

OUT OF THE VAULT

1979 total eclipse wows Eastern Oregon

A large portion of the United States is gearing up for a total solar eclipse that will be visible from coast to coast on August 21, 2017. Beginning at 8:46 a.m. at Yaquina Head Lighthouse near Newport on the Oregon Coast, the eclipse will darken a more than 60-mile-wide swath of the state before moving on across the continent. Most of Central Oregon is in the path of totality, and it is estimated that 5 million people will travel to Oregon for its cloud-free viewing opportunities. And it will be the last time in our lifetime that Oregonians will be able to watch a total solar eclipse from home — the next one to cross the state won't happen until June 2169.

The first known documentation of a total solar eclipse was made in China in 2137 B.C. The story goes that Chinese astronomers, named Hi and Ho, were tasked with bringing back the light by banging drums and shooting arrows at the giant serpent they thought was swallowing the sun. However, they lost their focus during an unfortunate bout of heavy drinking, and lost their heads to the royal executioner as a result.

The last time Eastern Oregon was in the path of a total solar eclipse was Feb. 26, 1979. The eclipse

began around 7:15 a.m., just as schoolchildren would have been on their way to school, and school districts around the area either delayed opening or opened early so kids would have supervision during the celestial event. Many districts geared the day's lessons around the eclipse, making homemade viewers to safely view the sun as it was gradually covered by the moon's shadow. The 1979 event was an annular eclipse, meaning the moon was a little further away and therefore did not completely obscure the sun's corona, even at totality.

Local pilots loaded friends and family into their planes and took off from regional airports, seeking a vantage point above clouds that threatened to block the view. Hermiston residents cheered when a break in the cloud cover appeared just as totality was imminent. Other residents traveled to the nearest public observatory, in Goldendale, Wash., where more than a thousand people viewed the eclipse from atop a butte above the Columbia River. In Portland, people had to be satisfied with photos taken by others; their view was blocked by overcast skies.

Before 1979, the last total solar eclipse seen in Eastern Oregon occurred

on June 8, 1918. And though Pendleton received 99.5 percent totality, many residents traveled south to Pilot Rock and east to Baker City to see the eclipse in its full glory. The naval observatory at Baker City photographed the eclipse using a 65-foot camera, the largest in the area.

Haven't been able to score a set of eclipse glasses? You can make a homemade viewer with two pieces of cardboard, a piece of aluminum foil and tape. Cut a one-inch-square hole in the center of one sheet of cardboard and tape a piece of foil over the hole. Poke a tiny hole through the center of the foil with a sewing needle. To use the viewer, turn your back to the sun and place the cardboard viewer over your shoulder. Use the other piece of cardboard as a screen, moving it closer and farther away to make the image of the eclipsing sun larger or smaller.

Looking directly at the sun during a total solar eclipse, even for a short time, can permanently damage your eyesight, as 121 people discovered during an eclipse in 1970.

Renee Struthers is the Community Records Editor for the East Oregonian. See the complete collection of Out of the Vault columns at eovault.blogspot.com

DEAR ABBY

Plans for happy future are upset by return of old rival

Dear Abby: I had a baby girl with my longtime best friend, "Adam." "April" is now 3 weeks old. I thought everything would be OK as co-parents because, even though we're not together, we get along and almost never fight.



JEANNE PHILLIPS
Advice

Six weeks before April was born, Adam began seeing a girl we both knew from high school. The girl, "Jenny," and I have a horrible past. She used to bully me.

My problem with Jenny being around is she's disrespectful. She and Adam argue all the time because she forces things that shouldn't be a problem into becoming a problem. When I visit so Adam can see April, Jenny often interjects her own opinions about my baby as if she knows better than I do.

I recently found out that Adam is planning to marry Jenny. We have been fighting because I don't want her around my daughter. Adam believes it's not fair to push her out of the room when April is around, and that Jenny should be a part of family events reserved for only

parents and the child, like taking formal pictures and such.

