

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### TUESDAY FEB. 25

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

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

■ **Baker City Tree Board:** 5:30 p.m., Conference Room at City Hall, 1655 First St.

### FRIDAY, FEB. 28

■ **Baker City Golf Board:** 8 a.m., Conference Room, upstairs at City Hall, 1655 First St.

■ **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, MARCH 2

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

### TUESDAY, MARCH 3

■ **Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC):** 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., at the Community Connection meeting room, 2810 Cedar St.; lunch will be provided.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

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

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald February 24, 1970

Thomas C. Hunt, assistant manager of U.S. National Bank of Oregon's Baker branch, has retired after a career of 46 years in banking.

### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 25, 1995

The only things missing Thursday were green leaves. Everything else was pure spring.

Thursday's high temperature of 66 degrees at the Baker City Municipal Airport was the warmest February day since at least 1951.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 24, 2010

After returning to work Feb. 15 at the Ash Grove Cement plant in Durkee, John R. McLean of Huntington said he's happy to be back on the job, but worried about the prospect of the plant closing permanently due to federal mercury emissions limits scheduled to be announced in June.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald February 25, 2019

Baker County hasn't seen a February like this one in, well, maybe never.

A month that generally offers something of a respite from winter has instead delivered a nearly incessant series of storms that have boosted mountain snowpacks well above average.

At the Baker City Airport, where some of the precipitation has fallen as rain, this is likely to be the wettest February since record-keeping started in 1943.

As of this morning, February's precipitation total at the Airport was 1.52 inches.

That's more than double the long-time monthly average of 0.63 of an inch, and it ranks second on the all-time list behind only 1986's total of 1.66 inches.

With snow still falling, and the parade of storms forecast to continue, that record probably will fall this week. The persistently cold, wet weather has had a dramatic effect on mountain snowpacks since Feb. 1.

## OREGON LOTTERY

**MEGABUCKS, Feb. 22**  
13 — 15 — 25 — 29 — 43 — 47  
Next jackpot: \$4.8 million

**POWERBALL, Feb. 22**  
25 — 37 — 39 — 61 — 62 PB 11  
Next jackpot: \$70 million

**MEGA MILLIONS, Feb. 21**  
4 — 7 — 13 — 16 — 60 Mega 6  
Next jackpot: \$55 million

**WIN FOR LIFE, Feb. 22**  
11 — 63 — 66 — 75

### PICK 4, Feb. 23

• 1 p.m.: 8 — 7 — 3 — 2  
• 4 p.m.: 5 — 7 — 5 — 4  
• 7 p.m.: 4 — 6 — 8 — 3  
• 10 p.m.: 9 — 7 — 0 — 8  
**LUCKY LINES, Feb. 23**  
48-12-14-19-22-26-30  
Next jackpot: \$54,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Pork pot roast, parslid red potatoes, green beans, roll, pea-and-onion salad, birthday cake
- **THURSDAY:** Salisbury steak, potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, roll, fruit ambrosia, bread pudding
- **FRIDAY:** Baked cod, cup of clam chowder, green beans, roll, coleslaw, apple crisp

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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# Fire chief takes job in Washington

Baker City Fire Chief John Clark announced on the Baker City Fire and Rescue Facebook page Monday afternoon that he officially will be leaving his position on April 4 to take a new job in Washington.

Clark, who was hired for the Baker City job in November 2018, is leaving the department to work as fire chief at North Whidbey Island Fire and Rescue in Oak Harbor, Washington.

Clark outlined this transition plan

for the Baker City Fire Department in his Facebook post:

Effective Feb. 26, Baker Rural Fire Protection District Chief Sean Lee will begin serving as interim Baker City fire chief. Clark said he and Lee will work together until Clark's final departure.

Administrative Assistant Samantha Clinkenbeard will begin working full



Clark

time in her position, beginning March 24, Clark said.

While his last official day will be April 4, Clark said his duty time will be limited after March 12 while he uses banked time off.

