

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29

■ **Eagles Past Presidents Club Dinner:** 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., 2935 H St.; dinner is beef Stroganoff, salad, rolls and dessert for \$7. Eagle members and their guests welcome.

### MONDAY, APRIL 1

■ **Haines Fire Protection District Board:** 6 p.m. at the Haines Library.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 5

■ **Live Music by Keith Taylor:** Ragtime piano, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn Ave.; no charge; continues most Fridays.

■ **First Friday Art Shows:** Baker City art galleries are open late to showcase the month's new artwork; opening times vary between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, Peterson's Gallery and others.

### MONDAY, APRIL 8

■ **Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Pondosa Station.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald March 29, 1969

District 5J's Budget Board was presented with a \$2,104,388 budget for the 1969-70 school year at its meeting Thursday evening.

The board approved the budget and set April 16 at 8 p.m. as the date for the budget hearing.

### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 29, 1994

Grass fires that have spread out of control have kept city and rural firefighters busy in the past week.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 30, 2009

By the time he gaveled Friday's Oregon Public Utility Commission hearing to a close, administrative law judge Allan J. Arlow had heard from 23 residents stretching from Malheur to Morrow counties — virtually all of them opposed to Idaho Power's plan to run a 500-kilovolt transmission line through Baker County.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald March 30, 2018

Congressman Greg Walden paid a visit to Barley Brown's Taphouse to tour the Baker City microbrewery and talk taxes with its owners Thursday.

"Pallet Jack is our flagship beer," said Tyler Brown to Walden as the clang of kegs being moved around and strong smells of yeast and barley wafted through the building.

Pallet Jack is an India pale ale (IPA) beer that head brewer Eli Dickison said they were "kegging up."

Baker County Commissioners Bill Harvey and Bruce Nichols were present as Brown and Walden talked about the benefits of the tax package that was passed late last year.

Walden said one of its main benefits was to microbreweries.

"We cut the excise tax in half on up to 60,000 barrels," Walden said. "It cut it from seven bucks to three and a half."

Brown said the brewery produced 5,500 barrels last year.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, March 27

2 — 12 — 14 — 17 — 25 — 32  
Next jackpot: \$10 million

### POWERBALL, March 27

16 — 20 — 37 — 44 — 62 PB 12  
Next jackpot: \$40 million

### MEGA MILLIONS, March 26

4 — 14 — 22 — 43 — 58 Mega  
9

Next jackpot: \$75 million

### WIN FOR LIFE, March 27

20 — 27 — 38 — 69

### PICK 4, March 28

• 1 p.m.: 4 — 8 — 2 — 7  
• 4 p.m.: 0 — 2 — 7 — 3  
• 7 p.m.: 1 — 1 — 9 — 1

• 10 p.m.: 0 — 4 — 5 — 4

### LUCKY LINES, March 28

1-8-9-15-20-21-27-29

## SENIOR MENUS

■ **MONDAY:** Chicken-fried chicken, potatoes and gravy, carrots, biscuit, fruit ambrosia, cake

■ **TUESDAY:** Barbecued ribs, scalloped potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, roll, carrot-raisin salad, brownies

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$4.50 donation (60 and older), \$6.75 for those under 60.

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## OBITUARIES

### Betty Proffitt

Baker City, 1936-2019

Betty Messer Proffitt, 82, died March 25, 2019, at Baker City.

There will be a visitation from 8 a.m.

to 9 a.m. Monday at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Her funeral will follow, beginning at 10 a.m. also at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel.

There will be a reception afterward at Dave and Julie Mespel's residence at 625 Washington Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

Betty was born on May 8, 1936, at Denton, Kentucky, to Anderson and Cecile (Rice) Messer. She attended Albany High School. On July 23, 1963, Betty married Norman Proffitt at Weiser, Idaho.

She worked as a cook at Baker High School for 30 years, retiring in 2000. In her spare time, Betty enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren and family. She liked gardening, crocheting, feeding birds and squirrels, cooking, taking trips to the coast and going on rides in the mountains with her husband.

Her greatest accomplishments included raising six boys and, according to her husband, Norman, putting up with him for the last 55 years.

