

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, JAN. 31

■ **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.

### MONDAY, FEB. 3

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

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

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

### FRIDAY, FEB. 7

■ **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, FEB. 10

■ **Baker County Library Board:** 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Riverside meeting room at the library, 2400 Resort St. Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District Board: 7 p.m. at the Pondosa Station.

### TUESDAY FEB. 11

■ **Baker City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 1655 First St.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO

from the *Democrat-Herald*  
January 30, 1970

The St. Francis Leopards prowled about Burnt River Friday night and raced back to Baker boasting a 66-45 win over the Bulls.

### 25 YEARS AGO

from the *Baker City Herald*  
January 30, 1995

Imagine taking the newspaper you're holding, forcing it through a screen until it's the consistency of drier lint, mixing that with a resin, then flattening the mixture in a 62-ton press to form a door shell.

### 10 YEARS AGO

from the *Baker City Herald*  
January 29, 2010

Tuesday's passage of two statewide tax-raising ballot measures isn't a cure-all for what's ailing Oregon schools, but it did provide a measure of relief, according to Doug Dalton, Baker School District business manager.

### ONE YEAR AGO

from the *Baker City Herald*  
January 30, 2019

Baker High School has shown a 5-percent increase in the number of students who graduate on time in four years over last year's numbers, according to the latest Oregon Department of Education report issued last week.

About 84 percent of Baker High School seniors graduated on time in 2018. That included 112 students. The number who dropped out before graduation day totaled 16, the report states.

The Baker statistics are 5 percentage points above the state average of about 79 percent of students graduating in four years.

The BHS on-time graduation rate has fluctuated over the past three school years — 84 percent last year, 79 percent in 2016-17 and 87 percent in 2015-16.

Assistant Superintendent Betty Palmer pointed to programs in place at Baker High School aimed at improving the graduation rate. Principal Greg Mitchell and his staff have developed a student-led Jostens Renaissance program to improve school climate, developed a trauma-informed approach to help students experiencing difficulties in their lives and personalized learning plans to help students navigate toward graduation.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, Jan. 27

2 — 6 — 21 — 31 — 34 — 39  
Next jackpot: \$2.6 million

### MEGA MILLIONS, Jan. 28

X — X — X — X — X Mega X  
Next jackpot: \$x million

### WIN FOR LIFE, Jan. 27

22 — 26 — 46 — 66

### PICK 4, Jan. 28

• 1 p.m.: 9 — 6 — 1 — 3  
• 4 p.m.: 4 — 0 — 3 — 5  
• 7 p.m.: 9 — 5 — 0 — 7  
• 10 p.m.: 3 — 9 — 3 — 2

### LUCKY LINES, Jan. 28

3-6-11-15-20-24-27-32  
Next jackpot: \$28,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **THURSDAY:** Barbecued pork ribs, baked beans, corn, roll, carrot-raisin salad, apple crisp
- **FRIDAY:** Chicken cordon bleu with hollandaise sauce, parsliled red potatoes, bread, fruit cup, 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.

## CONTACT THE HERALD

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## OBITUARIES

### Rex Hoopes

Formerly of Baker City, 1956-2020

Rex E. Hoopes, 63, of Boise, and formerly of Baker City, died peacefully in his sleep on Jan. 24, 2020, after a year-long battle with cancer.

Rex was always up for a fight, so the peaceful part surprised us all, his family said. We think it was mostly to avoid dealing with Google, his phone and the lackluster room service his loved ones were providing.

A casual graveside service will take place Saturday, Feb. 1 at noon at Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker City. Don't worry about dressing fancy and be ready to hear some Beatles tunes.

Rex was born on Dec. 9, 1956, at Baker to John and Letha Hoopes. He was always a true little brother, looking to cause trouble and be a hellion. Shooting, fishing and catching pet pigeons with tennis rackets rounded out his childhood. He served an LDS mission in the Southern USA, graduated with a bachelor's degree from Utah State University and raced around on his motorcycle. He married a foxy girl from Utah and had four beautiful kids.

