

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

TUESDAY, DEC. 8

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

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO
from the Democrat-Herald
December 8, 1970

The District 5-J School Board went part way yesterday in granting executive or closed sessions for consultation on 1971-72 teacher contracts with the Baker Education Association representatives.

But the board would not concede to the request of the teachers that all consultations be carried on in private.

25 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
December 8, 1995

Each of the brown, square touch pads that are part of a computer-controlled exhibit at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center has a white circle at its center.

The spots weren't present when the touch pads were new, but they mark the passage of a million or so fingers, each of which rubbed away of smidgen of brown paint and left a whisp of oil.

10 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
December 8, 2010

Baker County's unemployment situation offered something for optimistic and pessimist alike.

That situation is, basically, stagnant.

Which means, for the pollyannas, that this one measure of the local economy is not getting worse.

But then, reply the worriers, neither is it getting better.

October's jobless rate of 8.6 percent is unchanged from September's revised rate.

ONE YEAR AGO
from the Baker City Herald
December 9, 2019

A Baker City forestry consultant who helped landowners deal with the aftermath of the 2015 Cornet/Windy Ridge fire, the largest blaze in Baker County history, is featured in a new video produced by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Lane Parry, who won an award in 2017 for his work with private landowners after the 104,000-acre fire, appears in the 7-minute video along with Jana Peterson, stewardship forester at the Forestry Department's Baker City office.

You can watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTOqoYmBdK0&t=139s>

The Oregon Board of Forestry named Parry its Eastern Oregon Operator of the Year for 2017 for his work with landowners after the Cornet/Windy Ridge fire.

The video is designed to help property owners get ideas about restoring land burned in a wildfire.

Since 2013, blazes have burned almost 34,000 acres of private, non-industrial timber ground in Oregon, according to the Forestry Department.

"A wildfire can be devastating to landowners both emotionally and economically," said Ryan Gordon, family forestland coordinator for the agency. "When trees burn, beloved forest scenery around a home can turn to charred snags. Typically, those burned trees also represent a loss of income a landowner was depending on for retirement or to send kids or grandkids to college."

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Dec. 5

5 — 10 — 16 — 18 — 25 — 48
Next jackpot: \$5.4 million

POWERBALL, Dec. 5

3 — 4 — 6 — 48 — 53 PB 10
Next jackpot: \$262 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Dec. 4

3 — 19 — 24 — 44 — 50 Mega 8
Next jackpot: \$264 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 5

14 — 27 — 49 — 64

PICK 4, Dec. 6

• 1 p.m.: 7 — 8 — 4 — 5

• 4 p.m.: 9 — 7 — 5 — 1

• 7 p.m.: 6 — 9 — 5 — 2

• 10 p.m.: 9 — 0 — 1 — 3

LUCKY LINES, Dec. 6

3-79-14-18-22-26-30

Next jackpot: \$46,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, macaroni salad, cookie
- **THURSDAY:** Pork tips over fettuccine, cauliflower, roll, fruit cup, pudding
- **FRIDAY:** Beef pot roast, red potatoes, mixed vegetables, roll, broccoli-bacon salad, cheesecake
- **MONDAY (Dec. 14):** Chicken-fried steak, mashed potato, peas and carrots, fruit cup, roll, pasta salad, brownies
- **TUESDAY (Dec. 15):** Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes, corn, green salad, ice cream

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

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8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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PERSISTENT PATTERN KEEPING COLD AIR TRAPPED IN VALLEYS

Baker City's air stays relatively clean despite extended stagnation advisory

By Jayson Jacoby
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

A persistent weather pattern that has trapped cold air in Baker and many other Northeastern Oregon valleys for most of the past two weeks has also prompted the National Weather Service to issue an air stagnation advisory for much of the region.

The most recent advisory continues through 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, and includes Baker County.

This dry pattern, which is relatively common during the fall and winter when a ridge of high pressure settles over the Pacific Northwest and sometimes lasts for a week or longer, can result in poor air quality as woodstove smoke, vehicle exhaust and other pollutants accumulate near the ground.

Fog also tends to form during these periods.

