

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

TUESDAY, OCT. 13

■ **BAKER CITY COUNCIL:** 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14

■ **BAKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:** Work session, 9 a.m.; the public is encouraged to attend using the Zoom link available at <https://www.bakercounty.org/online/meetings.html>

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald October 13, 1970

At a recent meeting of the Little League and Babe Ruth Baseball Board, the members decided to expand the board to include two sub-boards, one each for each age group in the baseball program.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald October 13, 1995

The Crawfish fire died as it was born — at the behest of nature.

The U.S. Forest Service declared the 516-acre prescribed natural fire out Thursday, said Steve Snider, fire management officer for the Burnt-Powder Fire Zone. Forest Service employees last saw smoke — from a smoldering log — several days ago.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald October 13, 2010

The Baker City Council opted Tuesday to wait until it has more information before councilors decide whether to approve a change in the sidewalk design ordinance.

During the ordinance codification process that the Council finished in March, the sidewalk rules were changed.

Now, sidewalks on Main Street in the historic downtown district must have two-foot squares scored in the surface.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald October 14, 2019

It's not every day you can watch a helicopter land in the middle of Second Street and then see a car's roof cut off. And nobody was hurt in either case.

But dozens of kids, and not a few adults, had a chance to experience both events, and several other fun activities besides, on a sunny Saturday afternoon at the Baker City Fire Department.

The open house was the culmination of National Fire Prevention Week.

Among the highlights was the arrival of a Life Flight helicopter from La Grande.

Pilot Micah Budge set down the Agusta 119 chopper in the center of Second Street in front of the Fire Department.

With the aircraft's four-bladed rotor motionless, children began to clamber around the shiny blue machine.

Flight paramedic Robert Feik made sure the trio of Charlie Baunsgard, 7, and CeCe Baunsgard, 4, visiting from Stayton, and Izzie Conklin, 3, of Baker City, each had a helicopter sticker as they climbed down from the aircraft.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Oct. 10

1 — 10 — 16 — 30 — 38 — 45
Next jackpot: \$3 million

POWERBALL, Oct. 10

5 — 18 — 23 — 40 — 50 PB 18
Next jackpot: \$72 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Oct. 9

5 — 11 — 25 — 27 — 64 Mega 13
Next jackpot: \$69 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Oct. 10

5 — 24 — 49 — 75

PICK 4, Oct. 11

• 1 p.m.: 0 — 9 — 5 — 4

• 4 p.m.: 3 — 2 — 1 — 1

• 7 p.m.: 7 — 2 — 0 — 8

• 10 p.m.: 3 — 5 — 3 — 3

LUCKY LINES, Oct. 11

4-8-9-13-18-22-26-32

Next jackpot: \$11,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Chicken cordon bleu with hollandaise sauce, rice pilaf, carrots, bread, fruit ambrosia, cake
- **THURSDAY:** Beef pot roast, parslid red potatoes, mixed vegetables, roll, gelatin with fruit, lemon bar
- **FRIDAY:** Breaded chicken strips, potatoes and gravy, cream corn, bread, cottage cheese with fruit, cinnamon rolls.
- **MONDAY (Oct. 19):** Chicken ala king over a biscuit, mixed vegetables, fruit cup, brownies
- **TUESDAY (Oct. 20):** Barbecued ribs, au gratin potatoes, green beans, roll, broccoli-bacon salad, apple crisp

Lunches 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.

CONTACT THE HERALD

1668 Resort St.

Open Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Fax: 541-833-6414

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Cathy Swain

Baker City, 1956-2020

Cathy Swain, 63, of Baker City, died on Oct. 2, 2020, at her home.

Per her request, there will be no funeral.

Cathy Ann Simonis made her dramatic arrival on Dec. 11, 1956, on a gurney in the hallway of a hospital at Portland. Her dad disputed paying the full hospital bill as he was the one who delivered her.



Cathy Swain

Cathy's brother was in the military and she spent her childhood moving around to wherever he was stationed. She spent her working career as a CNA at St. Elizabeth Hospital. She enjoyed taking care of people and treated everyone with love and kindness.

Cathy loved to travel with her best friend and companion, Harold Milner Jr. They were together 34 years before he passed away in May of this year.

As a child, her daughter Kay would bring Cathy bouquets of dandelions. This was a fond memory and reason that dandelions were her favorite. She liked the color blue and adored her cat, Tabatha, that she and Harold cared for. Cathy was a Trek-kie. She enjoyed watching the X-Files and Star Trek and she believed in aliens.

In August, she and her daughter had fun splashing in the ocean waves, laughing, and taking in the moment together. More than anything, Cathy loved her family and taking care of them.

She is survived by her daughter, Kay Talley of Baker City; her brother, Ron Simonis; her sister, Connie Ragsdale; her grandchildren, Michael and Shawn Delve, and Anthony Talley; and four great-grandchildren.

Cathy was preceded in death by her partner, Harold Milner Jr; her parents, Elvin and Eloise Simonis; and her brother, Butch Ragsdale.

The family suggests memorial contributions to Best Friends of Baker through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at www.tamis-pinevalleyfuneralhome.com

'Bob' Stevens

Baker City, 1935-2020

Robert LeRoy "Bob" Stevens, 85, of Baker City, and a former resident of Hermiston, died on Oct. 7, 2020, at his residence.