He loved making guitars and wrote his own songs. He loved sitting in the middle of everyone and playing them as loudly as he could. He loved going on drives, complaining, reading, Star Trek, gardening and spending time with great friends. He enjoyed hunting with his brother, but more so eating snacks, napping in the woods, and telling "big elk" stories. He was somehow both the surliest and friendliest of people, and had many friends wherever he went. He was a great builder and handyman and enjoyed constructing heavy-duty things that could withstand any apocalypse.

Rex is survived by his wife, Debbie; his four children, Whitney (Ben) Mortensen of Camas, Washington, Taryn, Tanner and Alex Hoopes of Boise; two grandsons, Levi and Charlie Mortensen; his siblings, Nancy Fuller, Dale and Kenny Hoopes; and a ton of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother; and his older brother, Garry.

Donations in Rex's memory can be made to St. Luke's Hospice and sent to Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave a condolence for his family, or to light a candle in Rex's memory, go to [www.colestribute-center.com](http://www.colestribute-center.com)

### George Braughton

Baker City, 1940-2020

George David Braughton, 79, of Baker City, died Jan. 20, 2020, at his home with his wife, Sue, at his side.

A short military service will take place at 11 a.m. March 28 at the Eagles Lodge, 2935 H St. A potluck will follow. Salads and desserts are requested.

George was born on Nov. 4, 1940, at Roseburg to John Daniel Braughton and Opal Conner Braughton. The family



Rex Hoopes

lived at Joseph in a logging camp on Sheep Creek that his father ran and owned. In the winter he and his brother, John, and their mother would move into town so the boys could attend school.

Later in life, the family moved to La Grande where George attended Greenwood Elementary School and La Grande Junior High.

In 1958, George graduated from La Grande High School. He helped start and was a member of the "Ronde River Rodders Car Club."

After graduation, he joined the Air Force and was stationed at Chanute Air Force Base in Illinois where he was a crew chief jet engine mechanic on the B52s.

Next he was a log truck mechanic and later he drove log trucks for a short time. He also worked as a faller.

He broke his back when a tree flipped him backward on the tree stump. He required two back surgeries.

He also worked as a millwright at Elingsons and for John Deere Tractor.

George attended Baker Business College and received an associate degree in accounting. He ran the H & R Block office in La Grande for several years.

At Business College, he met and married Susan Backlund in 1975. They just celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary on Dec. 31, 2019. They had a wonderful life together for 47 years.

For 20 years, George was area representative for UMCI (United Motorcycle International). He enjoyed traveling on his "Goldwing motorcycle" throughout the Northwest and Canada, with Sue pulling a Bunkhouse trailer with a California sidecar.

He also enjoyed driving his race car, called the "6-S" (Six Success) on the oval dirt track, and demolition derby where he took first place in his heats.

George enjoyed deer hunting with is dad and brother, John, and his wife, Sue. He loved being outdoors, sitting around the campfire telling stories, fishing and cooking dinners in the hot coals.

George liked making things for the grandkids like rocking horses, doll beds and his favorite, Noah's Ark with all the animals, that was his most-prized work.

Survivors include his wife, Susan "Sue," his brother, John D. Braughton and his wife, Cari, of Elgin; son, James Kyle Braughton of Portland; stepdaughters, Kelly Gross of Oregon, and Kimberly Ross and her husband, Nathan, of Snohomish, Washington; a stepson, retired Special Forces Capt. Kevin E. Welborn and Karli Hunter of Snohomish, Washington; seven grandkids and three great-grandkids, who he enjoyed.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Opal Braughton; and several nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

### Alan King

Baker City, 1939-2020

Alan King, 80, of Baker City, died Jan. 16, 2020, after a brief illness.

His memorial service will take place Saturday, Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. at the Baker City Church of the Nazarene, 1250 Hughes Lane. A reception will be held

immediately following at the church.

