

# Local

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald January 5, 1971

An attitude of optimism among cattle buyers, good buyer participation, many consignments and good stock all made for a better than average feeder cattle sale yesterday at the Baker livestock auction. The sale saw \$415,137.68 change hands and offered 2,511 head for sale from 35 local consigners.

### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 5, 1996

EL DORADO PASS — Jeff Repp grimaces as the thin aluminum pole between his gloved hands strikes the frozen ground with a hollow clank.

The tube is designed to measure snow, but today it's as superfluous as the snowshoes on Repp's feet.

To Northeastern Oregon irrigators, most of whom depend on mountain snow to fill the streams and reservoirs from which they water their crops, that clank creates a specter of dusty fields and silent sprinklers.

Repp measured just 3.6 inches of snow at this highway pass between Unity and Ironside on Dec. 28, and at least an inch of that was hoar frost. At the same time last year the pole passed through 16 inches of snow before it reached the ground.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 5, 2011

The cold snap that invaded Baker County the last week of 2010 and then lingered into the new year hasn't shattered any records for frigidly.

But its combination of duration and depth of chill is noteworthy nonetheless. By those measures, this episode ranks as the most arctic here in the past 15 years.

The temperature at the airport slunk below zero on five consecutive days.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald January 6, 2020

Idaho Power is offering to pay half the cost, up to \$10,000, to hire a consultant to help Baker County find ways to bring more visitors to the county's financially ailing Hewitt and Holcomb parks near Richland.

The Boise company made the offer in a recent letter responding to a letter from Bill Harvey, chairman of the Baker County Board of Commissioners.

In the letter, Brett Dumas, Idaho Power's director of environmental affairs, wrote that "While we do not feel it is the responsibility of our ratepayers or share owners to take on the additional cost burden of operating and maintaining Hewitt and Holcomb parks, we are committed to the future vitality of these parks."

Dumas wrote that hiring a consultant could help county officials come up with strategies for bringing more visitors to the area, and thus boosting revenue from the two parks on the Powder River arm of Brownlee Reservoir.

"Idaho Power believes generating ideas to enhance tourism interest in these parks is one of the best opportunities to ensure these parks continue to serve the citizens of Baker County in the years to come," Dumas wrote.

Baker County collected a yearly average of about \$57,680 from the two parks during the 2016-17 and 2017-18 fiscal years through a combination of camping fees, season passes and sales of ice, firewood and water.

## OREGON LOTTERY

**MEGABUCKS, Jan. 2**  
1-4-7-27-46-47  
Next jackpot: \$6.6 million

**POWERBALL, Jan. 2**  
3-4-11-41-67 PB5  
Next jackpot: \$410 million

**MEGA MILLIONS, Jan. 1**  
8±24-53-68-69 Mega 7  
Next jackpot: \$432 million

**WIN FOR LIFE, Jan. 2**  
9-44-56-68

**PICK 4, Jan. 3**  
• 1 p.m.: 9-1-4-4  
• 4 p.m.: 8-8-8-8  
• 7 p.m.: 8-0-7-9  
• 10 p.m.: 2-2-3-5  
**LUCKY LINES, Jan. 3**  
1-7-12-13-20-23-25-29  
Next jackpot: \$74,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Spaghetti with beef sauce, capri vegetables, garlic bread, green salad, cake
- **THURSDAY:** Roasted turkey with cranberries, stuffing, green beans, roll, beet-and-onion salad, cheesecake
- **FRIDAY:** Beef pot roast, baby red potatoes, green beans, rolls, fruit, chocolate ice cream
- **MONDAY (Jan. 11):** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, winter-blend vegetables, rolls, Jell-O with fruit, lemon squares
- **TUESDAY (Jan. 12):** Turkey noodle soup and turkey sandwich, pea-and-onion salad, brownies

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; no dining on site.

## CONTACT THE HERALD

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## NURSE

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Brock's father, who is 97, owns the Pondosa Store along Highway 203 near Medical Springs, about 20 miles north-east of Baker City.

Although Brock's current job involves talking to people on the phone rather than treating them in person, she said there are similarities with her previous work in nursing.

She asks people how they're feeling, and talks to them about any symptoms they or other members of their households are having.

"I gather as much information as I can," Brock said. "If they're feeling OK, it's usually a light and cheery conversation. It depends on the individual and how they're feeling. It's really all about them."

Brock said she believes her recent experience in treating COVID-19 patients is beneficial in case investigation and

contact tracing because she is familiar with the common symptoms.

That helps her answer questions from the people she interviews about what they should expect in terms of symptoms.

And Brock understands the circumstances that warrant a person seeking immediate medical care.

"As a nurse I have a background of treating these conditions," she said. "I can give insight to them about the symptoms to watch for."

Brock said most of the people she talks with are at home, but she has also spoken to a few who were in the hospital at the time due to COVID-19.

Although she's accustomed to treating patients in a hands-on way, Brock said she also appreciates the advantages of doing work over the phone.

"I really enjoy visiting with people," she said. "With the phone I meet a lot more contacts than I ever could in person."

Brock said her chief goal is

to make people feel comfortable, which can be a challenge when the purpose of her call is a potentially dangerous virus.

"I try to establish some rapport right away over the phone," Brock said. "I assure people I'm there to help them and answer their questions. If people don't trust you they're not going to talk to you."

Brock said she appreciates that her job gives her a chance to answer people's questions and, potentially, to ease their minds in a frightening situation.

"I see myself as an educator," Brock said. "I feel like education is a huge part of what nursing is about."

Although her work as a case investigator and contact tracer doesn't afford Brock the chance to treat patients directly, she said it's "not frustrating at all" to do her work over the phone.

