe Biden as a hapless career politician who would endanger Americans' safety and painting a grim portrait of violence in American cities run by Democrats; Trump spoke for more than an hour to a tightly-packed and largely maskless crowd. Hurricane Laura roared ashore as a Category 4 storm near Cameron, Louisiana, bringing 150-mile-an-hour winds, torrential rains and a storm surge as high as 15 feet; the storm, one of the strongest ever to strike the U.S., would leave more than 20 people dead in Louisiana and Texas.

**Today's Birthdays:** Author Lady Antonia Fraser is 90. Actor Tommy Sands is 85. Actor Tuesday Weld is 79. Actor G.W. Bailey is 78. Actor Marianne Sagebrecht is 77. Actor Paul Reubens is 70. Rock musician Alex Lifeson (Rush) is 69. Rock musician Glen Matlock (The Sex Pistols) is 66. Writer-producer Dean Devlin is 60. Rock musician Mike Johnson is 57. Rap musician Bobo (Cypress Hill) is 55. U.S. Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines is 53. Country singer Colt Ford is 53. Actor Chandra Wilson is 53. Rock musician Tony Kanal (No Doubt) is 52. Rapper Mase is 47. Actor Sarah Chalke is 46. Actor RonReaco Lee is 46. Actor-singer Demetria McKinney is 44. Actor Aaron Paul is 43. Rock musician Jon Siebels (Eve 6) is 43. Actor Shaun Weiss is 43. Contemporary Christian musician Megan Garrett (Casting Crowns) is 42. Actor Amanda Fuller is 38. Singer Mario is 36. U.S. Olympic and WNBA basketball star Breanna Stewart is 28. Actor Savannah Paige Rae is 19.

## 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, Aug. 24, 2022

## Megabucks

3-4-8-23-29-39

Jackpot: \$5.2 million

## Lucky Lines

4-7-12-13-17-22-28-31

Estimated jackpot: \$22,000

## Powerball

6-24-35-37-44

Powerball: 22

Power Play: 4

Jackpot: \$115 million

## Win for Life

14-30-50-62

## Pick 4

1 p.m.: 4-6-0-3

4 p.m.: 8-7-9-6

7 p.m.: 5-3-2-8

10 p.m.: 3-6-8-6

## Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022

## Lucky Lines

2-7-11-16-20-21-26-31

Jackpot: \$23,000

## Pick 4

1 p.m.: 0-2-1-9

4 p.m.: 6-3-7-2

7 p.m.: 5-1-4-3

10 p.m.: 7-5-9-7

## Wallowa to receive \$2 million in aid

City to be on list for state emergency board relief funds

By BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — The city of Wallowa can expect to receive \$2 million in state emergency aid next month, when the board of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management meets, according to state Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena.

The aid would be to assist Wallowa residents in the wake of the Aug. 11 hailstorm that ravaged the town. The roofs of at least 400 buildings and scores of automobiles were damaged by the large hailstones, Mayor Gary Hulse said. A handful of injuries were reported, although none was considered serious.

Hansell said Wednesday, Aug. 24, that he learned the previous day \$2 million was to be added to the funds the board is expected to request when it meets Sept. 30.

He said it's too bad the money can't come through sooner, "but that's when the board meets."

Hansell is a member of the emergency board.

The senator said he immediately called Hulse to inform him.

Hulse confirmed Aug. 23 that he'd heard a \$2 million request was made, but had yet to hear if it was approved.

Hansell said the delay in approving the funds could prove troublesome.



Hansell



Hulse



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain, File

The damage to the paint and siding on the west side of the Wallowa Senior Center is typical of many buildings in town battered by a hailstorm that hit Wallowa on Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022.

## LOCAL RELIEF OFFERED TO STORM VICTIMS IN WALLOWA COUNTY

WALLOWA — Wallowa County is coming together, offering assistance to those affected by the devastating Aug. 11 hailstorm. A list of resources being offered is growing, coordinated by the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce. Anyone with something not included on the list below is asked to email information to [info@wallowacounty.org](mailto:info@wallowacounty.org) or call 541-426-4622.

