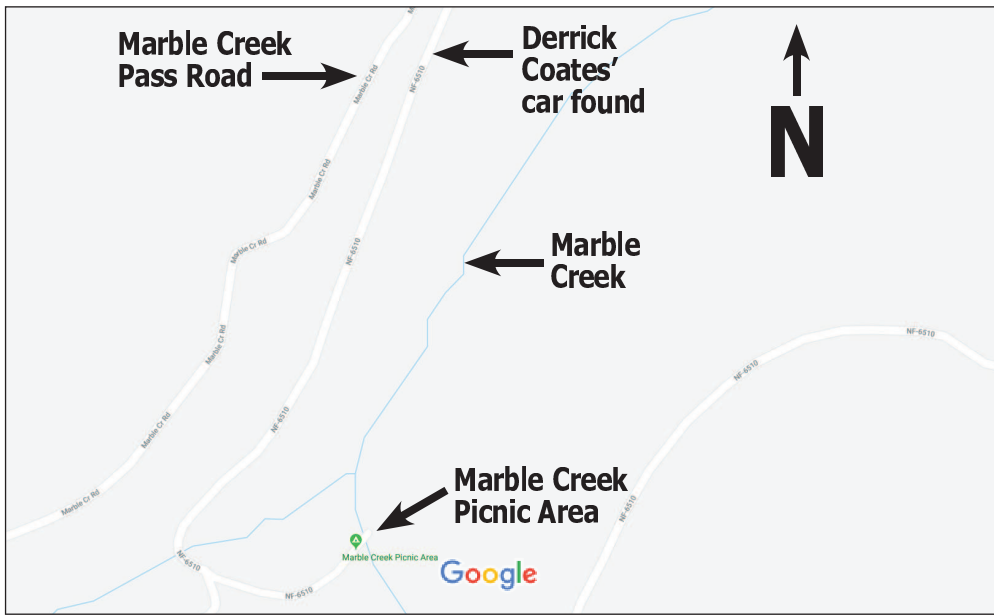


# Community

## SEARCH

*Continued from Page 1A*  
 Searchers are looking for any clue, any piece of clothing, any indication for Coates' whereabouts, Galiszewski said.  
 He said volunteers have found several piles of bear scat, and although he doesn't believe Coates was attacked by an animal, he hasn't ruled out anything.  
 "We're out here just making sure the family knows we're doing what we can with the resources we have," Galiszewski said Tuesday.  
 On Tuesday about 20 volunteers, including relatives and friends, participated in the search.  
 Many of the volunteers are members of the Baker Elks Lodge, where Coates plays the tenor drum for the lodge's Drum and Bugle Corps.  
 John Childers, 61, a member of the Elks Lodge, said he learned Monday that Coates was missing. Childers joined the search on Tuesday. He said he has participated in many searches during a 19-year tenure in law enforcement, and he said Tuesday's effort turned up nothing.  
 "There's no birds, no bugs, no smell. Nothing."  
 Coates' mother and stepfather, Cindy and Jerry



*"The biggest thing we need is someone who knows where all the mines are located in the general area."*  
 — Cindy Endicott, Derrick Austin Coates' mother

Endicott, were in Las Vegas Saturday morning when they received a phone call from Coates' wife, Charlie. The couple returned to Baker City.  
 Coate is a U.S. Navy veteran who served on the U.S.S. Nimitz, an aircraft carrier. He and Charlie have a one-year-old son.  
 A few years ago he started going by Austin, his middle name, as opposed to his first name, Derrick.  
 Jerry Endicott said Coates has had trouble with back pain, and has undergone

multiple surgeries.  
 Coates stands 6-foot-5 and weighs 280 pounds, according to a flier from the Sheriff's Office. He has brown hair and hazel eyes.  
 "He's a great big guy and he was a weightlifter," Jerry Endicott said. "When he was growing up he had the I-can-do-anything attitude that if you get a little bit older it comes back to haunt you."  
 Endicott said a doctor from the Veterans Administration had prescribed Coates pain pills. He said his stepson

might have developed a problem with the pills.  
 "It's been several years with the back problems," Endicott said.  
 Endicott said he is thankful to everyone who has volunteered to search for Coates.  
 Cindy Endicott said people interested in helping with the search can call her at 541-519-2612, or Jerry Endicott at 562-458-4706, or drive up Marble Creek Road where searchers have been gathering.  
 "The biggest thing we need is someone who knows where all the mines are located in the general area up there and maybe Mill Creek area," Cindy Endicott wrote in an email to the Herald this morning.

