

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Friday, Aug. 2, the 214th day of 2019. There are 151 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Aug. 2, 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait, seizing control of the oil-rich emirate. (The Iraqis were later driven out in Operation Desert Storm.)

ON THIS DATE

In 1610, during his fourth voyage to the Western Hemisphere, English explorer Henry Hudson sailed into what is now known as Hudson Bay.

In 1776, members of the Second Continental Congress began attaching their signatures to the Declaration of Independence.

In 1876, frontiersman "Wild Bill" Hickok was shot and killed while playing poker at a saloon in Deadwood, Dakota Territory, by Jack McCall, who was later hanged.

In 1921, a jury in Chicago acquitted several former members of the Chicago White Sox baseball team and two others of conspiring to defraud the public in the notorious "Black Sox" scandal. Opera singer Enrico Caruso, 48, died in Naples, Italy.

In 1922, Alexander Graham Bell, generally regarded as the inventor of the telephone, died in Nova Scotia, Canada, at age 75.

In 1923, the 29th president of the United States, Warren G. Harding, died in San Francisco; Vice President Calvin Coolidge became president.

In 1934, German President Paul von Hindenburg died, paving the way for Adolf Hitler's complete takeover.

In 1939, Albert Einstein signed a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt urging creation of an atomic weapons research program. President Roosevelt signed the Hatch Act, which prohibited civil service employees from taking an active part in political campaigns.

In 1974, former White House counsel John W. Dean III was sentenced to one to four years in prison for obstruction of justice in the Watergate cover-up. (Dean ended up serving four months.)

In 1980, 85 people were killed when a bomb exploded at the train station in Bologna, Italy.

In 1985, 137 people were killed when Delta Air Lines Flight 191, a Lockheed L-1011 Tristar, crashed while attempting to land at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

In 2000, Republicans awarded Texas Gov. George W. Bush their 2000 presidential nomination at the party's convention in Philadelphia and ratified Dick Cheney as his running mate.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$1.6 million
8-14-22-31-37-45

Mega Millions: \$50 million
10-24-29-33-38-6-x3

Powerball: \$102 million
14-37-47-55-67-6-x2

Win for Life: July 31
21-26-41-43

Pick 4: Aug. 1
• 1 p.m.: 7-7-0-4
• 4 p.m.: 9-9-6-7
• 7 p.m.: 3-3-0-7
• 10 p.m.: 1-6-3-9
Pick 4: July 31
• 1 p.m.: 0-0-9-5
• 4 p.m.: 5-0-0-9
• 7 p.m.: 7-7-8-1
• 10 p.m.: 9-3-0-9

ROAD REPORT

Numbers to call:
• Inside Oregon: 800-977-6368.
• Outside Oregon: 503-588-2941.

NEWSPAPER LATE?

Every effort is made to deliver your Observer in a timely manner. Occasionally conditions exist that make delivery more difficult. **If you are not on a motor route,** delivery should be before 5:30 p.m. If you do not receive your paper please call 541-963-3161.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A beautiful soul has no other merit than its own existence."
— Friedrich von Schiller,
German author (1759-1805)

STAMPEDE

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get cowboys who have PRCA cards, and that money counts toward their qualifications to go to national finals in Las Vegas," board member Kyle Evans said.

The Xtreme Bull Riding event is sanctioned by the PRCA and draws in "circuit cowboys," a higher caliber of bull riders who want to win that larger PRCA winner's purse. Stepping up the rodeo like this also means better bulls, which the Stampede gets through Flying 5 Rodeo Company. What this all translates to is more rodeo action, higher attendance and greater revenue to invest into next year's rodeo.

Stampede's president Ty Hallgarth, who worked in the arena this year, said the Xtreme Bull Riding attracted 19 contestants for the first year.

The idea to upgrade to Xtreme Bull Riding is something the board has been considering for a few years. After revisiting the idea again this year, they decided to give it a go. It was a big financial decision, because it costs the Stampede more to put on the Xtreme Bull Riding event.

"But when we see something that is popular, we want to be the first (around) to try it," Evans said. "And we plan to do it again next year."

Because of transitioning to the Xtreme Bull Riding event, the Stam-

peders needed to rebuild and improve their out gate, where bulls or horses are exited from the arena as quickly as possible and stripped of their saddles and any rigging, so the next bull and rider can enter the arena.

Hallgarth was very pleased with how the new out gate worked for them.

"It was really a good year," he said. "The new out gate ran smoother than ever before, shaving off about 20 minutes from our show. We were all tickled about how well things went getting bulls in and out more quickly."

In addition to these big changes, the Stampede had another one in mind to introduce this year: a tribute to first responders.

