

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Friday, Nov. 29, the 333rd day of 2019. There are 32 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On Nov. 29, 1963, President Johnson named a commission headed by Earl Warren to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy.

ON THIS DATE

In 1890, the first Army-Navy football game was played at West Point, New York; Navy defeated Army, 24-0.

In 1910, British explorer Robert F. Scott's ship Terra Nova set sail from New Zealand, carrying Scott's expedition on its ultimately futile — as well as fatal — race to reach the South Pole first.

In 1929, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd, pilot Bernt Balchen, radio operator Harold June and photographer Ashley McKinney made the first airplane flight over the South Pole.

In 1947, the U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the partitioning of Palestine between Arabs and Jews; 33 members, including the United States, voted in favor of the resolution, 13 voted against while 10 abstained. (The plan, rejected by the Arabs, was never implemented.)

In 1952, President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower secretly left on a trip to Korea, keeping his campaign promise to assess the ongoing conflict first-hand.

In 1961, Enos the chimp was launched from Cape Canaveral aboard the Mercury-Atlas 5 spacecraft, which orbited earth twice before returning.

In 1981, actress Natalie Wood drowned in a boating accident off Santa Catalina Island, California, at age 43.

In 1987, a Korean Air 707 jetliner en route from Abu Dhabi to Bangkok was destroyed by a bomb planted by North Korean agents with the loss of all 115 people aboard.

In 1991, 17 people were killed in a 164-vehicle pileup during a dust storm on Interstate 5 near Coalinga, California. Actor Ralph Bellamy died in Santa Monica, California, at age 87.

CORRECTIONS

The Nov. 27 article, "REDress Project raises awareness of missing and murdered indigenous women," misspelled Leona Kinsey's last name. We regret the error.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$6.7 million
3-12-30-40-44-46

Mega Millions: \$243 million
8-27-29-38-43-13-x2

Powerball: \$110 million
15-26-37-53-55-21-x2

Win for Life: Nov. 27
23-30-39-62

Pick 4:

Nov. 28
• 1 p.m.: 5-6-2-9
• 4 p.m.: 0-5-8-8
• 7 p.m.: 9-8-2-9

Pick 4:

Nov. 27
• 1 p.m.: 5-7-7-3
• 4 p.m.: 9-7-1-9
• 7 p.m.: 0-9-6-0
• 10 p.m.: 2-9-8-2

NEWSPAPER LATE?

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"When you've seen beyond yourself, then you may find, peace of mind is waiting there."

— George Harrison (1943-2001)



EO Media Group file photo

A new study indicates climate changes will intensify wildfires in Oregon's southern Blue Mountains, making them more frequent, more extensive and more severe. This August 2018 photo shows smoke from a wildfire billowing out of the Walla Walla River Valley in the foothills of the Blue Mountains east of Milton-Freewater.

Study shows Blue Mountain forests are changing

By Paul Krupin

For EO Media Group

PORTLAND — A new study indicates climate changes will intensify wildfires in Oregon's southern Blue Mountains, making them more frequent, more extensive and more severe.

Brooke Cassell, a forest ecologist who now lives in Everett, Washington, led a team of researchers from Portland State University, North Carolina State University, the University of New Mexico and the U.S. Forest Service.

"Rising temperatures, longer fire seasons, increased drought, as well as fire suppression and changes in land use, have led to greater and more severe wildfire activity," said the report published on Nov. 21 in *Ecosphere*, the *Journal of the Ecological Society of America*.

"Over the next century," Cassell wrote, "the combined effects of climate change and wildfires are likely to shift the composition of mixed-conifer forests toward more climate- and fire-resilient species, such as ponderosa pine."

"If these forests become

increasingly dominated by only a few conifer species, the landscape may become less resilient to disturbances, such as wildfire, insects and diseases, and would provide less variety of habitat for plants and animals," wrote Cassell, the study's lead author and a recent Ph.D. graduate from Portland State's Earth, Environment and Society program.

The researchers looked at how climate-driven changes in forest dynamics and wildfire activity will affect the landscape through 2100.

The team used a computer model to simulate and predict how the forests and fire potential will change over time in response to current management practices and two projected climate scenarios.

The results show climate warming in the western United States is causing changes to the wildfire regime in mixed conifer forests.

"Even if the climate stopped warming now, high-elevation species such as white bark pine, Engelmann spruce and sub-alpine fir will be largely replaced by more climate- and fire-resilient species like ponderosa pine and Douglas fir by the end of the century," said the report.

A growth of the shade-loving grand fir that has been expanding in the understory of the forest also is expected to increase, even under hotter and drier future climate conditions, providing more fuels to help spread wildfires and make fires even more severe.

Seeds of Hiroshima arrive in Union County

By Sabrina Thompson
The Observer

LA GRANDE — Ginkgo trees have survived the extinction of the dinosaurs, the bombing of Hiroshima and traveled around the world. The tree has become a symbol of peace between Japan and other nations through the Green Legacy Hiroshima project, with seedlings planted across the globe. The cities of La Grande and Elgin will join the movement when they plant ginkgo trees in the spring.

"It is a really neat program," said Teresa Gustafson, urban forester for La Grande. "We put in a request and now we have a tree to plant in April."

Long-lived ginkgo trees grew in Eastern Oregon millions of years ago before becoming extinct everywhere but China, according to ODF's public information officer Jim Gersbach.

The Oregon Department of Forestry distributes these special peace trees in partnership with the nonprofit groups Oregon Community Trees and the Medford-based One Sunny Day Initiative.

The seedlings were grown from seeds from trees that survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

Medford resident Hideko Tamura-Snyder brought the seeds to Oregon. She survived the Hiroshima bombing, which occurred 74 years ago on Aug. 6, 1945. Her mother died in the atomic blast.

State forestry selected 24

communities to receive the trees, including Portland, Bend and Klamath Falls. La Grande and Elgin made the cut because of their ability to care for the trees, according to Gersbach.

"La Grande said early on that they were interested in having the trees in town," Gersbach said.

The La Grande tree will be planted during the Arbor Day celebration in April at Riverside Park, 3501 N. Spruce St., and the tree in Elgin will be part of a newly constructed memorial garden at the Elgin High School's athletic complex.

"The tree is the perfect way to start the garden," Elgin School District Superintendent Dianne Greif said.

Greif said the school district plans to get students involved in the planting during the spring.

The seedlings were germinated in Ashland by Michael Oxendine, a board member of the Oregon Community Trees.

"Oxendine grew them to be big enough to establish, but they are not huge," Gustafson said.

She explained the seedlings will need protective gating in the early stages until the roots grow enough, but ginkgo trees are very sturdy and will be able to withstand the weather of Northeast Oregon. According to Gustafson, there are several ginkgo trees planted in the town and this species of tree does not require additional care.

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Karen King
Pendleton, Oregon

I got screened. Now, I'm talking about it.

Screening can prevent colorectal cancer or catch the #2 cancer killer early when it's highly treatable. Most people get screened because they're encouraged by someone they know and trust. So if you've been screened, please talk about your experience. And encourage others to get screened too.

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