

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald December 18, 1970

A general alarm fire caused more than \$500,000 damage to the Ellingson Lumber Company division of Ellingson Lumber and Timber Co. last night, destroying half the Ellingson lumber production capacity.

Lumber piles were still burning fiercely at 9 a.m. today as workmen began clearing debris. Authorities at the scene did not know the cause of the fire, but Baker City Fire Chief John Everson said arson is suspected since the fire started so fast.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald December 18, 1995

As 1995 rolls toward its conclusion, Baker County residents should congratulate themselves on their hospitality.

As of Nov. 30, almost 913,000 people had visited the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center since its opening May 23, 1992.

The center has drawn many visitors to the area who also took in one or more other attractions during their stay, said Connie Pound, executive director of the Baker County Visitor & Convention Bureau.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald December 17, 2010

Idaho Power Co. has donated \$4,900 to the Baker County Sheriff's Office to be used to purchase new deep-water dive equipment and add an additional diver to the search and rescue team.

Dale Koger, Idaho Power production manager, and Mike Ybarguen, community relations representative, presented the check to Baker County Sheriff Mitch Southwick Monday at the Sheriff's Office, according to a press release issued by Idaho Power Co.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald December 18, 2019

Baker City's plan to build an all-inclusive playground this spring at Geiser-Pollman Park has gained national attention.

On Nov. 24 city officials learned from PlayCore, a maker of playground equipment, that the Baker City project had been selected as a national demonstration site.

"We were surprised, we didn't even know that there was such a thing," said Joyce Bornstedt, the city's technical administration supervisor who oversees city parks.

Bornstedt said the PlayCore design representative the city has been working with submitted Baker City's project for the demonstration site status.

Bornstedt ordered equipment for the new playground last week. Installation is tentatively set for May 11-15.

"A lot of things have to happen before that and we never know about our weather," Bornstedt said.

The city's \$245,885 order with GameTime covers the cost of playground equipment, surfacing and installation.

The city will take delivery by Dec. 31. Bornstedt said she placed the order before the company updated its price schedule on Dec. 11.

"We wanted to make sure we got our order placed before the prices went up," she said.

Although the city has received several grants and donations for the project, totaling \$285,461, the city is still trying to raise money for the estimated \$299,000 effort.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Dec. 15

5 — 24 — 27 — 29 — 34 — 46
Next jackpot: \$5.8 million

POWERBALL, Dec. 12

17 — 54 — 56 — 63 — 69 PB 20
Next jackpot: \$287 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Dec. 14

1 — 10 — 18 — 20 — 46 Mega 15
Next jackpot: \$291 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 14

7 — 15 — 52 — 70
PICK 4, Dec. 15

• 1 p.m.: 8 — 1 — 6 — 8
• 4 p.m.: 4 — 2 — 3 — 6
• 7 p.m.: 8 — 9 — 4 — 9

• 10 p.m.: 4 — 1 — 0 — 5

LUCKY LINES, Dec. 15

4-8-12-14-19-21-25-32
Next jackpot: \$55,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **FRIDAY:** Beef pot roast, red potatoes, baby carrots, roll, ambrosia, tapioca
- **MONDAY (Dec. 21):** Spaghetti, zucchini, garlic breadsticks, green salad, cookie
- **TUESDAY (Dec. 22):** Chicken ala king over a biscuit, corn, roll, fruit cup, peach crisp
- **WEDNESDAY (Dec. 23):** Pork roast, red potatoes, baby carrots, roll, potato salad, tapioca
- **THURSDAY (Dec. 24):** Christmas Holiday; office and transit are closed.

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

CONTACT THE HERALD

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John Rouse

Formerly of Baker City, 1936-2020

John David Rouse, 84, a former Baker City resident, was lifted to heaven on Dec. 8, 2020, in Spokane, Washington.

A memorial service and celebration of his life will take place later in Baker City during the spring or summer of 2021. The date and time will be announced later.

John was born on Nov. 29, 1936, to Jack and Palma Rouse at Baker City where he grew up on the Rouse Cattle Ranch with siblings Mary Ann McGrath, Pat Rouse, Janet Schomburg, and David Rouse. He attended St. Francis Academy Catholic School and was most known for his athletic basketball skills that carried them to the state tournament.

John had a larger-than-life personality, not to mention raising Cain around Baker County in fast cars, playing cat and mouse with the law.

He married Lorraine Haydock in 1961 and celebrated having two daughters, Garnette and Linette. They enjoyed snowmobiling, camping, and family gatherings at the Rouse Ranch.

He later married Lynda Jo Pagnotta in 1983 and gained two bonus daughters, Melanie and Lori. They enjoyed many years of adventures in their motor home with their two precious Pomeranians, Lucy and Sophie.

