

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO
from the Democrat-Herald
November 21, 1970

"The only money we have for the fire station and the men is enough to keep it together and maintain the firemen we have now," said city manager Vern Jacobson regarding the two city money measures defeated by voters Nov. 3.

25 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
November 21, 1995

About 70 of the 152 employees of Ellingson Lumber Co. who are or soon will be laid off learned during a Monday workshop what services are available to them, from unemployment benefits to job training.

Workers who were laid off Friday are eligible for unemployment this week, Len York, manager of the Oregon Employment Department's Baker City office, said this morning.

They are eligible for an average of about \$234 per week, he said.

Ellingson laid off employees from its sawmill starting Friday. The last affected workers will be sent home by Dec. 22.

10 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
November 22, 2010

The cutting of this year's Community Christmas Tree seemed pretty routine — until the truck supporting the tree's weight tipped until only one wheel touched the street.

This year's tree, cut from the yard of Christine Whiting on Ninth Drive, is a tall one, but no one seemed to anticipate its weight.

Until the truck started to lean.

But the crew from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative simply got another truck and hooked it to the tree as a counterbalance while Chuck Carey cut a few more feet from the thick trunk.

Regardless of the extra time, the end result is the same: the majestic blue spruce is at its place of honor at Main Street and Court Avenue.

ONE YEAR AGO
from the Baker City Herald
November 22, 2019

A former favorite spot for nightlife in Baker City is getting a royal makeover just in time for the Christmas parade and tree-lighting event on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Jeff Jentzsch of Rupert, Idaho, recently bought the former Royal Cafe and Lounge, a longtime popular dance place, at 1902 Main St., as an investment.

Jentzsch said someone mentioned that it would be fun to have one last dance before he remodels the interior of the building, which is on the east side of Main Street just north of Court Avenue.

He was intrigued.

"The stainless steel floor is still there and that's what we're trying to do, is get this back to a semi-presentable state and do one last dance," Jentzsch said.

The dance will take place after the tree-lighting ceremony, and those attending will have the option to buy a piece of memorabilia from the historic Kennedy Building, constructed around 1900.

Jentzsch sent in a slab of the steel floor to Natural Structures in Baker City, where workers are slicing the sheet into coaster-sized pieces. The pieces work as a ticket as well, but they will have paper tickets too.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Nov. 18
10 — 12 — 19 — 23 — 28 — 35
Next jackpot: \$4.7 million

POWERBALL, Nov. 18
4 — 5 — 17 — 43 — 52 PB 5
Next jackpot: \$192 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Nov. 17
8 — 13 — 35 — 46 — 68 Mega 16
Next jackpot: \$188 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Nov. 18
15 — 19 — 63 — 65

PICK 4, Nov. 19
• 1 p.m.: 7 — 2 — 3 — 3
• 4 p.m.: 8 — 5 — 6 — 2
• 7 p.m.: 1 — 6 — 1 — 4
• 10 p.m.: 5 — 2 — 0 — 7

LUCKY LINES, Nov. 19
2-7-10-14-19-21-25-32
Next jackpot: \$29,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Breaded pork loin, parslied red potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, roll, gelatin with fruit, brownie
- **TUESDAY:** Chicken cordon bleu with hollandaise sauce, baked potato, green beans, roll, broccoli-bacon salad, lemon bar
- **WEDNESDAY:** Barbecued pork ribs, scalloped potatoes, corn, roll, pea-and-onion salad, birthday cake
- **THURSDAY:** Thanksgiving Day; no meals.
- **FRIDAY:** Thanksgiving Holiday; office will be closed, transit will not be running.

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.

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Churches adjust to COVID-19 limits

By **Samantha O'Conner**
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Baker City churches are using livestreaming sermons and taking other steps to comply with restrictions in place during the statewide two-week "freeze" that continues through Dec. 2 with a goal of slowing the spread of COVID-19.

The restrictions include a limit of 25 people attending indoor worship services, or 50 people outdoors.

Pastor Ian Wolfe with the First Lutheran Church said the church requires everyone

to wear a mask and follow social distancing.

"Our numbers are right around 25," Wolfe said.

If the congregation exceeds that limit, Wolfe said the church has areas where worshippers can watch the sermon remotely.

He said the church has offered livestreamed services on Facebook since June, and the videos are also uploaded to the church's YouTube channel.

Pastor Nathan Neff with the Apostolic Lighthouse Church said the church will

comply with the 25-person indoor limit either by adding a second service, or by asking members of the congregation to rotate, with some staying home to watch services online while others attend in person.

Pastor Richard Wagemaker with the Calvary Chapel said they will be making some changes, including keeping their congregations at or below the temporary state limit.

Worshippers will wear masks, hand sanitation stations are in place, and surfaces will be disinfected.