The Facebook post encourages people to "feel free to see me or give me a call if you have any questions."

Clark did not respond to phone messages inquiring about his resignation prior to deadline for this story.

## TRIAL

Continued from Page 1A

Students portraying witnesses are judged on how well they play their characters and their ability to stay in character on the witness stand.

Pepera said the 13-member BHS team started practicing for the reginoal competition just before winter vacation. When school resumed they

began practicing daily after school and on Saturdays, including visits to the Baker County Courthouse where Circuit Court Judge Matt Shirtcliff and assistant district attorney Kevin Imhoff assisted the team.

Pepera said he was impressed with both the BHS and La Grande teams' "courtroom etiquette and professionalism."

He said he's excited about

the students' opportunity to compete against teams from much larger schools at the state event.

"It's a neat experience for the Baker kids," Pepera said.

Baker team members are: Seniors Anthony Cowen, Taya Riley, Laura Illingsworth, Katie Villalobos and Russell Anderson; juniors Hunter Long, Kyle Logsdon, Karl Bowman and Payton Shirtcliff; sophomores Savan-

nah Brown, Phoebe Wise and Jose Arenas; and freshman Thaddeus Pepera.

There will be 18 teams competing at the state tournament. During the Friday and Saturday contests, there will be four rounds leading to a final championship round, Gallagher said. The winner of the final advances to the national competition.

It is set for May 7-10 at Evansville, Indiana.

## OBITUARY

### Celeste Biggs

Formerly of Halfway, 1942-2020

Celeste Biggs, 77, died Feb. 22, 2020, leaving this world to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

She was born on Dec. 8, 1942, at Springfield, Massachusetts, to Arthur B. and Rose Bouford Morin. Because of an error at the hospital, Celeste's birth certificate shows her as Marie Celeste Morin, but she was always known as Celeste and not Marie.

She lived in many states during her life. After graduating from Classical High School in Springfield in 1960, Celeste attended Barry University in Miami, Florida, where she majored in nursing for two years before changing her major to dental hygiene and transferring to the University of Bridgeport at Bridgeport, Connecticut. She graduated in 1964 and was elected to the National Dental Hygiene Honor Society.

It was during "finals week" that she had a chance meeting with Jim Scott Jr., who was from Detroit and was attending a nearby university. They both went their ways until Jim joined the Coast Guard and was stationed in Connecticut. They reconnected and were married the following year in the Coast Guard Academy Chapel in New London, Connecticut. They eventually made their home in Detroit where their daughter, Theresa Renee, was born.

Celeste did not do well in Detroit due to her health issues, so her doctor recommended they move to Arizona. After finding that Phoenix was just a hot Detroit, they moved to Prescott, Arizona, where their son, Jim III, was born. Celeste's health improved and they moved to Flagstaff, Arizona, so



Celeste Biggs

they could attend Northern Arizona University.

Both Celeste and Jim attended classes there while Celeste worked as a dental hygienist. Upon Jim's graduation in forestry, Jim was offered a position at the remote outpost of Blue Ridge Ranger Station located between Flagstaff and Winslow. From there they were transferred to Beaver Creek Ranger Station near Rim Rock, Arizona, then on to Silver City, New Mexico, where Celeste once again worked as a dental hygienist.

From there they moved to Halfway, where Celeste opened a health food store and sponsored a homeopathic physician from Portland who traveled once a month to Halfway to treat patients in the Halfway area. Celeste eventually sold her store and began another career after receiving a Realtor's license.

After three years as a Realtor, a profession she enjoyed very much, Celeste moved to Longview, Washington, to help her son who was a single dad with three young boys.

Upon leaving Longview, Celeste, who was now single, relocated in Boise where she had the opportunity to travel to Louisiana on a Hurricane Katrina relief team sponsored by Calvary Chapel in Boise. It was during this time that she met her future husband, William Biggs. They were married the following year and soon after moved to Midvale, Idaho. Celeste was born in the city, but was always a country girl at heart.

