

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 26, the 269th day of 2018. There are 96 days left in the year.



TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Sept. 26, 1960, the first-ever debate between presidential nominees took place as Democrat John F. Kennedy and Republican Richard M. Nixon faced off before a national TV audience from Chicago.

ON THIS DATE

In 1777, British troops occupied Philadelphia during the American Revolution.

In 1789, Thomas Jefferson was confirmed by the Senate to be the first United States secretary of state; John Jay, the first chief justice; Edmund Randolph, the first attorney general.

In 1892, John Philip Sousa and his newly formed band performed publicly for the first time at the Stillman Music Hall in Plainfield, New Jersey.

In 1955, following word that President Eisenhower had suffered a heart attack, the New York Stock Exchange saw its worst price decline since 1929.

In 1957, the musical play "West Side Story" opened on Broadway.

In 1962, Maury Wills of the Los Angeles Dodgers stole his 100th base during a 13-1 victory over the Houston Colt .45s. "The Beverly Hillbillies" premiered on CBS.

In 1977, Sir Freddie Laker began his cut-rate "Skytrain" service from London to New York. (The carrier went out of business in 1982.)

In 1986, William H. Rehnquist was sworn in as the 16th chief justice of the United States, while Antonin Scalia joined the Supreme Court as its 103rd member.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$7.5 million
14-15-22-29-32-37

Mega Millions: \$336 million
8-16-32-48-61-12-x2

Powerball: \$193 million
24-61-63-64-69-PB 18-x5

Win for Life: Sept. 24
54-56-64-71

Pick 4:

- Sept. 25
- 1 p.m.: 1-1-5-7
- 4 p.m.: 9-5-9-3
- 7 p.m.: 0-1-8-9
- 10 p.m.: 1-9-0-1
- Sept. 26
- 1 p.m.: 9-0-3-2
- 4 p.m.: 5-8-9-5
- 7 p.m.: 8-9-1-1
- 10 p.m.: 2-5-1-3

ROAD REPORT

Numbers to call:
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A child educated only at school is an uneducated child."

— George Santayana,
American philosopher
(born 1863, died this date
in 1952).

Urban Renewal Agency discusses Buxton contract

By Cherise Kaechele
The Observer

The Urban Renewal Agency listened to a proposal to continue partnership with the Buxton project, which gives the city at least 20 legitimate business leads every year for \$50,000 per year.

On Monday night, Cheyenne Robinson, a Buxton account executive, told the URA the city's business shortcomings are in clothing stores, gardening, gift or souvenir stores, food service, furniture and drinking establishments.

Buxton, a customer analytics company based in Fort Worth, Texas, is under a three-year contract with the URA to provide information on businesses that would be a good fit for La Grande. The city is entering its third year of the contract in 2019.

PetSense, which will be opening in a couple of weeks, is one of the 40 businesses that Buxton identified as potential recruits to the area, said Christine Jarski, City of La Grande economic development director.

Jarski said one business opening from a list of 40 doesn't sound like a lot, but recruiting and the process of opening a new business takes time — years, sometimes.

"(The PetSense project) was a 17-month process," she said. "It's very exciting."

Jarski said another business that was on Buxton's list decided to go to Island City due to the sites available. However, she noted the new business' presence will also have a positive impact on the La Grande community.

Because of confidentiality agreements, Jarski said she could not specify any of the other businesses on the list nor elaborate on the business coming to Island City, but she said it's a "well-known chain business that will attract people from the Interstate."

It's been an extra challenge to get people to purchase franchises, Jarski said. There are franchise businesses that seem interested in coming to the area, but the franchise companies don't have anyone willing to take that on as a business.

Regarding continuing the partnership with Buxton, URA member Nicole Howard said it's very difficult to support investing more of the city's money into something the agency is not allowed to know more about.

Howard said spending thousands of dollars per name is a hefty price to pay. She isn't sure the businesses on the list are worth \$50,000.

City Manager Robert Strope said he understands her concern, but there are other reasons the information provided by Buxton is beneficial. The list provides valuable information about consumers in La Grande that will help already established businesses refine what they're offering.

Jarski and Strope said they actually requested postponing the next list of 20 businesses that Buxton is scheduled to submit in 2019 and instead wait another year due to the lack of available space for what would then be 60 potential businesses.

Strope said they have a plan to help with space issues, but could not be more specific about the details.

Jarski said the URA is under contract to pay Buxton \$25,000 for its services in 2019 and the other \$25,000 in 2020 when they would get the next, and last, list of 20 businesses.

The agency will make a decision about continuing its contract with Buxton in a future agency meeting.

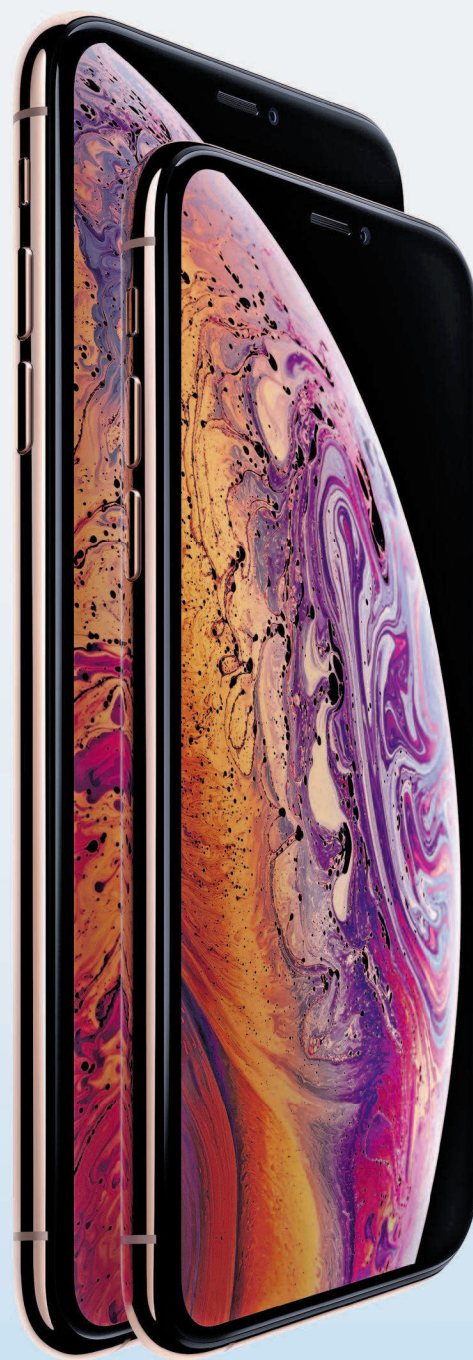
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