"We've been doing noncon-

tact temperature readings, stuff like that, everything we can to make sure everybody's staying safe," Wagemaker said.

The church offers both in-person and online services.

According to its answering machine, the Baker United Methodist Church is closed due to COVID-19. The church offers Zoom meetings on Sunday mornings and will send invitations to those who are interested.

The Baker City Church of the Nazarene is only offering online sermons at this time.

Teen accused of shooting BB gun at car

By **Chris Collins**

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A 16-year-old Baker City boy has been accused of shooting a BB gun at a vehicle as it drove along 10th Street Sunday night, shattering the

vehicle's back window.

Baker City Police Chief Ray Duman said Christopher Vaughn Folkman, 51, of Baker City, told police that the back window of his 2015 GMC Yukon was shot at about 9:30 p.m.

He was not hurt.

Duman said that by Monday officers had identified a possible suspect who lived in the area.

Duman said the 16-year-old admitted firing the BB gun.

Police transported the boy

to the Baker County Juvenile

Department where he was cited on charges of second-degree criminal mischief and reckless endangering for acting in a reckless manner with the BB gun.



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Superior Towing hauled the tree to its downtown spot. Eastern Oregon Rental also contributed to the effort.



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Two trucks from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative were needed to heft the tree.

CHRISTMAS TREE

Continued from Page 1A

Cherie Ward said the spruce, and its twin that served as the Community Christmas Tree in 2018, were planted approximately 26 years ago.

The Wards moved to Baker City 15 years ago.

"It was planted by one of our neighbors who was taking care of it for an elderly couple who lived here before us," Cherie said.

She said she and her husband decided to donate both trees because they were getting too big for their yard.

"We've been trying to find a good reason instead of just cutting it down and chopping it up," Cherie said.

The Wards are grateful that their donated tree, festooned with lights, will

Downtown Christmas Twilight Parade planned for Dec. 5; tree-lighting ceremony canceled

The Baker County Chamber of Commerce is planning the annual downtown Christmas Twilight Parade, along Main Street between Madison Street and Valley Avenue. The parade is slated to start at 5 p.m. The Chamber is asking people to wear masks and to spread out to maintain social distancing between families.

The Community Christmas Tree will be decorated with lights as usual, but the tree-lighting ceremony in Court Street Plaza, which normally follows the parade, will not happen, said Robin Nudd, Baker City's community development coordinator. "It would be very difficult for us to monitor the number of people that may gather," Nudd said. She said the tree will be decorated and lighted for people to enjoy starting on First Friday, Dec. 4.

help people enjoy the holiday season. "We need that right now," Cherie said.

She said she and her husband used to decorate the spruce, one year earn-

ing second place in OTEC's lighting contest.

"It's been a nice fixture in our yard for many, many years," Cherie said.

OBITUARY

Tommy West

Formerly of La Grande, 1935-2020

Tommy Gerald West, 85, a former La Grande resident, died at his residence in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on Nov. 10, 2020.

A memorial graveside service will be scheduled in the spring of

2021 at Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker City; the date and time will be announced at a later date.

Tommy was born on June 13, 1935, in Sudan, Texas, to Roy West and Thelma (Tate)

West. He graduated from Sudan High School.

After high school, he joined the United States Army serving for five years before separation at the rank of Specialist. His time on active duty included 16 months in Korea. He spent the next 30 years working as a highway engineer for the Oregon Department of Transportation, retiring in 1995.

In El Paso, Texas, Tommy married Carol J. Williams in 1960; they had two sons together, Brian and Tracey. He lived in La Grande for 47 years, only recently moving to Albuquerque to live

with his son, Brian.

Tommy was a VFW lifetime member; he enjoyed bingo at the La Grande Senior Center and Wildhorse as well as playing slot machine games on his tablet. He also enjoyed crossword puzzles and word jumbles from the newspaper.

Survivors include his sons and daughters-in-law, Brian and Dawn West of Albuquerque,

que, New Mexico, and Tracey and Nancy West of Redding, California; his brother and sister-in-law, Gary and Gale West of Denver; and five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Tommy was preceded in death by his wife, Carol West.

To leave an online condolence for Tommy's family, go to www.celebratecenter.com

NEWS OF RECORD

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police

Arrests, citations

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Michael Steven Myers-Gabiola, 29, of 2440 Fifth St., 6:18 a.m. Wednesday, in the 1300 block of Washington Avenue; jailed.

Baker County Sheriff's

Office

Arrests, citations

PROBATION VIOLATION (two Malheur County warrants): Levi James Logsdon, 29, of 3150 13th

St., 3:14 p.m. Wednesday, at the Baker County Jail where he is being held on other charges.

THEFT III (two Baker County Justice Court warrants): Michael Steven Myers-Gabiola, 29, of 2440 Fifth St., 2:06 a.m. Friday, at the Baker County Jail where he is being held on other charges.

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