So far, the list includes:

- The Lostine Presbyterian Church has created a relief fund where online donations may be made. The church's website is [www.lostinepc.org](http://www.lostinepc.org). It's phone number is 541-398-0547.
- A form to apply for \$500 in recovery aid is available at Wallowa City Hall/Fire Department or at the Wallowa Senior Center.
- Those who qualify for SNAP/TANFF benefits may visit Wallowa City Hall/Fire Department for replacement food resources.
- The Wallowa Food Bank at 211 E. First St. is open seven days a week right now and anyone in need of food may stop in, regardless of eligibility.
- The Wallowa ReSale Store is offering free replacement items to Wallowa residents. The store is open daily for now, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Plywood and tarps are available at Wallowa City Hall/Fire Department.
- A account has been set up for donations at Community Bank.
- Through Labor Day, Genuine Wallowa County Provisions is waiving its delivery fee to Wallowa customers within regular service area of five miles from Highway 82. Shopping at GWC Provisions supports Wallowa producers including Hawkins Sisters Ranch, Rocking M Cattle Co., Bear Creek Blossoms, Ralph Anderson and Carman Ranch.

— Wallowa County Chieftain

to the town.

"My understanding is they flew the city and documented the damage," Hansell said. "They'll know which roofs to repair first and help people recover."

Hulse said residents are concerned their roofs won't keep out the weather the next time it rains. A load of tarps were donated from Ellensburg, Washington, that Farm Supply, of Enterprise, brought in on a return trip. The mayor said residents have been coming to city hall to pick up tarps for their roofs and sheets of plywood for windows, in concern for any coming wet weather.

"We've had people taking tarps to cover their roofs," Hulse said. "I'm sure every roof in town has some damage to it."

Also on the calendar for Wallowa recovery is a Zoom meeting Monday, Aug. 29, between city officials and various stakeholders who could have access to resources, Hulse said. After that meeting, when more is known, a town hall-style meeting with Wallowa residents will be held to inform them of the situation.

The senator said he met with Hulse and Wallowa County Commissioners Todd Nash and Susan Roberts informally on Aug. 16 to discuss recovery efforts. At the time, Nash told him of a drone operation in Pendleton that could be asked to survey the damage

"It hasn't been appropriated yet," he said. "In the meantime, maybe assuming the money's going to be there, they can get the work done."

Hansell said the city has been encouraged to document the extent of the damage.

## Search and rescue helps man injured in fall from horse

By DICK MASON

The Observer

COVE — A 40-year-old man injured after falling from a horse in the Moss Springs area was flown by a Life Flight Network helicopter to Providence St. Mary Medical Center in Walla Walla, Washington, on Wednesday, Aug. 24, following a rescue led by Union County Search and Rescue.

The patient was riding on U.S. Forest Service Trail 1942, 4.8 miles southeast of the Moss Springs trailhead, when the accident occurred. The staff at the Union County Dispatch Center learned of the accident by being alerted by the Garmin International Emergency Response Coordination Center. The dispatch center received the message after the victim's companion rode his horse several miles up Forest Service Trail 1942 to get satellite reception to contact the coordination center.

A multi-agency team of 17 rescue personnel soon hiked to the site of the accident, reaching the patient late in the afternoon. Upon arrival, La Grande Fire Department paramedics initiated patient care while other team members prepared a wheeled litter for transport. The patient was determined to be in stable condition, but in



Nick Vora/Contributed Photo

First responders on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2022, move a patient on a wheeled litter half a mile to a site in the Moss Springs area where a Life Flight helicopter waits.

a high degree of pain and with injuries requiring evacuation via a litter, according to Union County Emergency Manager Nick Vora.

The emergency manager said the patient's injuries were non-life threatening but added he had injuries to his left leg that are potentially serious.

Not long after the arrival of the rescue party, a Life Flight Network helicopter pilot flying over the area was able to find a location to land less than a half mile away. The patient was transported to the landing zone, loaded onto the helicopter and flown out at about 8:21 p.m. The Life Flight

helicopter had to leave one crew member and equipment at the site due to take-off weight limitations. All rescue personnel hiked out with equipment that evening, arriving at the Moss Springs Trailhead, 9 miles southeast of Cove, at about 10:30 p.m.

