

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald December 22, 1970

Hughes Air West officials announced today that new flight schedules for flights in and out of Baker.

Effective Jan. 1, the new schedule will be:

To Portland — (except Saturday and Sunday) depart Baker 8:42 p.m., arrive Portland 10:55 p.m. with connection at Pasco.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald December 22, 1995

Almost 150 skiers reeled in sunshine and took advantage of free snowboard use and lessons and reduced lift ticket prices to open the 1995-96 ski season Thursday at Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort.

The ski area 34 miles northwest of Baker City opened in the morning with four runs, but by the afternoon 147 skiers and snowboarders could choose from seven.

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

Oregon officials plan to use a quarter-million-dollar federal grant to add an estimated 200,000 acres to the state program that entices private landowners to open their property to hunters.

The Oregon Legislature started the Access and Habitat Program in 1993.

In exchange for allowing hunters to access their land, property owners receive grants for such things as installing irrigation systems for alfalfa fields that replace livestock forage eaten by elk.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald December 23, 2019

Students stream through the door of Settlers Park until all 140 youngsters are lined up — somewhat straight — in the dining room.

With a strum of his guitar, music teacher Russell Carpenter leads the students in Christmas carols — kindergarten performing one with sign language and older students singing songs in French, German, and Spanish.

The entire student body from Haines Elementary School spread holiday cheer at Baker City's two assisted living homes during their last day of school, Dec. 19.

Songs weren't their only treat.

This year the students decided to forgo their annual Christmas party and instead make scarves and blankets for residents of Settlers Park and Meadowbrook Place.

The idea stemmed from the school's current character trait: selflessness.

"This was our service project," Katy Collier, Haines principal, said.

The student council — called FLY for Fostering Leadership in our Youth — led the project and handed out the blankets and scarves at the end of caroling.

The Haines Parent-Teacher-Community Organization (PTCO) purchased fleece with the money put aside for the Christmas party. Parents helped during an intense day and a half as the students created more than 100 gifts.

"They've been really busy," Collier said.

Preschool students drew cards for each blanket or scarf. Grades kindergarten and first cut the fringe that the older students (grades 2 through 6) tied to complete each item.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Dec. 19

1-2-5-7-28-44

Next jackpot: \$6 million

POWERBALL, Dec. 19

27-32-34-43-52 PB 13

Next jackpot: \$321 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Dec. 18

7-15-25-51-60 Mega 5

Next jackpot: \$330 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 19

5-9-20-22

PICK 4, Dec. 20

• 1 p.m.: 1-8-7-5

• 4 p.m.: 0-9-5-4

• 7 p.m.: 0-7-0-1

• 10 p.m.: 5-9-7-2

LUCKY LINES, Dec. 20

1-5-9-16-18-23-25-30

Next jackpot: \$60,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Pork roast, red potatoes, baby carrots, roll, potato salad, tapioca
- **THURSDAY:** Christmas Eve; office and transit are closed.
- **FRIDAY:** Christmas Day; office and transit are closed.
- **MONDAY (Dec. 28):** Chicken-fried chicken, mashed potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, roll, three-bean salad, brownies
- **TUESDAY (Dec. 29):** Lasagna, zucchini, garlic bread, green salad, cookies

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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CHRISTMAS

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The service starts at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 24.

In a typical December, members of the church's Tuesday Activity Club for kids in kindergarten through sixth grade would be joined by older students for the Christmas music program, said Marilyn Hereau, a member of the church.

They also gather toys and financial contributions from the Methodist congregation to donate to The Salvation Army.

But with COVID-19 precautions moving the church

to Zoom services, the kids' Christmas program also changed, Hereau said.

They convened around 10 a.m. Friday in the alley on the west side of the church. Kids and adults set up folding tables to hold the donated toys, and the young singers stood among the tables to record their performance.

Holloway, who arrived in August to serve as pastor, said it's been a difficult year, with regular worship services replaced by recorded sermons, to become acquainted with her new congregation.

"The only way I can get to know people is by Zoom," Holloway said.



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

Marilyn Hereau sets out toys that the Baker United Methodist Church will donate to The Salvation Army.

OBITUARIES

Don Phillips

Baker City, 1929-2020

Donald Harvey (Don) Phillips, 90, died on Dec. 14, 2020, one week short of his 91st birthday.

A celebration of life for

Don will take place at Phillips Park in the late spring or early summer of 2021, the time and date to be announced.

Don spent the day prior to his death sawing, stacking and burning a fallen juniper tree at Phillips Park before hurrying home to shovel snow at his residence. The next morning, Don arose to shovel more snow before leaving to check his real estate in Baker City. He passed away while doing what he loved.

Don was born on Dec. 22, 1929, at St. Elizabeth Hospital to William Harvey Phillips and Julia Mary Spriet Phillips. He was proud of his Baker County roots, where he was born and raised. He was the oldest of three children, with a brother, Leroy Phillips, and a sister, Joyce Bryan. Don attended school at Pondosa, Pochontas, and Union Elementary in Union, and graduated from the original Baker High School. He was very proud to be an Eagle Scout and still has his uniform and badges.

When Don was 7 years old, he was riding a horse-drawn farm implement with his father when he fell and damaged a bone in his arm. His father and mother took extraordinary measures to save his arm by moving the entire family to San Francisco for a year so he could be treated at the Doernbecher Hospital.