Bob was born on July 13, 1935, at Libby, Montana, to George Allan Stevens and Catherine Adell Milner. Bob was in the United States Navy from 1952 to 1956 and was ranked damage control second class. During his time in the Navy, Bob received several awards.

In 1960, Bob received his GED at Pendleton. He also received training for physical security. After leaving the service, Bob worked at the Umatilla Army Depot from 1956 until 1975 and received several accommodations for outstanding service in his position. In 1975 Bob went to work for DM Carroll Trucking and Fredrickson Trucking until his retirement in 1995.

On June 19, 1957, Bob married Clarice June Carroll at Hermiston. Together they raised two children, Tammy and Phillip. Bob was a resident of Hermiston and Umatilla County for 55-plus



Bob Stevens

years.

In 2013 Bob and Clarice moved to Baker City to be closer to their daughter. While living in Baker City, Bob joined the Eagles and Baker City VFW. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, woodworking, and collecting and shooting guns.

Bob is survived by his wife, Clarice J. Stevens of Baker City; his son, Phillip A. Stevens (Chris) of Baker City; his daughter, Tammy L. Smietana (Mike) of Baker City; his grandchildren, Stacey Dunley and her family in Wyoming, Jeremy Stevens and his family in Nebraska, special granddaughter, Andrea (Josh) Kennedy and a special great-granddaughter, Cameron Woll, both of Hermiston; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Stevens, and his mother, Catherine McCall; two brothers, Donald Stevens and Richard "Dick" Stevens; and a sister, Betty Stevens.

Memorial contributions may be made to Best Friends of Baker City through Gray's West & Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for Bob's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

Robert Gilkison

Baker City, 1929-2020

Robert Tally "Bob" Gilkison, 90, died quietly on the morning of Sept. 4, 2020. At the time of his death, he lived at Settler's Park Retirement Community in Baker City. Robert suffered from dementia.

His graveside service will take place on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 1 p.m. at the Haines Cemetery.

Robert was born on Oct. 20, 1929, at Redwood City, California, to Robert Earl and Velma Tally Gilkison.

He joined his brother, Elwood, and sister, Veetra. In 1929 the times were tough, and the family lived in several cities while Robert's dad worked for the Pacific Fruit Express. They ended up at Visitation Valley, California. Robert's dad found a fruit ranch in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and during the summer, the family would move there and harvest fruit



Robert Gilkison

and package it and sell it to the stores in Visitation Valley. When Robert started high school, the war had broken out, and things were not going well. He lost interest in school, and to keep him out of trouble his folks let him move back to North Powder where he lived with his Uncle Gene and Aunt Zella. Robert went to North Powder High School and played football, basketball and baseball. In the summers, he worked hard on his uncle's farm, bucking hay and taking care of animals.

His dad got transferred from California to the Ice Plant in Sparks, Nevada. Robert moved back home and worked at the ice plant, but because his dad was the manager, they would not allow him to work. He got a job with the Southern Pacific Railroad servicing the rail cars going east. His dad then got transferred to Bakersfield, California, and Robert went with him.

In 1951, Robert got his letter telling him to report to the army base in San Francisco for a physical. He entered the Army on March 1, 1951. After boot camp, he had two weeks' leave and then was loaded on a ship called the Breakingridge and set out for Guam for an 8-hour layover and then on to Japan. Robert said they were there long enough to sight in their guns, and then they were shipped off to Korea. He served for 1 year and 8 months with the 25th infantry division (Tropic Lightning). He was discharged in October 1952.

After his discharge, he went to work for Bethlehem Steel for 2 years and then worked for Standard Oil in their service stations, which he did for 17 years. While working for Standard Oil, Robert worked in several stations where he was made a manager and ended up at the Fisherman's Wharf station. He would take his vacations to Haines, where he met the sister of two of his friends, Larry and Rod Toney. Claudia Toney and Robert were married on April 10, 1955.

Robert took Claudia back to Visitation Valley while he worked for Standard Oil. Soon Visitation Valley became a hot spot with

rioters in the early 1970s so Robert and Claudia moved back to Haines. After returning to Haines, Robert owned the service station on First and Broadway Streets in Baker City. When supplies of gasoline moved out of Oregon, Robert tried to get Standard Oil to supply the gas, and when he could not get them to supply it, he decided that wasn't what he wanted to do. Robert went to work for the City of Baker. He decided to retire after having both of his knees replaced.

Robert contributed to many organizations in Baker County. He was a volunteer and caretaker at the Eastern Oregon Museum in Haines, where he did many jobs, including building displays, partitions, working inside and outside of the building, and repairing many of the museum's farm equipment displays. He was a member of the Elks and a member of the Haines Fire Protection District when Rod Toney was the fire chief.

In 2012, Robert was given the honor of being the Grand Marshal of the Haines Fourth of July parade. He was very proud of his achievement, and his family was there to cheer him on. Robert was an avid golfer and a member of the Baker City Golf Course and a hunter, fisherman, and woodworker. He loved doing all these things when he had time.

Robert and Claudia never had children of their own, but they were substitute parents to their many nieces and nephews for several generations.

Robert is survived by his sisters-in-law, Marge Toney and Colleen Toney; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Elwood and Delbert; and his sister, Veetra. His wife, Claudia, passed in November of 2009.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Eastern Oregon Museum in Haines through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for Robert's family, go to www.colestributecenter.com

News of Record on Page 3A

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