

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO
from the Democrat-Herald
December 19, 1970

HUNTINGTON — The Huntington Locomotives led 12-5 at the end of the first quarter, but the Pine-Eagle Spartans reeled off 15 straight points at the start of the second period and then hung on for a 62-54 non-league basketball win here Friday night. Spartan guard Roger Gulick led the charge in the second quarter as Pine-Eagle scored 21 points while holding the Locos to seven.

25 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
December 19, 1995

Fewer than 10 of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest's 370 permanent employees will work full-time during a U.S. Forest Service shutdown that started Tuesday night. As many as 50 others will work part-time or be on call at home during the closure, John Denne, the Wallowa-Whitman's public affairs officer, said Tuesday. Forest offices are closed, but Christmas tree permits are still available in the lobby at the Baker Ranger District, 3165 10th St., or at York's grocery store.

10 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
December 19, 2010

As he was barreling off the steep embankment beside Interstate 84, Forest Wyan thought, "Oh God, this is it, it's all over." Wyan, 41, of Clinton, Utah, was driving a U.S. Mail truck from Utah to Hermiston Sunday morning when he lost control on the snow-slickened freeway near the Campbell Street interchange. "I was going about 40 (mph) when I came over the hill and just tapped my brakes," said Wyan, who's been driving trucks for more than four years. The truck started sliding.

ONE YEAR AGO
from the Baker City Herald
December 20, 2019

Katelyn Kercheski says it was "unforeseen life changes" that sent her looking for help after marital issues ended in divorce in October. Because of financial problems associated with the divorce, she and her twin toddlers found themselves having to move out of their six-bedroom home in south Baker City. She and her former husband had moved into the house just two weeks before bringing the boys, who they were in the process of adopting, from San Diego to their new Baker City home in February. The couple had planned to continue in their work as foster parents, which they had been doing for about four years, and needed extra room after the twins joined the family. But before the year was out, those "unforeseen life changes" left Kercheski and the boys without a place of their own to call home. The now-single mother and her two sons bunked with family members for a short time before they were helped through programs available at Community Connection for families who are homeless or at-risk of being homeless. "We stayed with my mom or my cousin for about a month," the 27-year-old Kercheski said. "If it weren't for Community Connection it probably would have been a lot longer."

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Dec. 16
13 — 15 — 18 — 31 — 34 — 42
Next jackpot: \$5.9 million

POWERBALL, Dec. 16
4 — 23 — 37 — 61 — 67 PB7
Next jackpot: \$304 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Dec. 15
1 — 10 — 18 — 20 — 46 Mega 15
Next jackpot: \$310 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 16
1 — 11 — 30 — 61
PICK 4, Dec. 17
• 1 p.m.: 9 — 9 — 5 — 1
• 4 p.m.: 5 — 4 — 3 — 6
• 7 p.m.: 0 — 9 — 5 — 1
• 10 p.m.: 0 — 4 — 3 — 1
LUCKY LINES, Dec. 17
4-6-12-13-17-23-27-29
Next jackpot: \$57,000

SENIOR MENUS

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

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State police arrest attempted murder suspect

Oregon State Police troopers arrested an attempted murder suspect from South Carolina on Thursday evening at the Baker Valley rest area on Interstate 84.

James Shawn Nichol, 48, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was arrested about 5:50 p.m. and taken to the Baker County Jail, pending extradition to South Carolina.

According to a report from OSP Sr. Trooper Nicholas Hagedorn, the incident started when the Horry County Police Department in South Carolina notified OSP that



Nichol

the department was tracking Nichol, and that he might be at the rest area about eight miles north of Baker City. Nichol was wanted for the attempted murder of his mother, and a nationwide warrant was issued for his arrest, according to Hagedorn's report. South Carolina police reported that Nichol

was suspected of driving his mother's 2015 maroon Subaru Forester, which he is accused of stealing.

Hagedorn and Sr. Trooper Levi Macy found the vehicle in the westbound rest area. Nichol was alone in the vehicle and sitting in the driver's seat. Troopers arrested him without incident.

Two Christmas Eve services set at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Christmas Eve services at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 2177 First St., will take place on Thursday, Dec. 24 at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

St. Stephen's is offering two services due to the current COVID-19 restrictions of 25 people at indoor services. Each service will seat a maximum of 25 people at safe distancing in the sani-

tized space. Families may sit together. If you have a large family group, please call Aletha Bonebrake at 541-519-3255 and tell her which service you prefer so space can be saved. Masks are required and there will be Christmas music but no singing this year. To practice safe gathering the church will also not be offering communion. All are welcome.

Holiday schedule at Anthony Lakes

Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Jan. 3, except Christmas Day. The ski area will close at 1 p.m. on Christmas Eve. The lodge will be closed, except for restrooms, but limited food and beverages will be available at the "ski-thru" window. All visitors are required to wear face coverings.

OBITUARIES

Virginia Kostol

Baker City, 1926-2020

Virginia Lee Kostol, 94, of Baker City, died suddenly on Dec. 13, 2020, at her home in Baker City.

Services will be scheduled at a later date, when the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted.



Virginia Kostol

Virginia was born on July 18, 1926, at Hoquiam, Washington, to Arthur and Mavie (Olson) Benson. She began first grade a year early, to stop her habit of running off to follow her sister Frances to school. She spent many happy summers with loads of cousins at Lake Quinault. She could swim like a fish.

