

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO
from the Democrat-Herald
August 22, 1970

“There’s going to be a hot time in the old barn tonight.” This was the familiar expression heard in days gone by when old-fashioned barn dances were held every Saturday on a well-polished hayloft floor. A fiddler or two, a guitarist and an accordion player got together to produce toe-tapping harmony.

Only memories remain of those days, since few people live on farms now, and fewer have adequate haylofts to accommodate a barn dance. As a result, old-time fiddlin’ appeared to be a vanishing art until recently, when the idea of old-time fiddlers contests spread throughout the country.

25 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
August 22, 1995

Most Baker County hunters oppose a state proposal to allow them to shoot only spike bulls during the general elk season in three of the county’s five units.

About 40 people attended a public meeting Monday night in Baker City. All who spoke objected to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s proposed methods to bolster declining bull-to-cow ratios throughout Northeastern Oregon.

And judging by the reactions of the other audience members to speakers’ statements, opposition was virtually unanimous.

10 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
August 23, 2010

The U.S. Forest Service has enlisted some heavy-lifting help in the campaign to douse wildfires in Northeastern Oregon.

A Boeing 234 Chinook helicopter has been on standby at the Baker City Municipal Airport for about the past month.

The twin-rotor aircraft can dump more than 1,700 gallons of water on a blaze.

ONE YEAR AGO
from the Baker City Herald
August 23, 2019

The annual Memory Cruise is gearing up for its 29th year Saturday.

Between 140-180 cars will be shown at this year’s event at Geiser-Pollman Park.

Wayne Ryder, one of the organizers of the event, said registration begins at 8 a.m. with a raffle during the day and live music.

They have 40 awards that will be given out at 4 p.m.

The Durkee Steak Feed at the Quail Ridge Golf Course will go from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and the Downtown Cruise will begin at 8:30.

Among the cars to be shown will be Bob and Cherie Ward’s 1956 Ford pickup truck that Bob has rebuilt three times.

Bob, 66, had always wanted a ’56 pickup since he had seen one driving by his high school.

Cherie, 67, explained he finally got his pickup after they were married.

“He brought it home and it was on a flat bed trailer and in boxes and he’s rebuilt it three times,” said Cherie. “The last time was in 1988.”

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Aug. 19
1 — 24 — 28 — 41 — 44 — 46
Next jackpot: \$5.6 million

POWERBALL, Aug. 19
13 — 23 — 47 — 55 — 58 PB 23
Next jackpot: \$29 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Aug. 18
4 — 18 — 26 — 27 — 58 Mega 23
Next jackpot: \$49 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Aug. 19
28 — 49 — 55 — 73

PICK 4, Aug. 20

- 1 p.m.: 7 — 0 — 5 — 2
- 4 p.m.: 4 — 9 — 8 — 7
- 7 p.m.: 1 — 4 — 8 — 2
- 10 p.m.: 0 — 7 — 9 — 1

LUCKY LINES, Aug. 20
1-8-11-14-19-22-27-30
Next jackpot: \$45,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Orange-glazed chicken tenders, fried rice, Asian vegetables, bread, Asian salad, cookies
- **TUESDAY:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, cauliflower, garlic breadsticks, green salad, cheesecake
- **WEDNESDAY:** Pork roast, potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, gelatin with fruit, birthday cake
- **THURSDAY:** Baked cod, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, ice cream
- **FRIDAY:** Hot turkey sandwich, stuffing with gravy, carrots, broccoli-bacon salad, apple crisp

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, under 60. Meals must be picked up; there is no dining on site.

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RELIEF

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“It’s very hard to come up with rent sometimes,” Stone said as she stood in the sunshine outside Old West. “If it wasn’t for my family, I probably wouldn’t make a cent. That’s what we’re dealing with. My youngest son, he lives with me, he’s lost his job because of the COVID-19, they laid him off in April. He was qualified, he got the money. It hasn’t been easy, it’s been very hard because I miss my students.”

Stone said she learned about the relief checks from her daughter-in-law.

Olsen, 66, who cleans houses, said she had finished her second home of the day Thursday before heading for Old West.

“There aren’t the house-cleaning jobs there were, and I do odd jobs to supplement my Social Security, my Social Security goes to pay my mortgage,” Olsen said. “So, I cringe every time bills come in, utility bills and stuff, so this is my way of trying to get some help.”

Olsen said the economic downturn caused by the pandemic and the related restrictions on businesses have affected some of her clients.

The owner of the second home she cleaned on Thursday, for instance, hasn’t been able to pay Olsen for several months.

“She’s homebound and just can’t afford to pay right now,” Olsen said. “It slowed down the jobs that I get.”

Among the people who lined up Friday morning, only to find out that the \$35 million had been depleted, is Karin, a Baker City resident who declined to give her last name.

VIRUS

Continued from Page 1A

The woman who died is one of 11 people who tested positive for COVID-19 in an outbreak at Meadowbrook, the first outbreak in the county. The outbreak pushed the county’s total of positive cases to 14 from Aug. 9-15, the highest weekly total.