A total of 28 people from six agencies and organizations responded to the incident either in field response or support roles. Personnel from Union County Dispatch Center, the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center, Grande Ronde Hospital and Oregon Emergency Management provided remote assistance and support.

## NEWS BRIEFS

cases and 87 deaths.

The health authority's COVID-19 Biweekly Congregate Care Setting Outbreak Report shows 201 active outbreaks in care facilities, senior living communities and congregate care living settings with three or more confirmed COVID-19 cases or one or more COVID-19-related deaths.

La Grande Post Acute Rehab is still on the active outbreaks list with 21 total cases since the outbreak was reported on July 27. There have not been any deaths due to COVID-19 at the facility since the outbreak was reported.

## Three large wildfires in Wallowa County contained only hours after igniting

WALLOWA COUNTY — Lightning ignited three large wildfires in Wallowa County late in the afternoon of Wednesday, Aug. 24, all of which are now contained, according to the

Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center, La Grande.

The largest is the 82-acre Swamp Creek Fire in the Baker Canyon area, 4 miles northeast of Enterprise, which was reported at 5:07 p.m. and contained at 7:57 p.m. on Aug. 24.

The second fire contained was the 65-acre Getting Road Fire, 2 miles northeast of Enterprise, reported at 4:58 p.m. and contained at 6:29 p.m. on Aug. 24.

A third large blaze ignited on Aug. 24 in Wallowa County, the TNC Fire, was 18 miles northeast of Enterprise in the Zumwalt area. The fire was reported at 5:24 p.m. and contained at 8:50 p.m. the same day.

Nobody has been hurt in any of the fires and no structures have been damaged. All three fires are burning grass and are being fought by crews from the Oregon Department of Forestry and the federal government.

— The Observer

## Man arrested for sex crimes in Wallowa County

By ISABELLA CROWLEY

The Observer

WALLOWA — Enterprise Police arrested a Northeastern Oregon man Sunday, Aug. 21, in connection with sex crimes in Wallowa County, according to court records.

John Fine, 54, was arrested after he attempted to escape from an Enterprise police officer. Fine has been charged with six counts of felony sexual abuse, six counts of misdemeanor sexual abuse, third-degree attempted sexual abuse and misdemeanor escape.

Bail has been set at \$30,000 by Union and Wallowa County Circuit Court Judge Thomas Powers. Fine is scheduled to appear in court for a preliminary probable cause hearing Aug. 29 and is represented by La Grande attorney James Schaeffer.

The Wallowa woman who reported the sex abuse is unnamed in the police report for her privacy and protection. According to the report, the woman is cognitively impaired.

In an interview with police, she said Fine came to her home on Aug. 19 for a guitar lesson. But Fine ended up asking her if she wanted to have children, and she said no.

She said Fine then disrobed her and had nonconsensual sex with her.

The woman told police she was scared of what he was doing to her and scared to tell him to stop. Fine proceeded to pick her up and carry her into the bedroom, where he restarted the sexual contact.

Police arranged a medical evaluation for the woman as part of the investigation. The physician reported she found evidence of recent sexual activity and the evidence indicated the sexual contact was not consensual.

On Aug. 21, Enterprise Police officer Jacob Curtis went to arrest Fine at a house in Enterprise. One occupant told Curtis that Fine was inside the house, then another occupant alerted him that Fine ran out the back. Curtis ran around the house, where he saw Fine fleeing through a yard. The officer yelled at Fine to stop and that he was under arrest, but Fine kept running. Curtis ran after him and eventually found Fine hiding beside a bush a few houses down the street. Fine was arrested and lodged in the Umatilla County Jail.

According to court records, Fine has a long criminal history and was convicted of third-degree rape in 1992. Under Oregon law, this means he had sexual intercourse with another person who is under the age of 16. Fine was 23 at the time. He was sentenced to 14 months in jail and three years probation.

On multiple occasions he has failed to register as a sex offender, which led to more than a year's worth of additional jail time. His most recent citation was issued in July 2022, and he was scheduled to appear in Wallowa County Circuit Court on Aug. 17 — just days before the alleged incident in Wallowa.

File has been convicted on a number of other charges, including second-degree criminal trespass, second-degree assault and multiple counts of fourth-degree assault.

Fine previously lived in Joseph, but a recent citation was sent out for him in La Grande.