

Local

— OBITUARIES —

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Betty Vanderwall

Betty followed Bert as he worked construction in Washington, Idaho and Oregon, coming back to North Powder “every” weekend to work at Anthony Lakes. Later she worked at Anthony Lakes Resort at the Ski Shop and cooked. Betty sacrificed so much for her family.

Betty was famous for her homemade pies and fantastic potato salad. People drove for miles just to enjoy her wonderful pies at Anthony Lakes during the summer.

Betty loved her garden, flowers and canning. She won Grand Champion at the Baker County Fair with her Gladiolas (even though Bert made her take them). She also loved to play cards.

Betty loved her church family, where she was a member of the Haines First Baptist Church for over 60 years. Betty was Sunday School Superintendent and taught for years. Betty had an incredible voice and sang.

Betty will be missed by so many. She loved the staff at Settler’s Park, they became her extended family.

Betty is preceded in death by the love of her life, Bert, her parents, Emery and Ollie Cox, Brother Edward Cox and nieces Cathy & Lucinda Cox, Anita Geraldine “Geri” Riggs and Grandson-in-law Mike Osborn.

She is survived by her sister Donna Marie Babbitt, her brother-in-law Coy Riggs, daughters: Rhea (Jim) Patton, Hilda (Bill) Knight, Roberta Vanderwall /Paul Paine. Her grandchildren: Kristie Patton Osborn, Bert (Tobey) Huddleston, Wendy (Kelly) Hauffe Secl, Amanda (Travis) Hauffe Bowman, Miryka (Bill) Huddleston Donovan and Riley Huddleston, and grandchildren: Drew & Emrie Osborn, Teague and Kellen Huddleston, Peyton and Cooper Secl, Tyler, Kason and Kodi Lynn Bowman, and Owen and Madison Donovan.

Those wishing to make memorial contributions in Betty’s memory may direct them to Doernbechers Children Hospital or the Haines Baptist Church, this may be done through the Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St. Baker City, OR 97814.

Anita Geraldine “Geri” Riggs
Baker City, 1932-2015

Anita Geraldine “Geri” Riggs, 83, of Baker City Oregon, died Thursday June 18

at The Wildflower Lodge Assisted Living and Memory Care in La Grande Oregon. A Graveside Memorial Service was held at Mount Hope Cemetery at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2014 in Baker City, Oregon.

Geri was born April 4, 1932 to Emery and Ollie (Young) Cox in Hermiston Oregon. She was raised in Haines and attended the Muddy Creek School and graduated from North Powder High School.

Geri went to work for Jones Truck Line as a bookkeeper. It was there that she met her future husband Coy, when he came in to apply for a job. They were married June 3, 1961 in Boise, Idaho.

Coy’s job took them all over the United States, from Hawaii to Mississippi, as he was building roads, dams, and airports, Coy and Geri bought their first travel trailer in 1974 and at one point they lived in a 35-foot space for five years. They never



Geri Riggs

took for granted a moment and spent their days off together exploring the area they were living in at the time, be it the Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico to, Luckenbach, Texas.

Geri especially loved the outdoors, mountains, traveling, and sightseeing. She enjoyed gardening and loved spring and country western music, especially Reba McEntire.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Edward Cox, sister Betty Vanderwall who passed only five hours before her on June 18, Niece’s Cindy Higley, and Cathy Peplinski.

Geri leaves behind loving husband Coy and sister Donna Babbitt. She will always be remembered for her beautiful smile.

Donations in Memory of Geri may be made to Heart and Home Hospice through Tami’s Pine Valley Funeral Home & CS-PO Box 543 Halfway, Oregon 97834. On line Condolences may be shared at www.tamis-pinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Lavone Millicent George

Baker City, 1919-2015

Lavone Millicent (Millie) George, 96, a lifetime Baker County resident, passed away June 19, 2015 in Hermiston, Oregon.

A graveside service for Millie is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., Saturday, June 27, 2015 at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Pastor Jesse Whitford from Baker City Christian Church will officiate. Visitation for Millie is scheduled for Friday between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street.

A reception in her memory will follow the service at the Sunridge Room at the Sunridge Inn.

Millie was born and raised in the Keating Valley with her two brothers and parents. She attended the Keating school until her high school years when she transferred into Baker City where she graduated in 1936.

Millie married her high school sweetheart Roland George that same year. Roland and Millie were married for over 70 years at the time of his death in 2007.

The two spent most of their years in the dairy business and in their later years a cow calf operation in the Wingville area.

In addition to being an



Millie George

active partner in the dairy and ranching business, Millie also worked for many years at Power’s Shoe Store and Neuberger and Heilner Department Store where she had a large following of loyal customers.

Millie was involved with local 4-H clubs and activities for over 43 years.

In 1997 she was recognized as Legacy Woman of the Year by the Baker Chamber of Commerce.

Millie is preceded in death by her husband, Roland, parents, brothers, two infant sons, grandsons Bryan Craner and great grandson Carson Kaeming, sons-in-law Ray Jones and David Craner.

She is survived by daughters Annette and her husband Greg Swaim and Linda Jones, a grand daughter, Sherri Kaeming and her husband Gary, great-grandsons, Chris and Sean Kaeming and his wife Carlee, and Jamieson and wife Allison Livengood.