John served honorably in the Army National Guard during the Vietnam War from 1959 to 1963. He enjoyed careers in land surveying, land development, and he owned/operated Basalt Railroad Rock until he retired in 2004.

John was beloved by all for his big Irish smile, warm and loving heart, and positive outlook on life. He was always up for a good Irish whiskey toast and was the life of the party! He will be greatly missed by all, family members said.

He is survived by his wife, Lynda Jo Rouse; daughters, Garnette Rouse (Don Prenevost), Linette Rouse-Dressel, Melanie Lynch (Jerry Lynch) and Lori Weiss; grandchildren, John Dressel, Hayden Dressel, Gabrielle Lynch, and Gavin Lynch and Dion McKinzy; and siblings, Mary Ann McGrath and David Rouse.

He was preceded in death by his parents Jack and Palma Rouse; and siblings, Pat Rouse and Janet Schomburg.

Marie Marks

North Powder, 1945-2020

Marie Yvonne Marks, 75, of North Powder, died unexpectedly on Dec. 10, 2020, at Boise.

A celebration of her life will take place at a later date.

Marie was born on Jan. 22, 1945, at Ventura, California, to Harold and Ruth Clausen of Ojai, California.

She was the youngest child and had two older brothers, Jerald and Robert Clausen. Marie grew up in Ojai and graduated from Nordhoff High in 1962. She went on to graduate from Community College in Ventura.

Marie met her husband of 56 years, Louis Eugene Marks, on a blind date for the formal company Christmas party. On their second date, Louis took Marie quail hunting in the mountains above Ojai, kicking off a lifetime of love, and they have been inseparable ever since.

When they decided to tie the knot, Marie and Louis chose to elope in the neighboring county instead of having an extravagant wedding like her brothers and friends had. They thought they would keep it a secret from their family for a while. They were unaware the notice would come out in the paper, and well wishes would be sent to Marie's mom congratulating her and her daughter. Ruth was not happy to learn that her daughter got married without her knowing.

Work then took Louis and Marie to Eureka, California, for several years.



John Rouse



Marie Marks

They also purchased houses to remodel and sell in their spare time. Marie always had a love for horses and dreamed of owning her own some day. To make that dream come true, they saved up their money and, in 1977, purchased a cattle ranch at Dayville. They ran cattle and raised a family, then moved to North Powder in 1989 where they have lived ever since. They kept ranching but also continued their love for fixing up apartments and houses.

Marie made a lasting and loving impression on everyone who met her, from one-time acquaintances to a longtime friend. There was hardly ever anyone who had a cross word or bad memory of her. You would be hard-pressed ever to find someone who was more giving of themselves. She worked tirelessly side by side to build her and Louis' dreams. She was never one to complain about being stuck outdoors working in the cold or the heat, and we all just thought that was the way she preferred it. She never met an animal she did not love; between raising horses, cattle, lambs, and puppies, to even a stray baby badger, she doted over them all.

One thing Marie loved the most was kids and helping the community. She always had open doors to whoever was in need. Marie was always willing to put a roof over your head and cook you a warm meal. She loved going on senior trips and watching sports. The life she and Louis built, and her grandkids, were her most significant accomplishments and what she was the proudest of. She was a caring and loving person who will be greatly missed by many and truly made the world a better place.

Marie is survived by her husband, Louis E. Marks of North Powder; her brother, Robert Clausen of Florence; her son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Kelli Marks of Baker City; her daughter and son-in-law, JoAnne and Kody Hufford of North Powder; four grandchildren, Tyler and Megan Hufford, and Lance and Shelby Marks; and her sister-in-law, Patti Bittenbender of Walnut Creek, California.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents, Ruth and Harold Clausen of Ojai; and her brother, Jerald Clausen of Dayville.

The family adds that instead of flowers, please send donations in memory of Marie Marks to North Powder Charter School through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814 to help her legacy live.

To leave an online condolence for Marie's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

Charles Daffer

Weiser, Idaho, 1932-2020

Charles Alexander Daffer, 88, of Weiser, Idaho, passed from this world into the loving arms of the Lord on Sept. 27, 2020.

Memorial information is to be determined.

Charles was born on Aug. 20, 1932, at Lyle, Kansas, to Oscar and Dorothy Daffer. The family, including older sisters Irene (Tallent) and Helen (Gordon), migrated to Idaho in 1936. The family landed in Payette, then moved to Mesa, and back to Payette, finally settling in Weiser in 1941. Charles (Charlie) attended school in Weiser, then went into the Navy during the Korean War. After a stint in the Navy, he returned home then began working for the railroad. It was while working for the railroad he met the love of his life, Anita Garcia, having worked with her father. The two were married in Weiser at the Methodist/Episcopal church in 1955. Their children, Paul, Mathew, David, and Angela (Aranson) followed, and the family resided mainly in La Grande until his retirement from the railroad.