Virginia was valedictorian of the Hoquiam High School Class of 1943, and her speech topic was "Women in the War Effort." Then she was off to the University of Washington, where she was a member of the Chi Omega sorority, and earned a bachelor of science degree in Home Economics and Education and a fifth-year certificate in Education. In her senior year she met Carl Kostol at a sorority/fraternity exchange. She taught home economics at Hoquiam High School for one year, and then married Carl in 1949 and joined him in Montreal.

While he attended medical school, she taught kindergarten and home economics, and worked at a department store. While Carl completed his internship and residency in Portland, Virginia taught social studies and home economics at Parkrose Junior High. The couple moved to Baker City in 1953. After she began raising a family of four children, she applied her teaching and home ec skills in her home.

Virginia was an ever-willing volunteer in her children's activities, leading groups for Cub Scouts, Brownies, 4-H, and Sunday School. In the community, she organized Red Cross blood drives (donating many gallons of blood herself), and served on the ESD Board, the Baker County Historical Society Board, and The Salvation Army Auxiliary. She was active in the St. Elizabeth Hospital Auxiliary, running the annual bazaar for years, and for decades she sewed Christmas stockings to present to babies

born in December. Virginia led costumed historical tours from the Geiser Grand Hotel and was a Trail Tender at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. She was honored by the Baker County Chamber of Commerce as the Legacy Woman of the Year in 2012 for her significant contributions to the community.

She was active in precinct and district politics and state conventions. She was a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church, and she volunteered for years as a fitness group leader at the Senior Center.

Virginia is survived by her four children, who will miss her dearly: Carl (Pat) Kostol of Tigard, Teresa (Justin) Droessler of New Brighton, Minnesota, Cris Kostol (John Marble) of Crawfordsville, and Lars Kostol of Lebanon; her grandchildren, Casey Kostol, Brian (Allie) Kostol, Amy Fritz, Keith Kostol, Mark Droessler and Kelly Kostol; and two great-grandchildren.

Virginia was preceded in death by her husband, Carl R. Kostol; and her sister, Frances Woski.

Ginny was always positive, often humming or whistling, always lending a helping hand or listening ear. She loved to play bridge and golf (she had a memento of a hole in one), and was a charter member of the Birthday Club. Married for 68 years, Ginny and Carl enjoyed skiing, fishing, weekends at the cabin, and Me 'n' You Dances together. When Carl retired, she persuaded him to go to the Big Island of Hawaii, and they continued to travel there for 20 winters, and to play golf at various places in the spring and summer.

For those wishing to make a contribution in Virginia's memory, the family suggests The Salvation Army or the Baker County Historical Society through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Ginny, go to www.colestributecenter.com

Letha Catlett

Baker City, 1938-2020

Letha "Lee" Colleen (Moore) Catlett, 82, of Baker City, and formerly of Unity, a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, died Dec. 11, 2020, at Baker City.

There are no services scheduled at this time. A celebration of life will take place in the summer of 2021.

Letha was born on June 26, 1938, at Mount Vernon, the daughter of Delcie (Hogeland) and Jess Moore.

She graduated from Toledo, Oregon, High School in 1956. Lee married Robert "Bob" Catlett on April 8, 1961. They lived in many places while Bob served in the Army, including Germany twice and Japan and many places in the U.S. But Unity was always home.

Lee worked as a cosmetologist for many years; even after retirement, she would cut family and friends' hair. After retirement, Lee and Bob would spend their winters in Quartzsite, Arizona, where they enjoyed spending time with friends, attending music jams, and going to various dances and shows.

When Bob passed, she continued to spend the winters in Arizona with Delcie, her mom. Later she would travel with family friend, Gene Bettin.

Lee and Bob often took the grandkids on trips. One time they traveled through the southern and eastern parts of the U.S., ending in Virginia visiting family and friends along the way. Lee loved to travel, taking her granddaughters to Yellowstone National Park and Newport. She made an annual trip to the Oregon Coast to visit family and friends. She went on two cruises in her life, one to Ensenada, Mexico, and the other to Alaska.

She is survived by her four daughters, LeeAnn, Carla, Deborah and April; seven grandchildren, Memorey, Jason, Miranda, Jennifer, Julia, Allison, and AJ; 12 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren, and many friends and loved ones.

She was preceded in death by her father, Jess Moore; stepfather, Darrel Perdue, in 1995; husband, Robert Catlett, in 2000; and mother Delcie (Hogeland) Perdue, in 2005.

Lee will be greatly missed by everyone whose life she touched, friends, and family alike, family members said.

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



Letha Catlett

NEWS OF RECORD

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police
FAILURE TO APPEAR (Union County Circuit Court warrant): Sean Phillips, 28, of 42534 N. Cedar St., 2:30 a.m. Friday, in the 500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Umatilla County Circuit Court): Eliannah Elise Banister, 23, transient, 11:30 a.m. Thursday, in the 500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Kenny Lee Hellman, 51, of Baker City, 11:39 a.m. Thursday, at Washington Avenue and Birch Street; jailed.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Timothy K. Slaney, 31, of Baker City, 4:46 p.m. in the 2400 block of Resort Street; cited and released.

UNION COUNTY PAROLE BOARD WARRANT: Curtis Dean Cox, 54, of Ontario, 10:25 a.m. Tuesday in the 2200 block of Broadway St.; transported to the Union County Jail.

Baker County Sheriff's Office
FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court and Payette County, Idaho, warrants): Brandi Nicole Bowen, 31, of Huntington, 5:17 p.m. Thursday, at Huntington; cited and released.

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