At the age of 7, Celeste's dad presented her with a bamboo fishing pole. Fishing became another one of her many enjoyments. She took her enjoyment of fishing on her many miles of backpacking trips through the wilderness in the western U.S. and Canada.

She also enjoyed sewing, gardening

and cross-country skiing in the mountains above Halfway. One must also mention her "famous" homemade turkey jerky which her family could never seem to get enough of.

She loved her Lord. During her life with Him — especially during her illness — He offered her many opportunities to share Jesus with others and to pray with them.

She also loved her family and horses. By the time she was 3 years old, she was riding ponies at the local park in Springfield. When she got too big for the ponies at the age of 5, she began taking riding lessons at a local stable and competed in numerous horse shows at home and in college.

Those who knew Celeste would often hear her talk about her bucket list, which included her desire to spend more time with family and to get on a horse and jump hurdles one more time and to make another batch of turkey jerky.

Celeste is survived by her loving husband, Bill; her daughter, Theresa Scott Leija (Jaime) of Hagerman, Idaho; her son, Jim Scott III of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania; a stepdaughter, Renae Greene (Mark) of Boise; 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her longtime friend and prayer partner, Denise Cairns of Halfway.

She was preceded in death by her parents and infant twins, John and Joan Scott.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Midvale Idaho Church of Christ, Hope Pregnancy Center of Ontario or to the charity of one's choice through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Rachel Carleen Hottendorf:** 87, of Hermiston, died Feb. 15, 2020, at Hermiston. She was born Oct. 29, 1932, at Ware County, Georgia. A celebration of life service will take place Friday, Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel in Hermiston. Burial will be at a later date at Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker City. Share memories with her family at [www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com](http://www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com)

**Thomas Eugene Long:** 80, formerly of Baker City, died Feb. 22, 2020, at Hermiston. A celebration of his life will take place Saturday, Feb. 29 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Harkenrider Senior Center, 255 N.E. Second St. in Hermiston.

### FUNERALS PENDING

**Ernest 'Ernie' Metcalf:** His memorial service will take place on Saturday, Feb. 29, at 1:30 p.m. at the Baker City Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 975 S. Bridge St. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

**James "Jim" Corrigan:** Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 7, at St. Terese Catholic Church in Halfway. Burial with military honors will take place at noon at Pine Haven Cemetery in

Halfway. There will be a potluck afterward at the Halfway Lions Hall. The family suggests memorial contributions to a charity of one's choice through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police**  
CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant) and POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Cody James Newman-Roberts, 24, of Middleton, Idaho, 4:19 p.m. Friday, at the police department; cited and released.

### Crime reports

At 2480 Main St. between 3 p.m. Jan. 9 and Feb. 18, a portable oxygen concentrator machine valued at \$3,500 belonging to Lincare reportedly was taken from the home of a Lincare client who died recently, police said. The crime was reported at 2:21 p.m. Friday; other items, including a cellphone and jewelry, possibly were taken; the investigation is continuing.

**Baker County Sheriff's Office**  
DEPOSING LIGHTED MATERIAL ON THE HIGHWAY: Brennan William Fite, 23, of Union, 8:45 a.m. Friday, on Highway 86 at Ruckles Creek Road; cited and released.

**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

**FEB 21-27**  
**ELTRYM HISTORIC THEATER**  
1809 1st Street, Baker City  
[www.eltrym.com](http://www.eltrym.com)

**THE CALL OF THE WILD** PG  
FRI: 7:10  
SAT & SUN: (1:10) (4:10) 7:10  
MON-THURS: 7:10

**SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** PG  
FRI: 7:20  
SAT & SUN: (1:20) (4:20) 7:20  
MON-THURS: 7:20

**BIRDS OF PREY** R  
FRI: 7:00  
SAT & SUN: (1:00) (4:00) 7:00  
MON-THURS: 7:00

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Show Times: 541-523-2522  
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