But so far Baker City has largely avoided both fog and the dirty air that often accompanies it.

The city's air quality has been in the "good" category on all but four days over the past month.

On those other four days — Nov. 20, 24, 29 and 30 — the daily average air quality was slightly into the "moderate" range.

The air quality index is a numerical scale, with anything under 51 considered good, while the range from 51 to 100 is moderate.

Baker City's daily air quality index during December has ranged from 29 on Dec. 3 to 48 on Dec. 4.

The hourly rating has risen into the moderate category at times, even on days when the overall average was rated as good.

On Sunday, Dec. 6, for instance, the daily average was 44, in the good category.

But the hourly air quality index peaked at 76, in the moderate range, at 6 p.m., and was in the moderate category each hour from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

High pressure ridges result in air generally sinking, which causes colder air, which is relatively heavy, to settle in valleys.

This leads to a temperature inversion, with air temperature rising with elevation, the opposite of the usual situation.

The pattern can cause dramatic differences in temperature between a valley and a nearby ridge or mountain peak.

On Monday morning, Dec. 7, for instance, the temperature at 8 o'clock along Highway 7 near the Sumpter junction was 16 degrees.

At the same time at an automated snow-measuring station near Bourne, about 8 miles away but 1,500 feet higher in elevation, reported a temperature of 34 degrees.

At Mason Dam, the temperature at 7:45 a.m. was 15 degrees.

A weather station near the head of Elk Creek, about 7 miles to the north but 2,700 feet higher, was at 37 degrees.

OBITUARIES

Tahnee Main

Baker City, 1984-2020

Tahnee Lynn Main (Sims), 36, died on Nov. 30, 2020, in an automobile accident on the outskirts of Baker City.

Her graveside service took place Dec. 8 at the Hagerman Pioneer Cemetery in Hagerman, Idaho. Pastor Wayne Crownover of the River City Church in Boise officiated.

Tahnee was born on Feb. 16, 1984, at Twin Falls, Idaho, to Duane and Robin Sims.

Tahnee was only 36 years young when she checked into heaven. At an early age, everybody knew what a special little free spirit we were blessed with, her family said. Her younger years were spent with her big sister, Tecee, and her little brother, Terrance. Yep, she was the middle child.

Tahnee had an adventurous spirit, with no fear. She loved camping with many family members, loved animals of all kinds, and even jumped off bridges. She especially loved our big family gatherings.

Tahnee worked at Ragsdale Mobile Glass in Baker City for her mom and dad. She had the ability to connect with anybody who walked through the doors. Her sweet and bubbly personality was intoxicating. She was on top of the world the day she died.

Tahnee loved God. She had a testimony about how God had helped her through some challenging times in her life. She attended River Front Church and other churches.

Tahnee leaves behind four beautiful boys: Carter, 17, Cooper, 13, Forrest, 10, and little Alexander, 2 years old, and her husband, Andrew Main; her parents, Randy and Robin Schiewe and Duane and Mica Sims; her loving grandparents, Wayne and Lynn Ills, and Wynona Sims; her very best friend and sister, Tecee Ferris (Camron); her little brother, Terrance Sims (Tina); and many uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and numerous friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, James Sims; an uncle, and a cousin.

She will be absent in our lives but not in our minds and heart, her family said. God promises that we will all be reunited with her in heaven ... in His time.

The family quoted from John, chapter 14:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God: Trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you."

Memorial contributions can be made to the New Directions Northwest Tahnee Main Client Fund through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Tahnee or to offer online condolences for her family, go to www.grayswestco.com

Norma Clapp

Formerly of Baker City, 1944-2020

Norma Alice (Baker) Clapp, 76, died Nov. 18, 2020, at her home in Payette, Idaho, to be rejoined with loved ones who have gone before.

Cremation was under the direction of Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel.

Norma was born on Sept. 1, 1944, in Thayer, Missouri, to Joseph and Virginia Baker. She was the third of four sisters, including Rosetta Joy, Patricia Ann, and Nelcie Jean. Growing up, the family lived in primarily Missouri, California and Idaho. She often told stories of life with her sisters like walking to the corner store to get giant pickles or singing in their local church.