The county also set a record for the number of people tested — 189 — from Aug. 9-15, according to the OHA.

Of those 189 tests, 175 were negative.

OBITUARY

William Holoboff
Granite, 1937-2020

William Holoboff, 83, of Granite, died on Aug. 9, 2020, at his home.



William Holoboff
Nicoli and Mary (Popoff) Holoboff

A memorial service for William will take place at a later date.

On May 17, 1937, at Salem, Nicoli and Mary (Popoff) Holoboff welcomed William into their family. He attended North Salem High School, graduating in 1957. After high school, Bill served in the United States Army as a PFC from 1959 to 1963. He worked for himself for 30 years as a farmer, retiring in 1992.

Bill married Mary Lou Sohler on March 12, 1966, at Hood River. Mary Lou and Bill raised two daughters together, Bonnie and Heidi.

Bill enjoyed gold prospecting and wood carving; he was a life member of the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, and a life member of the Gold Prospectors Association of America. Bill was also a member of the NRA, Good Sam Club, and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Bill is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mary Lou Holoboff; and his two daughters, Bonnie Holoboff-Johnson of Cambridge, Idaho, and Heidi Davidson of Kalaeo, Hawaii. He is also survived by three



Samantha O’Conner/Baker City Herald

The offer of a \$500 check for people financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic brought a crowd of people to Old West Federal Credit Union on Thursday to apply.

Karin said she and her husband, who moved to Baker City about a year ago, had three businesses, all of which they’ve had to close since the pandemic started.

“And there’s nothing we can do about it and so we’re waiting for this stimulus check, waiting for that stimulus check,” she said.

Shannon, who also declined to give her last name, said she’s a licensed massage therapist who had to close her business March 15.

She said she’s still trying to catch up on back rent for her office and apartment.

She also missed out on the \$500 check.

Bob Kavanaugh, manager of marketing and business development and member experience for Old West, said Thursday that the nonprofit credit union has been working for the past few weeks to prepare for the expected influx of people applying for the \$500 check.

Olson, the Old West Credit Union’s president and CEO, said the credit union distributed about 500 checks

on Thursday and a couple hundred on Wednesday.

Those are cumulative totals from the seven branches (of Old West’s eight) that participated in the program, Olson said.

He didn’t have the number of checks issued by individual branches.

In addition to the Baker City office, Old West has branches in John Day, Prairie City, Pendleton, Hermiston, Burns, La Grande and Union.

Kavanaugh said Olson has been focusing on preparations, along with regional manager Matt Goodwin and Chris Kommer, who manages the Baker City branch. Employees were familiar with the eligibility criteria, Kavanaugh said.

Those include:

- A current resident of Oregon and 18 or older.
- Able to provide documents, such as a driver’s license, that prove they are currently living in Oregon.
- Attest that they are experiencing severe financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the governor’s “Stay

Home, Save Lives” executive orders issued in March.

- Have earned \$4,000 per month or less pre-tax prior to their income loss due to COVID-19.
- Not received all unemployment payments they are owed.
- Some people who haven’t applied for unemployment benefits, or who were denied, might have qualified for the \$500 check.

“As a nonprofit credit union we strive to be incredibly committed to our communities, and we know people need help,” Kavanaugh said. “This is of the highest priority. It’s not easy to stand in line in the heat and apply for this assistance.”

Kavanaugh said Thursday afternoon that the average time to process applications was about 5 minutes.

Olson, the Old West CEO, said state officials had advised credit unions to expect about 30 minutes per application, so he was pleased with the faster turnaround time.

“The staff did really, really well,” Olson said.

He said Old West agreed to participate in the aid program “because it ensured every dollar that was allocated actually went to the recipient. It was just the most efficient use of that fund and it meant that every single dollar of the 35 million went to the recipients as opposed to getting lost in the state bureaucracy.”

Calls to Umpqua Bank were not returned by press time Friday afternoon.

Banks and credit unions did not charge the state for their overhead costs from processing applications and cutting checks.



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SEEKING VOLUNTEERS



New Hope for Eastern Oregon Animals is seeking volunteers to assist with its Baker City feral cat Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program. Working in partnership with the City Police Department for a number of years, the TNR Program is a humane alternative to limiting the proliferation of litters of feral kittens, as well as keeping overall populations in check. TNR does this by trapping kittens and adult cats in a specific area of the City, spaying or neutering them, and then returning them to occupy that same site, which reduces the likelihood of other cats moving in as the territory is occupied. This has led to a desired decrease in complaints concerning feral and stray cat numbers for the City. This year has been marked with an above average number of litters observed or reported thus far, making it important to all within our means to “keep the lid on” populations. Volunteers make this program work. Along with funding the veterinary aspect of spay and neuter surgery. Retirement of our seasoned volunteers over the past 2 years has reduced our ability to carry out this work effectively.

New Hope is seeking volunteers to assist with trapping, fostering litters too small to undergo surgery, and feeding. No experience is necessary. Compassion and patience are good traits in a volunteer. Those interested in volunteering should call New Hope at 541-403-2710 or 541-403-0724.