"We invited the sheriff's office, fire, ambulance and search and rescue from Elgin, Imbler and La Grande communities," Stampeder Lara Moore said. "This was the first year, and we were unsure what to expect, but wow, we were pleasantly surprised."

During Friday night's grand entry, there were more than 30 first responders attending the tribute. They entered the arena, and the crowd was immediately on their feet, cheering and clapping for nearly four straight minutes.

"It was a wonderful tribute," Moore said. "I think you can expect us to continue to incorporate that into our show in the future."

The royalty court sold a lot of tickets this year, and the Stampede have

decided to send Queen Maggie Zacharias of Joseph and Princess Tymra Anderson of Elgin to the national rodeo in Las Vegas in December.

As the Stampede look back on their growth over the past 73 years, they can see how far they have come by making progressive changes. The Elgin Stampede started in 1946 at the Moore Field in Elgin as a two-day "riding festival." That celebration was sponsored by the Elgin Chamber of Commerce, and it featured the Stampede Riders Club, as they were then known.

The rodeo in 1947 was sponsored by the Stampede committee chaired by Tom Burton. This time, they introduced a carnival for kids that remained a feature of the celebration until about 1952. The rodeo action was furnished by Harley Tucker's livestock.

Rodeos were held at the Moore Field from 1946 to 1949. In 1950, the club began developing their own rodeo grounds on land that Stampeder Dick Hibberd purchased outright. It was located just east of Moore Field, where it is today. Volunteers worked to level the land, and then some of them moved two sections of grandstands from Moore Field across the highway and set them up on the new rodeo grounds, according to a July 17, 1950, article in the La Grande Observer.

That same year, they hosted a small rodeo and amateur show with a promise of a larger rodeo to come the

following year.

In March 1951, the Stampede instituted a new change, the annual crab feed fundraiser, and that summer they put on a large rodeo as promised. In 1952 the Elgin Stampede, which was held on Saturday and Sunday, was advertised as "Two big parades and a carnival on the Stampede Grounds. It's a rip-roaring 2-day professional show!"

Dances have always been part of the Elgin Stampede. In 1952, they were able to have the first dance in their brand-new Stampede Hall. The hall had no walls yet, but it had studs up and the subflooring was nearly finished. One Stampeder, Linda Moore, recalled that as the music and dance started, volunteer workers Pete Trump and Larry Follett were still pounding nails into the subfloor of the hall.

The 67-year-old hall is currently used by about 30 organizations annually, but it's in dire need of replacement.

"The new facility would better meet the significant needs of our local organizations and community members, and would provide a resource that does not currently exist in size or scale in any of the many adjacent counties in Northeast Oregon," Moore said.

As the Stampede move forward with their progressive improvements, they will continue to perpetuate the Western values they represent.

CORNFORD

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Cornford said.

The Cornfords moved to Union County in 1973 from Burbank, California. They came here after Bob Cornford discovered it during a

fishing trip.

"He told me (after returning to Burbank) that we had to move here," Bobby Cornford said.

Upon arriving in 1973, Cornford quickly embraced the region's beauty and open spaces. She said that except

for good friends she left behind, she much prefers life here as opposed to the crowded and hectic urban lifestyle in Burbank.

The couple raised three sons and a daughter. Today two sons, Emmitt and Devin, and daughter, Sherry,

live in Union County. Emmitt is the interim chief of the La Grande Fire Department, and Devin is a LGFD firefighter. Sherry works for the Oregon State University Extension Service. Their third son, Walter, is retired and lives in Idaho.

All four were involved in 4-H while growing up. Today their mother remains a role model for adult involvement in the youth program.

"I can't think of a better representative of 4-H than Bobby Cornford," Ritter said.

PENALTY

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killings of police or corrections officers.

The law is not retroactive and will not affect the sentencing of the 30 people currently on death row.

The death penalty remains legal in 29 states, but only a handful regularly conduct executions. Brown extended a 2011 moratorium on the death penalty, and the last execution took place in 1997.

Nationwide, 1,500 people have been executed since 1976.

Supporters of the change say capital punishment doesn't guarantee justice. Nationally, 166 former death row inmates were found innocent of all crimes and exonerated, according to the Death Penalty Information Center. The majority of those found innocent were black.

"Our system of sentencing people to death is unequal and unfair," then-House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson said last month. "It disproportionately applies to poor people and people of color. There are innocent people on death row in

this country."

Capital punishment can also be costly. The average death penalty case can take up to 15 years to reach its conclusion and costs the state \$1.4 million, as compared to an average cost of \$335,000 for a non-death penalty murder case.

"Regardless of how you feel about the death penalty, our system is broken," Williamson said.