## LOCAL BRIEFING

### Public use restrictions in effect

The Wallowa-Whitman and Umatilla national forests today instituted restrictions on off-road travel, chainsaw use and smoking due to increased fire danger.  
 Phase A is the first level of public use restrictions, and the rules include:  
 • Chainsaw use allowed only between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.  
 • Motor vehicle travel allowed only on roads and trails  
 • Smoking allowed only in buildings, enclosed vehicles or areas cleared of flammable debris

### Rifle competition set for Sunday

A high-power sporting rifle target competition is set for Sunday, Aug. 4 at the Powder River Sportsmen's Club's Virtue Flat range about six miles east of Baker City and just north of Highway 86.  
 Entry fee is \$12 per person. The event starts at 8:30 a.m. Any centerfire rifle capable of holding four rounds and weighing 9.5 pounds or less, including sights, is eligible. The course of fire is bull's-eye targets at 200 yards. There will be cash awards in multiple classes.

### Christian musician to perform Aug. 1-4

Johnny Rowlett, a Christian country music artist from Nashville, will perform at several venues in Baker City Aug. 1-4.  
 His local performance schedule:  
 • Aug. 1, Calvary Baptist Church, Third and Broadway streets, dinner at 5:30 p.m. with concert after dinner  
 • Aug. 2, Agape Christian Church, 650 Highway 7, music and testimony at 7 p.m.  
 • Aug. 3, the Ruda Ranch, 18070 W. Campbell Road, message of hope with a horse by Jonathan Free, 4 p.m.; barbecue at 5 p.m.; music and testimony with Rowlett, 7 p.m.  
 • Aug. 4, Harvest Church, 3720 Birch St., 10 a.m.

## FIRES

*Continued from Page 1A*  
 OTEC crews were upgrading a substation in that area on Tuesday, said Eric Wirfs, district superintendent for the cooperative.  
 The fire didn't damage any OTEC facilities, Wirfs said.  
 Although the fire burned outside the Forestry Department's protection area, Meyer said he drove

to the site, accompanied by a fire engine, after hearing about the fire on an emergency radio frequency.

He said that when he arrived the fire had burned about 15 acres, and flame lengths were 5 to 10 feet.

An OTEC crew with a backhoe was digging control lines, along firefighters from the Haines and North Powder rural fire districts and the BLM, when he got to the scene.

Meyer said the fire didn't threaten any structures.  
 Coyote Point is surrounded by well-irrigated crop fields that likely would have impeded the blaze had it spread farther, he said.

## NEWS OF RECORD

### FUNERALS PENDING

**Lois Jean Bryant:** Her graveside service will take place Friday, Aug. 2, at 10 a.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to Settler's Park through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Lois, or to leave a condolence for her family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)  
**Ann Starke:** Her graveside service will be Friday, Aug. 2, at 11 a.m. at Pine Haven Cemetery in Halfway. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)  
**Mabel M. Dreher:** Her

memorial service will be Friday, Aug. 2, at 11 a.m. at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Pastor Ian Wolfe of the First Lutheran Church will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to Community Connection of Baker County through Gray's West & Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Mabel, or to leave a condolence for her family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)  
**Georgie Lenora Edge:** Her memorial service will be Saturday, Aug. 3, at 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1995 Fourth St. Following the service, friends are invited to join the family for a reception in the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. To light a candle for Georgie or to leave a condolence for her

family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)  
**Loren Dee Goracke:** There will be a celebration of his life with military honors at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Halfway. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Pine Eagle Medical Clinic through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Loren or to leave an online condolence for the family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)  
**Michael Edward Moeller:** The rosary will be said Thursday, Aug. 8, at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in La Grande, and Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Friday, Aug. 9, at 10 a.m. at the church. A

celebration of his life will follow at the Country Club Golf Course. A full obituary will be published later. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory of La Grande is in charge of arrangements.

### POLICE LOG Baker County Sheriff's Office

**Arrests, citations**  
 ASSAULT IV (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Gary Allen Mezo, 36, of 2205 Broadway St., No. 217, 12:32 p.m. Monday, at the Sheriff's Office; cited and released.