Alan was born on Feb. 28, 1939, at San Bernardino, California, to Bill and LaVere King. He grew up in the small community of Adelanto, California, helping his parents and siblings raise chickens and, being a typical boy, loved the outdoors. Thank goodness he never actually grew up, and he was referred to as "The World's Oldest 15-Year-Old" on more than one occasion! After graduating Victor Valley High School in 1957, he enrolled at both Chaffey and Biola College and played competitive water polo. He soon realized that college life was not for him. He joined the Forest Service/Hot Shot crew helping put out fires before deciding to pursue the one thing he'd always dreamed of doing, driving trucks.

His whole life he was obsessed with ALL things trucks and would do anything he could to share his passion with long-wheelbase Peterbilts. In his career as a driver, his trucks were used in numerous advertisements and even in the pilot episode for the TV show "The Rockford Files" because they were so impeccably cleaned. He also amassed a total of over 5 million driven miles. He loved hunting, fishing, reading Louis L'Amour books and working outside keeping his home in perfect order. He proposed to Lynda and was married for 55 years (producing three amazing kids) until the Lord called her home. He was one of the fortunate ones who was able to find love twice and found his equally amazing wife, Myrna (They were both introduced to him by the same great friend) who provided almost two years of laughter and constantly keeping him on his feet.

Alan leaves behind his wife, Myrna; his brother, Jim (Debbie); his children, Brad (Vickie) and Stephanie (Eric); his grandchildren, Brittney, Alissa, Connor and Madalynn; along with his great-grandchildren, Meira, Milo and Wyatt.

He was preceded in death by his son, Sean; and his sister, Joy.

Those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Alan may do so to Missions-McEwen Church through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

### Phil Burroughs

Formerly of Baker City, 1942-2020

Phil Burroughs, 77, of Talent, Oregon, and formerly of Baker City, died quietly in his home on Jan. 12, 2020.

The family will announce the time, date and location of his memorial service later.

Phil was born on Nov. 13, 1942, at Stockton, California, and lived variously in Orland, California, Baker City and Talent.

An avid reader, lifelong farmer and student of history, he is survived by his wife, Lynne; their three sons; one foster son; and five grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family would request donations to P.E.O. Chapter AC in the care of Emilie Vest at 118 Marin Court, Talent, OR 97540.

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Albert H. Durgan:** 89, of Baker City, died Jan. 25, 2020, at his residence at Meadowbrook Place. There will be a celebration of his life in the spring. Memorial contributions may be made to Heart 'N' Home Hospice or First Lutheran Church through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer

Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Al, or to leave a condolence for the family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com).

**Mildred A. Greenwood:** 97, of Unity, and recently of John Day, died Jan. 27, 2020, at Valley View Assisted Living Facility in John Day. Services will be

scheduled later. Arrangements are under the direction of Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel. To leave an online condolence for her family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police Arrests, citations**

**SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING:** Juan Pablo Burgos, 58, Baker City transient, 7:11 p.m. Monday, in the 700 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

**PROBATION VIOLATION** (Lincoln County detainer): Ariel Rodriguez, 21, of Baker City, 2:57 p.m. Monday, at 3610 Midway Drive; jailed.

**SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING:** Stacy Lee Lindstrom, 40, transient, 3:40 a.m. Tuesday, at 211 Bridge St.; cited and released.

**SECOND-DEGREE THEFT** (out-of-county warrant): Carmon Deon Hendrikson, 31, of Baker City, 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, in the 700 block of Campbell Street; jailed.

**Baker County Sheriff's Office**

**Arrests, citations**  
**FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Donald Carl Johnson, 63, of 14657 Pine Creek Lane, 9:11 a.m. Tuesday; cited and released.

**Oregon State Police Arrests, citations**  
**DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS:** Ruvim Mironyuk, 41, of Kirkland, Washington, 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, on Interstate 84 near Durkee; jailed.

**Don't text and drive... you won't have to come see us!**



**Joe Scott's Premier Auto Body, Inc.**  
2390 Broadway, Baker City  
541-523-5223

**Best Friends of Baker Saturday Market**  
Open EVERY Saturday 8 AM - 2 PM  
**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE SALE**

2950 Church St, Baker City (first left after Broadway turns into 10th)  
We accept debit, credit, cash & checks!  
Donations accepted Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 9-1  
(All proceeds benefit the animals of Baker County)