Charles and Anita relocated back to Weiser after the death of Oscar in 2000. They became fixtures in Weiser, being involved in the Senior Center, forming

lifelong friends and renewing friendships from childhood. Charles was known throughout the area for his gardening prowess. He grew some of the best produce available. Daughter Angela (Angie) often took the extra to use in her La Grande restaurant, so Oregonians were able to benefit!

His loving wife, Anita, passed away unexpectedly on Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020. His entire family was grief stricken, but particularly Charles. The children did their very best to step in and fill the gap, but Charles was heartbroken. He is now at peace with his beloved Anita.

Charles is survived by his sister, Irene, of Weiser; his sons, Paul and Mathew of La Grande, and David (Karen) of Baker City; his daughter, Angela (Angie). Charles and Anita have four grandchildren, Teri and Marcus Aranson, and Sophia and Isaac Daffer; and five great-grandchildren. Both Charles and Anita loved children, and bestowed it liberally onto their children/grandchildren. They are sorely missed.

Howard Medlin

Baker City, 1933-2020

Howard Lloyd Medlin, 87, of Baker City, died on Dec. 14, 2020, at his residence.

He will be interred at Mount Hope Cemetery next to his wife Marcia; however, no services will be held at his request.

Howard was born on Oct. 31, 1933, at

Parma, Missouri, along with his twin sister, Helen, to Cecil T. Medlin and Nellie (Daniels) Medlin. In 1946 the family moved to Oregon along with their older brother, Bert. The family arrived at New Bridge and later moved to Baker City,

where he attended Baker High School. After high school, Howard joined the United States Air Force. After his discharge, he returned to Baker City, where he worked as a carpenter for various local contractors until starting a partnership with his father.

In 1957, Howard married Marcia Rae Richards; they had two sons together; Timothy Lloyd Medlin and Larry Rae Medlin.

Howard is survived by twin sisters, Janice (Hugh) McNair of Baker City, and Judy (Tosh) Akahoshi of Lincoln City; his son, Timothy Medlin of the Portland area; four grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Marcia Medlin; his twin sister, Helen Pilcher; and his brother, Bert Medlin.

Memorial contributions can be made to a charity of one's choice through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave an online condolence for Howard's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

Sharon Jaensch

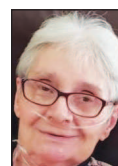
Baker City, 1945-2020

Sharon A. "Sherry" Jaensch, 75, of Baker City, died in the early hours of Dec. 13, 2020, at her home in Settler's Park Assisted Living Community.

A celebration gathering will take place Friday, Dec. 18, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave.

Sherry was born on Jan. 28, 1945, at Baker City to John and Bertha Lee. Her father, John, was an officer in the Navy, so she spent a large part of her childhood moving from state to state until she came to reside in Baker City with her grandmother, Lida E. Howe.

Sherry graduated from Baker High School in 1963. She married Gerald F. (Gary) Jaensch on Sept. 7, 1963, in the First Lutheran Church in Baker City. They were married for 48 years when he passed away on Jan. 28, 2011.



Sharon Jaensch

See *Obituaries* / Page 3A

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Donald 'Don' Phillips: 90, a longtime Baker City resident, died Dec. 14, 2020, doing what he loved. A celebration of his life will take place at his beloved Phillips Park in the spring or summer of 2021, time and day to be announced. The family suggests memorial donations in Don's honor be made to Doernbecher Children's Hospital through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Letha Colleen Catlett: 82, of Baker City, died Dec. 11, 2020, at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City. To leave an online

condolence for Letha's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police
FELONY DRIVING WHILE OPERATOR'S LICENSE SUSPENDED: Kirk William Roberts, 56, of Baker City, 7:16 p.m. Tuesday, at Resort and Broadway streets; cited and released.

PROBATION VIOLATION (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Tattiana Gabriel McKenzie, 27, of Baker City, 5:27 p.m. Tuesday, at the Sheriff's Office; jailed.

SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING and SECOND-DEGREE DISORDERLY CONDUCT (Baker County Circuit Court warrants): Stacey Lee Bork, 31, of Baker City, 11:07 p.m. Saturday in

the 500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

Crime reports

SECOND-DEGREE THEFT: The Knight's Inn motel at 2205 Broadway Street reported at 4:11 p.m. Monday that a television set had been taken from

one of the rooms.
FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF: In the 3000 block of College St., 3:23 p.m. Tuesday, Kristopher Wood, 49, of Baker City, reported that the tail lights on his 2017 Jeep Cherokee vehicle had been damaged.

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