Betty is survived by her beloved husband, Norman Proffitt of Baker City; sons, Charlie (Kim) Mespelt of Baker City, Larry Mespelt of Clarkston, Washington, David (Julie) Mespelt of Baker City, Bob (Arletta) Mespelt of Dunseith, North Dakota, and Norman Jr. (Jess) Proffitt of Rock Springs, Wyoming; 13 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents Anderson and Cecile Messer; a sister, Mabel Britton; and a son, Tom Mespelt.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Heart 'n' Home Hospice through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City OR 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Betty or to leave a condolence for the family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

### Phyllis Brownlee

Former Baker County resident

Phyllis Brownlee, 93, a noted interior designer and Arabian horse breeder, died of a stroke on March 2, 2019, at Astoria.

Brownlee was raised on a ranch at Rock Creek, near Haines. After graduating with a degree in English from the University of Oregon, she did a short stint as an advertising copywriter in Portland.

When she and her first husband, John Koines, moved to Honolulu in the 1950s,

she began working for Theo H. Davies, one of the "big five" trading companies in what was then the Territory of Hawaii. The company was importing Herman Miller furniture and Brownlee learned everything she could about the products, which were difficult to assemble.

Soon, local architects were asking for her help placing the furniture in buildings and homes. Brownlee began learning on the job, eventually doing her own interior design work. She collaborated often with Pete Wimberly, a prominent architect in Hawaii, the West Coast and the Pacific Rim.

Brownlee went on to have a successful career as an interior designer. She was recognized for her use of local design motifs, colors and indigenous art work in restaurants, hotels, resorts, banks and private homes.

The hotelier Laurance Rockefeller commissioned her to design interior hotel spaces at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel in Hawaii and the Fijian in Fiji. She received the International Design Award for the Batik Dining Room at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel in Hawaii. Brownlee counted her years in Hawaii as some of the most productive and expansive in her design career.

Phyllis Armand Perkins Brownlee was born in Baker City to Grace and Armand Perkins. She began riding at an early age, and in the early 1970s, horses called her back to Eastern Oregon. She and her second husband, Edward "Mick" Brownlee, a noted sculptor, returned to the Baker Valley, where she had a second successful career as an Arabian horse breeder.

Drawing on the knowledge of her father, Armand, who was known for his horse trading acumen, and her own research and sensibilities, Brownlee bred and raised many champion Arabians at the Bar One Ranch, at the foot of the Elkhorn Range near North Powder. The Arabian Horse Times recognized her as one of the nation's 30 leading Arabian horse breeders.

Brownlee and her husband built a life that combined art, ranching and horses on the Bar One. Both were involved in the local community, with the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, the Oregon Trail Museum, the Haines park, and the rebuilding of the Haines Steak House. They were instrumental in launching the Old Hands Contest that recognized a working cowboy each year at Haines.

Despite some of the messy work that comes with horse stable management, Brownlee always looked stylish, even with mud on her boots. She was instantly recognizable by her proud bearing, a stylish hat and elegant clothes.

Brownlee spent her final decades in

a beautifully designed home at Neahkahnie, on the Oregon Coast.

Brownlee was preceded in death by her husband, mother, father and her sisters, Cornelia Perkins and Belle Rogers.

Survivors include her three stepchildren, Kevin Brownlee (Marla), Shannon Brownlee (Greg) and Shawn Brownlee (Denise); seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

### Esther Evans

Baker City, 1925-2019

Esther Bork Evans, 94, died March 20, 2019, at Baker City.

Her memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 30, at the McEwen Church on the Sumpter Highway. There will be a graveside service and interment at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at the Enterprise Cemetery in Enterprise.

Esther was born on Jan. 30, 1925, to Richard and Edith Wilson Surber. She had 11 brothers and sisters.

She married Lee Bork on April 29, 1945, and was married to him for 48 years until his death in 1993. They made their first homes at Enterprise, Baker, then to Umatilla in 1976 until 1995.

She married Arley Evans and moved to Lewiston, Idaho. Arley died in 2009.

Returning to Baker in 2010 she lived out her life here. While living at Elkhorn Retirement Village she enjoyed taking meals on wheels to the shut-ins at her building.