Am I irrational or crazy? I care about Adam because of our long history of friendship. I did a lot to help him get off drugs and keep his life together, and now here she is messing it up. I told him if he's happy with her, then fine, but I don't want Jenny around my baby. We cannot seem to come to an agreement unless I fold. — **Co-Parenting**

On The East Coast

Dear Co-Parenting: You are neither irrational nor crazy. I'm sorry your relationship with Adam didn't work out as you had hoped it would. However, if Adam marries Jenny, she will be April's stepmother. It would be unrealistic for you to expect she leave the room when you bring the baby to visit her daddy. In that case, it might be better if you accept the things you cannot change.

Dear Abby: My fiancé "Allan's" great-grandfather recently passed away. We lived with him, as did Allan's mother and uncle. Allan was his full-

time caregiver.

My fiancé's mother is thinking about buying the house and says we should all pay rent to her. I have lived here for six years and I'm comfortable here. The one thing I'm wary about is, if it becomes her house, that she'll start treating us like children.

Allan and I are in our late 20s. I'm not comfortable walking on eggshells, and I'm afraid she will make it clear that we are living in HER house. In my opinion, if people are paying rent, it should feel like their home, too.

Am I being a brat? And once it becomes her house, should I just lay all my worries on the line to her? — **Not A Child In The West**

Dear Not A Child: You are not being a brat. You are an adult, and an intelligent one. By all means lay all your concerns on the table — the sooner the better. That way, Allan's mother can either ally them, or you and your fiancé can make plans to find another place to live. If his mother needs the income that would come from having renters, she may be less inclined to behave as you fear.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Aug. 12-13, 1917

Col. J.H. Raley, who spent the day at Meacham in huckleberry patches, came across Tom Gurdane, former chief of police who is now foreman for Smythe Bros. out from Meacham. Gurdane told him of the killing of three bear and of a rattlesnake over four feet long all in one week. The three bear were in one bunch and were bagged at the same time. All were full grown and the largest was walking on his hind legs carrying off a live sheep from the Smythe flocks. The biggest bruin weighted over 400 pounds and had tusks like a lion. One of these tusks was brought back by Col. Raley.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Aug. 12-13, 1967

Young at heart, F.S. Beddow of Pendleton, who will be 92 Sunday, took time from his gardening this week to mount his favorite horse. Beddow came to Umatilla County in 1904. Until 1912 he drilled wells. Then he homesteaded near Hermiston. In 1926 he moved to a 3,600-acre wheat ranch in the Cold Springs area. He retired in 1945 and moved to Pendleton. Beddow has been a member of the Odd Fellows since 1907.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Aug. 12-13, 1992

Buddhist custom blended with Chris-

tian icon at the Pilot Rock community center Wednesday when a Japanese family presented a memorial statue to the Pilot Rock Presbyterian Church. The stone figure, a traditional Buddhist Jizo, is a gift from Katsumi and Kiiko Kusano of Shiki City, Japan, whose 17-year-old daughter Yayoi was killed in a car accident near Pilot Rock in 1990. The Kusanos also presented Pilot Rock High School with a donation. Yayoi went to school there while she was an exchange student living with Charlotte and Gene Cecil of Pilot Rock. School Superintendent Darce Driskel said he hoped to use the undisclosed amount of money to enhance his students' understanding of Japanese culture.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 224th day of 2017. There are 141 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 12, 1867, President Andrew Johnson sparked a move to impeach him as he defied Congress by suspending Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton, with whom he had clashed over Reconstruction policies. (Johnson was acquitted by the Senate.)

On this date:

In 1898, fighting in the Spanish-American War came to an end.

In 1915, the novel "Of Human Bondage," by William Somerset Maugham, was first published in the United States, a day before it was released in England.

In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt nominated Hugo Black to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1944, during World War II, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., eldest son of Joseph and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot when their explosives-laden Navy plane blew up over England.

In 1953, the Soviet Union conducted a secret test of its first hydrogen bomb.

In 1960, the first balloon communications satellite — the Echo 1 — was launched by the United States from

Cape Canaveral.

In 1977, the space shuttle Enterprise passed its first solo flight test by taking off atop a Boeing 747, separating, then touching down in California's Mojave Desert.

