

PUBLIC SAFETY

WEDNESDAY

7:54 a.m. — A storage shed was reportedly broken into and \$2,000 in tools and a generator were stolen from the Deadman Pass rest area near Umatilla at milepost 228 on Interstate-84.

10:01 a.m. — A theft was reported on Seventh Street and H Street in Umatilla.

10:21 a.m. — A domestic disturbance occurred at Walkers on Highway 11 in Milton-Freewater.

10:39 a.m. — A burglary was reported on Northwest Geer Road in Hermiston.

1:00 p.m. — Police responded to a burglary at Oregon Trail Mini Storage on Highway 395 North in Hermiston.

1:29 p.m. — A theft was reported on Andrews Road in Echo.

7:29 p.m. — A drunken driver was reported at Villadom Mobile

Home Park on West Crockett Road in Milton-Freewater.

ARRESTS, CITATIONS

•Bryan Keith Jr. Eakles, 34, was arrested on two charges, including one count of felony possession of a prohibited firearm.

•The Umatilla Tribal Police Department arrested Tehya R. Halfmoon, 19, on two charges, including one count of domestic abuse and another for felony assault.

•The Hermiston Police Department arrested Yusef Lemuel Johnson, 26, on three charges, including two counts of felony possession of a controlled substance.

•Umatilla tribal police arrested Letitia Maelee Sigo, 36, on three charges, including one count of felony domestic abuse and another for felony assault.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: Due to concerns about the coronavirus, many activities have been postponed or canceled. Contact the venue before attending any public gathering to ensure the event is still scheduled.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

No meetings scheduled

MONDAY, MARCH 30

MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Pioneer Memorial Clinic conference room, via conference call, 130 Thompson St., Heppner. An executive session will be called during the meeting to evaluate the performance of the CEO, who does not request an open hearing. (Tonia Adams 541-676-2942)

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

WEST UMATILLA MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, 3 p.m., district office, 3005 S. First St., Hermiston. (Janie Cuellar 541-567-5201)

MORROW COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman. (Stephanie Loving 541-922-4624)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, 9 a.m., Bartholomew Government Building upper conference room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner. (Roberta Lutcher 541-676-5613)

HERMISTON AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, 4 p.m., Hermiston Airport lounge, 1600 Airport Way, Hermiston. (541-567-5521)

MEACHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, 6 p.m., Meacham Fire Department, Meacham. (541-786-2069)

BLUE MOUNTAIN BOARD OF EDUCATION, 4:30 p.m., Blue Mountain Community College Hermiston campus, 980 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston, via teleconference. 4:30 p.m. work

session, 6 p.m. regular board meeting. Only the board and BMCC president Bailey-Fournier will attend in person; all others should join the Zoom videoconference (PC, Mac, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/995173234>) or call in to 415-762 9988 or 646-568 7788, Meeting ID: 995 173 234. (Shannon Franklin 541-278-5951)

CONDON CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Condon City Hall, 128 S. Main St., Condon. (541-384-2711)

UMATILLA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, 7 p.m., Umatilla Fire Department, 305 Willamette St., Umatilla. (541-922-2770)

BOARDMAN CITY COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Boardman City Hall, 200 City Center Circle, Boardman. (Jackie McCauley 541-481-9252)

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

PENDLETON DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, 4-5:30 p.m., Pendleton City Hall John Brenne Room, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Charles Denight 541-966-0233)

STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL, 6 p.m., Council chambers building, 160 W. Coe Ave., Stanfield. (Ben Burgener 541-449-3831)

ADAMS PLANNING COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m., Adams City Hall, 190 N. Main St., Adams. (541-566-9380)

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

No meetings scheduled

MONDAY, APRIL 6

STOKES LANDING SENIOR CENTER BOARD, 6 p.m., Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. (Karen 541-922-3137)

HEPPNER PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppner. (541-676-9618)

MILTON-FREEWATER PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library Albee Room, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. 6:30 p.m. study session, 7 p.m. regular meeting. (Lisa Wasson 541-938-8235)

OBITUARY

Ronald Wayne McCorkle Jr.

Pendleton
October 16, 1980 — March 20, 2020

Ronald Wayne McCorkle Jr., of Pendleton, passed away at his home on March 20, 2020, at the age of 39.