Everyone loved to see her coming and she loved the opportunity to provide service to her neighbors. She was fortunate to have niece and nephew, Sandra and Harry Bork, close to take her on drives around Eastern Oregon and make her last years truly golden.

She was preceded in death by husbands, Lee and Arley; sons, Chester Perry and George Perry; son-in-law, Ron Shoemaker (Bernadine and Ron were married 40 years; Ron was considered one of her sons); and 10 brothers and sisters.

Esther is survived by her children, Ralph Bork and his wife, Debbie; daughter, Bernadine Shoemaker; six grandchildren, Laurie Perry, Jeremy Shoemaker, Elijah Bork, Robert Shoemaker, Jacob Bork and Caleb Bork; 10 great-grandchildren; sister, Rosemary LeSollen; and so many nieces and nephews, many of whom called her their second mom or Auntie Mom.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital through Tami Pine Valley Funeral Home, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. On line condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).

## ELK

Continued from Page 1A

The ODFW said that Oregonians can help by reporting any elk that are limping or have deformed feet using their online form ([https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/health\\_program/elk\\_hoof\\_disease/](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/health_program/elk_hoof_disease/)).

People reporting elk suspected to have hoof disease are asked to take photos of the hooves if possible. Any dead elk with deformed hooves should also be reported. If possible, the legs should be removed and placed in separate plastic bags and stored in a cool area for further evaluation by the ODFW.

According to ODFW wild-

life veterinarian Julia Burco, ODFW is partnering with researchers in Washington state to help answer questions about the disease by sending them new Oregon samples.

The disease has been spreading to new areas of Washington. An elk killed by a hunter in January was confirmed to have TAHD in Walla Walla County, according to WDFW, and another case was confirmed in Klickitat County in April.

The disease is believed to be spread through bacteria in wet soil, according to ODFW, and the emergence of the disease is likely due to factors including the health of the elk and the quality of the environment.

According to ODFW, similar diseases are treated in livestock with antibiotic foot baths and by maintaining clean enclosures. Livestock are not likely to be in danger of catching the TAHD from elk.

"Other than elk, other ungulates do not appear to be developing similar hoof lesions in areas where TAHD is common," the ODFW website stated. The disease has also not been shown to pose a risk to humans who eat the meat of infected elk.

According to ODFW, the disease first emerged in Southwest Washington in the late 1990s. A dramatic rise in reports of limping elk around 2007 prompted a scientific investigation into the disease.

Washington state is funding a \$3 million elk hoof disease research program, led by Margaret Wild, a Washington State University veterinarian and professor.

"In the near future, we hope we can begin to get a handle on TAHD and determine what if anything we can do to moderate or stop its progression," Wild stated in a Washington State University press release.

"Much remains to be learned about the disease," Wild said in a WDFW press release. "We are further investigating treponeme bacteria and other potential pathogens, and we will also look at factors that may increase the susceptibility of elk contracting the disease."

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Robert C. Kirkwood Jr.:** 83, of Baker City, died March 26, 2019, at his home. Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel is in charge of arrangements. To light a candle in memory of Robert, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

### FUNERALS PENDING

**Betty Proffitt:** There will be a visitation from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday, April 1, at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Her funeral will follow the visitation, beginning at 10 a.m.,

also at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel. There will be a reception after the funeral at the Mespelt residence. To light a candle or to leave a condolence for the family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

**Larry Speelman:** His funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6, at the Christian Church in Richland. Interment with military honors will take place afterward at the Eagle Valley Cemetery in Richland. Friends are invited to join the family for a potluck reception after the interment at the New Bridge Grange. Memorial contributions may

be made to the Eagle Valley Ambulance Defibrillator Fund through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

### POLICE LOG

**Baker County Sheriff's Office**

**Arrests, citations**

**ASSAULT IV DOMESTIC:**

Joseph Allen Gilbert 34, of Haines, 5:15 a.m. Wednesday, at his home; jailed and later released.

### Oregon State Police

**Arrests, citations**

**DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS:**

Lazarus James Moon, 31, of Star, Idaho, 1:51 a.m. Wednesday, on Interstate 84, about 10 miles north of Huntington; jailed and later released.



Esther Evans