In 1981, IBM introduced its first personal computer, the model 5150, at a press conference in New York.

In 1985, the world's worst single-aircraft disaster occurred as a crippled Japan Airlines Boeing 747 on a domestic flight crashed into a mountain, killing 520 people. (Four people survived.)

In 1992, after 14 months of negotiations, the United States, Mexico and Canada announced in Washington

that they had concluded the North American Free Trade Agreement. Avant-garde composer John Cage died in New York at age 79.

In 1994, Woodstock '94 opened in Saugerties, New York.

Today's Birthdays: Actor George Hamilton is 78. Actress Dana Ivey is 76. Actress Jennifer Warren is 76. Rock singer-musician Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) is 68. Actor Jim Beaver is

67. Singer Kid Creole is 67. Jazz musician Pat Metheny is 63. Actor Sam J. Jones is 63. Actor Bruce Greenwood is 61. Country singer Danny Shirley is 61. Pop musician Roy Hay (Culture Club) is 56. Rapper Sir Mix-A-Lot is 54. Actor-comedian Michael Ian Black is 46. Actress Yvette Nicole Brown is 46. Actor Casey Affleck is 42.

Thought for Today: "Wisdom is born, stupidity is learned." — *Russian proverb.*

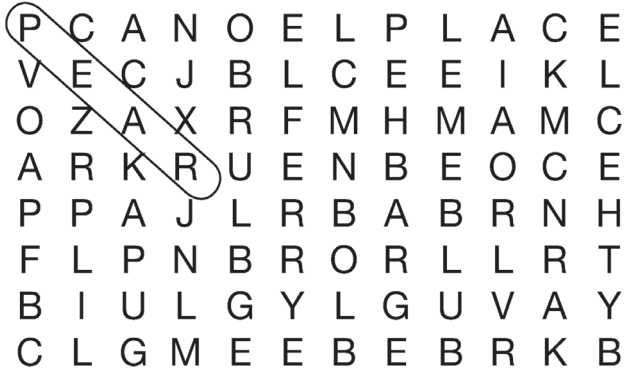
WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Nine fruits
- Four words starting and ending in B
- Three five-letter boats
- Spot; location
- Three-letter rodent

PLUM PEAR FIG / BLURB BLOB BLUB BLAB / CANOE FERRY BARGE /
Answers to Saturday's puzzle: CHERRY ORANGE APPLE LEMON PEACH LIME
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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 Eugene O'Neill, for one (10)	_____
2 Conan O'Brien, by trade (8)	_____
3 Ronnie O'Sullivan's game (7)	_____
4 Sandra Day O'Connor, once (7)	_____
5 Georgia O'Keeffe, notably (6)	_____
6 Chris O'Donnell's TV agency (4)	_____
7 Peter O'Toole title role (8)	_____

GHT	LA	COM	YW	AN
JU	SN	RI	ST	IS
OOK	NC	EDI	ICE	ER
WRE	IST	NCE	PLA	ART

Today's Answers: 1. PLAYWRIGHT 2. COMEDIAN 3. SNOOKER 4. JUSTICE 5. ARTIST 6. NCIS 7. LAWRENCE

ODDS & ENDS

Home intruder cleans apartment, takes nothing

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — A Virginia man returned home from a trip and found that his apartment had been broken into — and cleaned. Arlington County

Police say in a crime report that shortly after 12 a.m. Monday, a man returned to his Arlington apartment after a trip. He called police when he noticed that his apartment appeared to have been cleaned and some items had been moved around. Nothing was missing.

WRC-TV reports the man told police he doesn't employ a maid. Police say the mystery cleaner unlawfully entered the apartment.

Accused burglar doesn't flush, leaves DNA for police

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — Investigators say a suspect accused of burglarizing a Southern California home took a bathroom break and left DNA evidence in the toilet that led to his arrest.

Detective Tim Lohman of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office says the suspect did not flush during the October break-in in the city of Thousand Oaks.

He says that allowed investigators to collect evidence to conduct a DNA profile.

That profile matched another DNA profile in a national database and detectives tracked down the suspect at his home.

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