He was born October 16, 1980, in Pendleton to Ronald McCorkle and Linda (Crossan) McCorkle. He grew up in Umatilla, attending school from kindergarten to graduation.

When he was 9 years old, he suffered a giant basal aneurysm. With the support of the greater Eastern Oregon community, OHSU, The Barrow Institute of Phoenix, Arizona, Dr. Robert Spetzler and Shriners' Hospital of Portland, his family was blessed with 30 years more with him. His medical story was written in Reader's Digest: "The Boy With the Bomb in His Brain," September 1991 issue.

He married Katrina Smith in Newport, Oregon. They have two children, Anthony and Gabrielle of Newport.

He is survived by his mother at home; his brother William (Susan) McCorkle of New Rockford, N.D.; his nieces

Janika McCorkle and Danielle, Miranda and Natasha Curtis; his nephews Donavun and Mason McCorkle; Stewart Saunders, brother from another family; Joe Wyman, Anna Ochoa and family, who he loved as family; and grandmother Sharon Crossan of Caldwell, Idaho. He had many aunts, uncles, cousins and many close friends.

He is preceded in death by his father; grandparents Eugene and Rowena McCorkle, Lee Crossan, and William and Naomi Barnett; great-aunt/grandmother Hazel Morris; aunt Sherri Rose, and uncle and aunt Merv and Glenda Kline.

Services will be announced at a later time due to the COVID-19 virus.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Ronald's memory to Shriners' Hospital of Portland or Ronald McCorkle House of Phoenix, Arizona, both of which helped us when Ronald had his aneurysm.

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements. Sign the online guest book at www.burnsmortuary.com.



McCorkle

Baker City family learning, coping

By JAYSON JACOBY
EO Media Group

BAKER CITY — Mairi Nielsen's initial reaction was close to panic.

Nielsen, who has lived in Baker City for about a decade, has been in treatment for Stage 4 breast cancer since she was diagnosed in June 2018.

She takes chemotherapy pills at home. She travels to Fruitland, Idaho, monthly to see her oncologist. She has four children, ranging in age from 6 to 11, all students in Baker schools. And Nielsen had just learned that classes will be canceled at least through April 28.

Suddenly, she needed to add to an already hectic schedule a system for keeping her kids educated, and entertained. During a season when the weather can be less than conducive to outdoor activities.

"I went, 'Oh no, what am I going to do with all my kids,'" is how Nielsen, 44, recalls reacting to the extended school closure due to the coronavirus.

The pandemic was already a major concern for Nielsen, who as a cancer patient is more vulnerable to the effects of the virus that has so dramatically affected the country and the world.

"How am I going to do this?" Nielsen thought to herself.

Less than two weeks later, she is still adjusting to this unexpected challenge. But she's optimistic.

"We've done OK, actually," Nielsen said Tuesday morning in a phone interview from her home, the conversation punctuated by an occasional exclamation from a child in the background.

"We get stir-crazy, cabin fever of course, but it hasn't been as bad as I thought."

Nielsen's husband, Joshua, hasn't been cooped up only because he has two jobs — he works mornings at Albertsons and runs his own business in the afternoon.

Nielsen said her focus during mornings has been on learning.



EO Media Group Photo/S. John Collins

The Nielsen family members are learning to cope with confinement at home due to the coronavirus. They are, from left, Anden, 8, Richard, 11, Mairi, Kahlan, 6, Josh, and Kylar, 6. Dad cuddles the new puppy, Socks.

She and her husband are the parents of sons Richard, 11, a sixth-grader at South Baker, and Anden, 8, a second-grader at Brooklyn; and fraternal twins, a son, Kylar, and his sister, Kahlan. Both are 6-year-old kindergartners.

"WE GET STIR CRAZY, CABIN FEVER OF COURSE, BUT IT HASN'T BEEN AS BAD AS I THOUGHT."

— Mairi Nielsen, mother of four Baker School District students

"I'm trying not to have any electronics on in the morning unless it's educational," Nielsen said.

She's emphasizing reading.

In the afternoons, Nielsen has added some recreation.

"We've been playing a lot of board games," she said.