**Oregon State Police**  
**Accident reports**  
 On Interstate 84, about 50 miles south of Baker City, 8:11 p.m. Saturday, July 27; police

said a formation of motorcycles was traveling east when the lead rider, Stephen D. Marsh, 46, of Otis, struck a deer crossing the freeway. Marsh and another rider, Morgan Galen Mace, 37, also of Otis, were thrown from their motorcycles and landed on the freeway. Marsh sustained serious injuries, police said, and was flown from the scene by air ambulance. No other information about his condition was available in time for this report.  
 Mace sustained minor injuries and was treated at the scene, police said.  
 On Highway 86, about 35 miles east of Baker City, 4:25 p.m., Sunday, July 21, police said Christopher Eugene Clark, 43, of Huffman, Texas, was traveling east when his vehicle drifted into the westbound lane and

rove onto a dirt and rock bank before rolling at least once and coming to rest on the shoulder of the highway. Clark told police he had fallen asleep while driving. He was cited on a charge of careless driving and transported by ambulance to St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City. No other information about his condition was available in time for this report.  
**Arrests, citations**  
 FAILURE OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER TO REPORT FOLLOWING CHANGE OF RESIDENCE and FAILURE TO MAKE ANNUAL REPORT: Warren Ervin May, 56, of Pendleton, 6:31 p.m. Tuesday, July 23, in the 1100 block of Campbell Street; jailed and later released.

## OBITUARIES

*Continued from Page 2A*

### Ron Blincoe

Baker City, 1968-2019

After college graduation, Ron began working for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. He worked out of the offices located on Eastern's campus and was a part of many research projects, and played softball and basketball with his colleagues. He enjoyed working in the field and the outdoor components of his job, though he did not enjoy the flights via small aircraft into Red's Horse Ranch to sample the streams in the region. Ron was an entertaining story and joke teller and liked to tell stories of his experiences in the field.  
 Ron was an avid gamer. Dungeons and Dragons, chess, darts, ping pong, cards — he enjoyed both competitive and social games. Throughout college, Ron, Dawna and various friends and roommates played Rook and other games most week-end nights. Dawna and Ron played in competitive dart leagues and were introduced to "Magic: The Gathering," a collectible card game. It continued to be a game he enjoyed for the rest of his life. They both participated in Magic tournaments and Ron was invited to play at

the World Championships in Seattle due to his success in regional sanctioned tournaments.  
 In college and into his teaching, Ron was a strong ping pong player. He spent hours playing in the dorms at Dorian Hall and rarely had to return to the line from losing a game. At Huntington, he played against his students after classes. He organized many tournaments for his students, from Magic to ping pong to Rock-Scissors-Paper because he felt gaming and strategy were so good for mental growth. Ron enjoyed teaching social and strategy games to his family and students including Magic and Werewolf.  
 Ron and Dawna moved to Baker City in the fall of 1994 where Dawna had just taken a teaching position at Baker High School. Ron commuted back and forth to La Grande for his ODFW job. Rather than chase ODFW jobs all over the state, Ron decided to return to university to get his teaching degree. In 1996, he student-taught at Huntington and then took over the science position the following year where he taught until his death. Ron taught many different courses at Huntington School and made amazing

connections with his students. He always felt his job was not only to teach science but to create a safe environment for his students. That they did so well on state testing — that was a bonus.  
 During his time at Huntington, Ron created a gaming club and took students to various Magic competitions in the Boise area, helped coach basketball and track, and was the Leadership Advisor. He always hoped that he made a positive impact on his students' lives.  
 Ron and Dawna welcomed their first daughter, Erin, in March of 1999, and their second daughter, Renee, in

November of 2002. He loved his girls very much. He enjoyed sharing his love of games with them and came to as many of their activities and events as he could while teaching 45 miles away. He was the go-to for field trips, including to the Sumpter Dredge and the Oregon Trail Museum, and for science or history-related homework. He enjoyed seeing how their different personalities developed and seeing them grow into young adults.  
 He is survived by his wife, Dawna, and daughters, Erin and Renee of Baker City; his parents, Joe and Julia Blincoe of Madras; his sister, Ellen

(Bill) Dillard and their children, Allison, Rachel, Kristen and Andrew of Carrollton, Texas; his uncles, Kenneth (Yvonne) Blincoe, Bob (Donna) Blincoe, Don "Buzz" Blincoe, David (Sue) Blincoe and Charles (Mae) Griffith; his aunt, Eloise Griffith, along with many cousins. He is also survived by his wife's family and many beloved friends, coworkers, and students.  
 Ron was preceded in death by his grandparents, Willis and Madgie Griffith, and Elizabeth and John Blincoe; his great-aunt, Myrtle Rodgers; his uncle, Paul Griffith; his cousin, Karen Robinette; and his father-in-law, Don

Davis.  
 The family asks that any donations people wish to make be directed to the Billie Ruth Bootsma Outpatient Clinic in Baker City to help purchase a wound treatment chair.

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