Memorial contributions may be made to the 4-H of Baker County or the Baker City Christian Church and this may be done through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street, Baker City, OR. 97814

Baker Valley Vector Control District set to battle mosquitos

BY BRIAN ADDISON
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It’s business as usual this summer for Baker Valley Vector Control as they prepare to battle the bane of human existence, the pesky and sometimes disease carrying mosquito.

Vector control crews are out testing the waters sources in Baker County, including lands that are flood irrigated, for the presence of mosquitoes.

To detect mosquito concentrations, Vector Control sets traps throughout district. The traps provide information on mosquito numbers and whether or not West Nile virus is detected.

Once the concentration

of mosquitoes in a certain area reaches a threshold Vector Control targets that area and brings out the big guns spraying pesticides to kill off mosquitoes and mosquito larvae.

Already this year, the Vector Control crews have treated areas with pesticides applied by aerial spraying between Haines and North Powder, between Chandler Lane and the DXL Ranch lands, and near Keating.

Vector Control no longer uses aerial spraying over Baker City.

Instead, crews use a barrier treatment strategy targeting specific areas concentrating on the spots, such as bushes, where the mosquito hide during the

heat of the day.

Aerial spraying would only be used over Baker City in the case of especially high numbers of mosquitoes or if West Nile virus was detected in local mosquito populations.

If West Nile virus is detected, Vector Control puts out public notifications and provides the information to the Baker County Health Department, the Oregon State Extension Service office, and to the local veterinarian offices advising them to be on the lookout for sick animals and humans.

There has been no evidence of West Nile virus detected in mosquito populations this summer, according to Matt Hutchin-

son, manager of Baker Valley Vector Control District.

People concerned over safety threats presented by the use of pesticides may call the Baker Valley Vector Control District to be placed on the no-spray list. The local vector control office may be reached at phone number 541-523-1151.

“We would like to remind everyone to change bird bath water every couple days and to clean rain gutters. Anything holding water for more than a week can begin to breed mosquitoes,” Hutchinson said. “Also, report mosquito problems and dead birds to Baker Valley Vector Control.”

D.A. clarifies marijuana law

In preparation for July 1st, Baker County District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff had this to say about marijuana:

“On July 1st, Oregon will join Washington and Colorado in legalizing marijuana in certain limited situations. July 1st is not the day that marijuana becomes legal all the time. Marijuana will remain illegal in many circumstances, and it’s important for the public to know that law enforcement will continue to enforce laws prohibiting the illegal use of marijuana.”

On July 1, 2015, and every day after, the following will be illegal in Oregon:

- Possession of more than eight ounces of marijuana in private and/or four plants per residence.
- Possession of more than 1 ounce of marijuana in public.
- Possession of any amount of marijuana by those less than 21 years of age.
- Use of any amount of marijuana in public.
- Transporting any amount of marijuana out of state.
- Driving a vehicle while impaired by marijuana, or by a combination of marijuana and another drug.

In conclusion, D.A. Shirtcliff said, “We will work with the new legalization law, including people’s right to legally possess and consume marijuana, but if the law is broken and kids and the public are put at risk, my office will not hesitate to hold offenders accountable.”

Robinette grads make a visit

BY CARMELITA HOLLAND
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Friends and family gathered at the Senior Citizen Center in Baker City, at noon on June 14th, to enjoy a big birthday dinner, courtesy of Donna Kanyid, and help Grace (Fields) Bend and Louis Kanyid celebrate their 89th birthdays.

Grace, who lives at Glens Ferry, Idaho, was 89 years young that day.

Kanyid lives in Huntington. These were students of the Robinette Grade school during the 1930s.

The old townsite of Robinette went under the Brownlee Reservoir in 1959.

Robinette may be gone, but is far from forgotten, as they were the old one-room, one teacher school is well remembered.

Grace Bend, Louis Kanyid and Phillip Gause, who came from Mt. Vernon that day, all told about



Phillip Gause and Grace Bend, graduates of a grade school now beneath

Brownlee Reservoir, attending the school at Robinette.

“I lived on the Idaho side, and I had to cross Snake River on the ferry to get to school,” said Grace. “Sometimes I was alone. I learned how to run the ferry across the river by myself. The passengers usually run it.

“Mrs. Huntsaker and Mrs. (Nora) Lamb were our teachers.

“One day I came in the school house and Mrs. Lamb said, ‘You are five minutes late!’”

“I said, ‘You are going by the school clock. I go by radio time!’ She never answered.”

“I graduated from Robinette Grade School, then took a course at the Weiser College working with sheet metal,” said Grace.

Pictured above are Phillip Gause, standing, and Grace, holding a doll she received for Mother’s Day. “I call him Johnny,” she said.

Huntington man assaults neighbor

On June 23, at about 00:48 hours, Paula Ware called 911 to report that Robert Brodahl had forced his way into her residence at 160 East Monroe Street in Huntington and assaulted her.

Ware and Brodahl were friends and he does not reside at her residence.

As a result of the assault, Ware had severe bruising and swelling to her face.

Ware was able to get away from Brodahl and ran to a neighbor’s residence to call 911.

Ware reported that Brodahl also stole items from her residence.

Baker County Sheriff’s Deputies responded and spent most of the day searching for Brodahl. He was subsequently arrested around 23:30 hours on June 23.

Brodahl was transported and lodged in the Baker County Jail on the charges of Assault, Burglary, Theft, Interfering with a 911 call and Menacing.

This case is still under investigation and additional charges may be pending.

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