And there's always the distraction of Socks. He's the puppy the family adopted on March 16. (Socks came with that name — he's black and white, with white fur on his paws.)

Nielsen said her children have reacted in different ways to their situation.

Richard, the oldest, is "bored out of his mind," she said. "I feel so bad."

He does enjoy watching informational shows, such as

the series "How It's Made," and Nielsen said the family has watched some episodes together.

Anden has been "irritable," but Nielsen said the twins "seem to be just fine."

Kylar doesn't mind being

teachers, they work so hard," said Nielsen, who has several teachers in her family, including a sister. "I worry about them during this time, how they're handling things."

She said all of her kids have enjoyed their teachers this year, which made the sudden curtailment of classes especially disappointing.

Although Nielsen is pleased with what she's been able to accomplish with her kids so far, she hopes to refine her schedule.

"I would really like to be able to get more education in our day, but it's just me," she said. "I know we're going to have a deficit. I'm not a teacher. I'm learning how to do it."

Nielsen said the uncertainty — wondering whether schools will reopen at the end of April — is stressful.

"I feel like we're in this weird void, an overall sense of being uncomfortable," she said.

Nielsen is gratified that the Baker School District has offered free breakfast and lunch during the closure. She said she's either picked up meals every day or enlisted help from a friend.

"I'm so thankful (the school district) got on it right away," she said. "That was really touching to me, that that was their priority."

LOTTERY

Wednesday, March 25, 2020
Megabucks
02-23-25-36-46-48
Estimated jackpot: \$1 million

05-09-27-39-42
Powerball: 16
Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$150 million
Win for Life

01-23-35-48
Lucky Lines
04-06-10-14-20-22-26-32
Estimated jackpot: \$20,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 9-8-5-5

4 p.m.: 2-7-3-7
7 p.m.: 4-0-0-1
10 p.m.: 7-5-7-0
Thursday, March 26, 2020
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 7-9-8-4

BRIEFLY

M-F Christian church suspends worship services

MILTON-FREEWATER — Due to Oregon Gov. Kate Brown issuing a stay home order on Monday in an effort to slow/stop the COVID-19 outbreak, the First Christian Church, 518 S. Main St., will suspend Sunday worship services until further notice.

The church office will remain open. Regular office hours are Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m.-noon.

For more information call 541-938-3854 or visit the church website at MiltonFreewaterCC.com or Facebook page at First Christian Church — Milton Freewater.

Me and My Prince Ball postponed until 2021

HERMISTON — Due to uncertainties of how the ongoing coronavirus pandemic will impact the local community, the Me and My Prince Ball Committee has decided to postpone the annual father-daughter dance until next year.

"After careful consideration regarding the health, safety and financial impact on our community over the COVID-19 virus, we feel this is the best way to proceed in the midst of such an unprecedented global situation. We are heartbroken that we must postpone this event, but we know it's the right decision based on the information we have today," Christy Lieualten, executive director of United Way of the Blue Mountains, stated

in a press release. United Way of the Blue Mountains established a partnership to host the annual event in early February.

The committee discussed the possibility of delaying the event until later in the year, but came to the conclusion that this could cause an unfair burden on volunteers and the community.

"Holding the dance in the fall would mean our committee of volunteers would be planning and working back-to-back on one sizeable event after another," said Michelle Kane, a member of the ball committee. "We also do not feel comfortable about asking local businesses to support our event, and then turn around a few months later to ask them to support another one."

The next Me and My Prince Ball will be held May 15, 2021, from 6-9 p.m. at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center in Hermiston. The theme will still be Tale as Old as Time, which is inspired by Disney's "Beauty and the Beast."

Businesses and individuals who have already sent in contributions to sponsor the 2020 ball are being notified of the change in plans. They are being given the option to either be reimbursed or stay on as sponsors for the 2021 dance.

In addition, United Way's online sponsorship form will remain open for those who would like to support next year's ball. It can be found at <https://www.uwbluemts.org/sponsorship>.

— EO Media Group

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:

www.EastOregonian.com

PENDLETON
CENTER
for the ARTS

CURBSIDE
PICK-UP

We're handing out
FREE crafting supplies
12-2 PM Saturday
at our curb.

214 North Main

You'll find new
projects everyday
at pendletonarts.org