In 1962, after graduating from high school, she married Charles Fenwick of Pocatello, Idaho. After his return from Vietnam, they had four children, Charles Jr. "Chuck," Virginia "Ginny," Philip "Andy" and Nancy. Norma and Charles were divorced in 1982.

Norma loved to travel. Her grandchildren were among her favorite companions on these escapades; such as the trip to the Grand Canyon with the granddaughters or the Seattle trip with the grandsons. She also enjoyed the Alaskan Cruise with best friend, Rita, and the Euro-

pean trip with late husband, Eldon.

Family was very important to Norma and she would bend over backward to help in any way she could. Her greatest joy was when the entire family could gather for meals or special occasions. She loved beading and doing other craft projects with her sisters. It is unsure how much crafting actually got done versus laughter and simply spending time together.

She had a great sense of humor and loved to play games. She even recruited friends to dress up in crazy costumes with her for Halloween. While living in Baker City, she was part of the local theater organization and even traveled to New York City with a group to see a Broadway show.

She was very involved with various church groups, from teaching children's classes to leading Christmas plays to taking part in women's study groups. She enjoyed attending ladies retreats with her daughter, Ginny.

She was also very active in her local senior centers in Baker City and Payette. There she met her late husband, Eldon. They both loved to dance and enjoy each other's company.

Some of the jobs she held were front office work at optometric offices in Oregon and as a commodities picker for Albertsons Sundries in Boise.

Recently, one of her favorite pastimes was watching "Dr. Pimple Popper" with her grandchildren. Priority time was set aside each Saturday night for the "Lawrence Welk Show." She was a lover of black-and-white Westerns and "Perry Mason." Her bright yellow house was decorated throughout with butterflies and bird houses as well as her thrift store "treasures" of glassware and dolls.

She is survived by two sisters, Rosetta of Boise and Nelcie of Payette; her four children, Chuck of Prineville, Ginny of Caldwell, Idaho, and Andy and Nancy of Payette, Idaho; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Condolences may be made

to Norma's family at www.shafferjensen.com

Iva Speelman

Formerly of Baker City, 1938-2020

Iva Speelman, 82, of Prairie City, died on Dec. 3, 2020. She was surrounded by family in the comfort of her own home with her loving husband, Ken, right by her side.

A celebration of her life will take place in the spring.

Iva was born Iva Estella VanLeuven in Baker City on Jan. 31, 1938.

She met and married Ivan Andrew in 1953.

Together they had four children. Iva later married Ken Speelman, to whom she has been devoted for the past 44 years.

Iva was preceded in death by her parents, Della and Roy Howe; and her sister, Pat Seigrist.

Iva is survived by her husband, Ken Speelman; her children, Ivan (Vickie) Andrew, Elaine (John) Livran, Valeria Andrew and her husband, Chuck Cason, and Duane (Trace) Andrew; her stepchildren, Rod Speelman, Kendra (Kaipo) Raiser, and Scott Speelman; her brother, Duane (Sherry) VanLeuven, and her sister, Diane (Gary) Wright. Iva was also survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren who lovingly referred to her as Grandma Froggy (because of her incredible collection of decorative frogs).

There are also many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews whom loved Iva very much.

Iva's family would like to thank her dear friends, Ed and Nancy Akers, for their help and support over the past several months.

Memorial contributions in Iva's honor can be made to Blue Mountain Hospice through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

To leave an online condolence for her family or to view photos of Iva, go to www.driskillmemorialchapel.com



Iva Speelman

APPLIANCES & MORE Jay & Kristin Wilson, Owners
2036 Main Street, Baker City
541-523-6284 • ccb#219615

Whirlpool

NEWS OF RECORD

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police

Arrests, citations

PROBATION VIOLATION (Yamhill County warrant): Ashley Michelle Goodman, 26, of Baker City, 11:47 a.m. Friday, in the 800 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations

FAILURE TO APPEAR (multiple Baker County Circuit Court warrants): Oren Shaile Moore, 22, of Baker City, 3:14 p.m. Friday, at the Parole and Probation Office, 3320 K St.; jailed.

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