Don acquired his work ethic early in life, delivering newspapers, digging potatoes, delivering milk and being a box boy. In high school, Don worked for Emrich Furniture Company and Montgomery Ward before D.E. Clark recruited him to sell Fords. Don eventually bought the business which became known as Phillips-Long Ford and sold cars from 1948 to 2002 (54

years selling Fords). He took pride in caring for his customers and won numerous awards from the Ford Motor Company over the years.

Don loved this community. He served on the Baker School District Board, donated cars for high school drivers' ed classes, donated funds for new wrestling mats, tablets for Haines Elementary, and supported Baker High School athletics. He was a big fan and enjoyed attending Baker High School sporting events, even after all his grandchildren had graduated. Don purchased Phillips Park, which was once owned by his grandfather, and returned it to a place where families could enjoy picnics, reunions, weddings, and company gatherings. Baker School District students enjoyed Outdoor School at the park for many years. Nothing made him happier than sharing his park.

Don treasured his time with his family. He and his son Dan, grandson Geoff, along with his brother Leroy, walked one end of the Elkhorns to the other following the tracks of his trapper dad. Family and friends have fond memories of s'mores around the campfire, horseshoe tournaments, four-wheeler rides, fishing and swimming at Grandpa Don's park. It was not unusual for holidays to include a visit from the real Santa, a flyover parachute-drop of Easter eggs by Cliff Bond, and an Easter egg hunt for grandkids. All of his family have fond memories of spending time with their father/grandfather.

Don is survived by his brother, Leroy Phillips; his sister, Joyce Bryan; his daughters and their spouses, Terri (Dennis) Axness, Jan Phillips, Deb (Chuck) Day, Minda Vaughan, Tami (Mike) Maciejko, Wendy Ricks, Kelley Bilbrey, Stephanie Warner and Alyssa White; and his beloved dog, Stella.

Don has 22 grandchildren: Luke (Athena) Still, Aaron (Sara) Still, Jackson (Shelly) Vaughan, Bob (Eva) Vaughan, Will (Jamie) Vaughan, Mike

(Jackie) Vaughan, Tim (Magy) Vaughan, Julia (Adam) Howard, Brin (Rob) Graham, Allie Sexton, Bo (Louise) Maciejko, Anna Maciejko, Tesse Maciejko, Adie Phillips (Karl) Swingle, Geoff Phillips, Ulrich Warner, Shae Warner, Ethan, Jackalyn, Zowan, Evelyn and Dallan Cliff, along with numerous nieces and nephews. He is also a proud grandfather of 25 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Daniel; and an infant daughter, Peggy Ann.

For those who would like to make a memorial donation in honor of Don the family suggests 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

Warren Weatherspoon

Formerly of Baker City, 1951-2020

Warren Richard Weatherspoon, 69, loving husband and father of six children, and a former Baker City resident, died Dec. 10, 2020, at Clayton, North Carolina.

Warren's funeral took place on Dec. 12 at Clayton. His family honored his life full of accomplishments. Warren was buried at Pinecrest Memorial Park in Clayton on Dec. 12.

Although Warren spent his last year in North Carolina, he lived the vast majority of his life as a proud Oregonian, living in Baker City and Ontario for most of his life.

Warren was born on May 30, 1951, at Nyssa to Raymond and Ruth Weatherspoon. On Feb. 17, 1977, Warren married the love of his life, Margaret, and the

two created unforgettable memories for the next 43 years. Warren earned an associate's degree from Idaho State University and worked as a journeyman electrician, most recently at Ash Grove Cement Co., until 2014. In 2007, Warren was diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. The diagnosing physician estimated Warren had approximately three to five years to live. Warren was often referred to as Warren "The Hammer" by his children and was tough as nails and outlived his prognosis by over 10 years.

Warren loved athletics and he loved football. As a high school athlete, Warren was the starting middle linebacker for the Wallowa Cougars, and in 1967, Warren and the Wallowa Cougars won the Class B state championship. Warren was a ride-or-die Boise State Broncos fan and supported the Brigham Young University Cougars. Warren was also a devout and faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He loved the church and he often served in leadership roles within the organization.

Above all, Warren loved his family. Warren taught his children how to love and honor a spouse. Warren's children would regularly see Warren and Margaret slow dancing in the kitchen. Warren also taught his children how to be devoted parents. Warren never missed his children's athletic events and theater productions — he attended every football game, wrestling tournament, swim meet, and school performance.

Warren is survived by his beautiful wife, Margaret; his six children, Leah, Daniel, Aaron, Joe, Ashley and Ross; and his 18 grandchildren. All loved and respected Warren immensely.



Warren Weatherspoon

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Arlene Mae Schoori: 71, of Unity, died Dec. 16, 2020, at her home. There will be a family get-together to honor Arlene in the spring of 2021. To leave an online condolence for Arlene's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police
Arrests, citations
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Andrew Michael Gettle, 30, of 3206 Birch St., 11:15 p.m. Saturday, in the 1300 block of H Street; cited and released.

FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASS and THIRD-DEGREE THEFT: Edward S. Braswell, 45, transient, 10:44 a.m. Friday, in the 1200 block of Campbell Street; cited and released; police said Braswell took a cellphone valued at less than \$60 from Rite Aid.

FIRST-DEGREE THEFT and FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Jacob Daniel Walker, 29, transient, 4:47 p.m. Friday at 2205 Broadway St.; cited and released. Police Chief Ray Duman said Walker took a Venton Pace 500 electric bike valued at \$1,500 belonging to Mark Witty,

56, of Baker City, from the south porch of the Baker School District Office at 2090 Fourth St. Duman said the bike was recovered in a room at the Knight's Inn motel where Walker apparently had taken it and had begun to disassemble it. Police recovered the bike.

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