The U.S. Justice Department announced last month that it would ramp up its use of capital punishment when Attorney General William Barr

instructed the Bureau of Prisons to schedule executions starting in December for five men convicted of killing children.

President Donald Trump has long been a proponent of the death penalty, believing that executions serve as both an effective deterrent and appropriate punishment for some crimes, including mass shootings and the killings of police officers. He said last year that the death penalty should come "into vogue" in response to a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue last year that left 11 dead.

AUDIT

Continued from Page 1A
officials look forward to working with the secretary of state's staff and putting the agreed-upon recommendations in place.

The audit found state agencies do more discretionary spending toward the end of the two-year budget cycle. Agencies lose unspent dollars when the new budget cycle starts.

Some agency budget directors told auditors they were concerned that high amounts of unspent funding would lead to budget cuts. But they

also told auditors that the end of budget cycle spending is a sign of good management practices.

Auditors were concerned that a rush to spend funding may lead to a lack of properly vetting spending decisions, including complex information technology needs.

"Rushed procurement also increases the risk that prices available at the time do not represent strong value," the audit report said. "Purchasing for future needs also complicates legislative oversight, as current needs of the agency are obscured when future needs are also

included in current expenditures.

The audit also found a need for more transparency from agencies that fill the same position with two or more employees.

The information isn't readily available on a \$21 million Workday system that the Department of Administrative Services implemented this year to track employees, their careers and positions.

Double-filling positions is allowed under certain circumstances, like if an agency faces a temporary increase in its workload or to help with the transition from one employee

to a successor employee. Savings from unfilled positions can also be used to double-fill a position.

Auditors say that more oversight is needed and certain approaches run counter to state policy that say they are generally intended to be temporary. The audit found that double-filled positions are widely used and sometimes used to permanently hire people.

Not even legislators regularly see how often positions are double-filled, the audit said.

Nearly 1,900 positions were double-filled in Janu-

ary, the audit said. That's nearly 5 percent of the 39,829 budgeted full-time equivalent positions.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

UNION COUNTY SHERIFF

Arrested: David Gregory Crowe, 49, unknown address, was arrested by the Baker County Sheriff's Office on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court on charges of driving under the influence of intoxicants and refusing an intoxicant test.

Arrested: Julius L. Bertrand, 26, unknown address, was arrested by the Baker County Sheriff's Office on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court on a charge of second-degree disorderly conduct.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident on Bryan Street in Union. The accident was reported at 6:52 a.m. Sunday.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident Sun-

day on Highway 203 in the La Grande area. The accident was reported at 4:52 p.m.

Arrested: Alen Thomas Brown, 19, Baker City, was arrested on a charge of first-degree theft.

Cited: Russell Hunter Ault, 37, unknown address, was criminally cited on a charge of first-degree trespass.

Cited: A Union County juvenile was cited on a charge of fourth-degree assault.

Arrested: Dylan Douglas Greene, 26, La Grande, was arrested on a probation detainer and on a Union County bench warrant charging a probation violation. The alleged probation violation was connected to an original charge of fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence.

Cited: Daniel Sean McGrane

Newton, 32, La Grande, was cited on charges of second-degree trespassing and second-degree theft.

Arrested: Emanuel Ray Samaniego, 30, unknown address, was arrested on a Union County warrant charging unlawful possession of marijuana product, unlawful possession of methamphetamine-commercial drug offense, unlawful delivery of methamphetamine and unlawful possession of heroin-commercial drug offense.

Cited: A Union County juvenile was cited on a charge of third-degree theft.

Cited: A Union County juvenile was cited on a charge of third-degree sex abuse.

Cited: Tammy Hamilton, 44, La Grande, was cited on charges of conspiracy second-degree theft and attempted second-

degree theft by deception.

LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Hemlock Street on July 26. The accident was reported at 9:53 a.m.

LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firefighters responded to 16 calls for medical assistance on Thursday, five on Wednesday, eight on Tuesday and seven on Monday.

UNION COUNTY SENIOR CENTER MENU

1504 ALBANY ST., LA GRANDE

Lunch served 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
age 60+ \$3 suggested donation; others \$6
Aug. 5-9

Monday: baked potato bar, fresh fruit, salad, dessert.

Tuesday: lemon-dill chicken, roasted potatoes, green beans and tomatoes, salad greens, rolls, fruit.

Wednesday: shepherd's pie, spinach salad, cottage cheese, fruit, dessert.

Thursday: chef salad, chicken and rice soup, wheat rolls, watermelon, raspberry sherbet.

Friday: zesty chicken strips, baked beans, steak fries, coleslaw, fresh fruit.

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