"I still get to do the educational piece," Brock said. "And people are so thankful. People

are not thrilled at being diagnosed (with COVID-19). But it's reassuring to them to have somebody following up. Many people say they were waiting for a call. People are really glad that somebody is out there looking out for them."

Brock said only on "rare occasions" has she called someone who declined to talk with her.

"That's OK too," she said. "What they do with the information is up to them. All we can do is try."

After a hectic 10 months, in which she's confronted COVID-19 in multiple ways, Brock said she's pleased to be living, and working, in Baker County.

"It's a great job — very rewarding and fulfilling," she said. "I feel like I'm making a difference in the community."

And perhaps making something else too.

"Hopefully when they get off the phone with me I've made a friend."

## OBITUARIES

### Dan Harmon

Baker City, Richland, 1935-2020

Dan Harmon, 85, of Baker City and Richland, died on Dec. 21, 2020, at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise.

A celebration of Dan's life will take place in Baker City when the weather is warming, the date and time to be announced.

Daniel Floyd David Harmon was born on June 23, 1935, at Toledo, Oregon, to LaRoy and Hilda (Voss) Harmon. He was raised and educated in Toledo, graduating from Toledo High School in 1953. After a year studying and playing football at Oregon State University in Corvallis, he joined the U.S. Army and served his country from 1954 to 1956.

On March 22, 1958, Dan married Nancy Ann Gardner at Newport. Together they had three children: Gregory, Elizabeth and James. Dan and Nancy moved their family from the Oregon Coast to Baker City in 1972.

Dan enjoyed a career with Oregon State Police from 1959 to 1985, rising through the ranks from patrolman in Newport and Tillamook, to first sergeant of the Baker City office. On his off time, he enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren, mining for gold up in Sumpter, fishing for steelhead, and hunting for elk, deer and pheasants. With his wife, Nancy, he was a member of many fraternal organizations, including the Baker City chapters of the Elks and the Eagles.

One of Dan and Nancy's passions was their membership in, and volunteer work through, the Freemasons and Masonic appendant bodies. Dan was a Past Master of Baker Lodge No. 47, Oregon A. F. & A. M. He and Nancy were active in the Eastern Star, and Dan was involved

in the Baker DeMolay, as well as being a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in the Baker Valley of the Scottish Rite.

Most important to Dan was his work as a Shriner. Dan served as Outer Guard of the El Korah Temple in Wilsonville. One of his greatest honors was serving on the Board of Governors of the Portland Shriners Hospital for Children in 1988-1989. Dan was also known for his leadership within the East-West Shrine Football Game Committee. He was Game Chairman in 1988 and 1989, and had a reputation for personally helping make Oregon's game one of the most successful in the country.

Dan is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Harmon and Randy Jorgenson of Richland; his son, James Harmon of Pendleton; his brother, David Esquivel, and sister, Josephine Esquivel; his grandchildren, Griffin Hale and his wife, Laura, Amanda Lindsay and her husband, Brian, Laura Hale and her partner, Jimmy Smith, Austin Harmon and his wife, Keisha, Aurora Harmon and Deanna Harmon; 12 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Dan was preceded in death by his father, LaRoy Harmon; his mother, Hilda (Voss) Esquivel; his stepfather, Ignacio Esquivel; his wife, Nancy; his son, Gregory; and his brothers, Sidney and Monte.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Portland Shriners Hospital for Children through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

### Quinten Stephens

Haines, 1995-2020

Quinten James Stephens, 25, of Haines, died on Dec. 24, 2020, at Fruitland, Idaho.

A celebration of his life took place on Jan. 2.

Quin was born on Sept. 28, 1995, at La Grande to Delbert and Sam (Janelle) Stephens. He graduated high school from the North Powder Charter School in 2014. Quin was an all-star football player; he also played basketball very well.

After high school, Quin worked as a rancher and a horse trainer. He was a cowboy; he worked at the Roaring Springs Ranch, and his last place of employment was the Beef Northwest feedlot. Quin loved sports, riding horses, working cattle, and breaking horses. He taught himself how to play the guitar and took up leather working, which he loved to do. Quin won two buckles riding ranch saddle broncs; he loved to ride, but he mostly chose to ride in rodeos that gave the winners a cash prize rather than buckles.

He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and he was an avid Trump supporter.

Quinten is survived by his parents, Delbert and Sam (Whiting) Stephens of Haines; his brothers, Michael Stephens of Klamath Falls, Dustin Stephens of North Powder, and Ethan Stephens of Haines; his sisters, Jessilyn Kandle of Redding, California, and Savannah Carrico of Rexburg, Idaho.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Richard Stephens; and his brother, Rick Stephens.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Quin Stephens memorial fund (Umpqua Bank) through Gray's West & Co. 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave an online condolence for Quin's family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)



Quinten Stephens

### DEATHS

**Harley S. Derrick: 86,** of Fruitland, Idaho, previously of Ontario and Halfway, died Dec. 29, 2020, at Saint Alphonsus Hospital in Boise. Bowman Funeral Parlor is in charge of arrangements.

**Vickie Lee Stevenson: 73,** of Baker City, died on Jan. 2, 2021, at her home, surrounded by her loving family. Memorial contributions can be made to the Baker City Lions Club through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for Vickie's family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

### FUNERAL PENDING

**Kathleen Mitchell:** Recitation of the rosary will be Thursday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Baker City. Mass of Christian Burial will be Friday, Jan. 15, at 1 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales, with interment following at the Haines Cemetery. Attendees are asked to wear masks, and social distancing will be observed at both services. Donations in Kathleen's memory can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Kathleen's memory, go to [www.colestributecenter.com](http://www.colestributecenter.com)

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police**  
SECOND-DEGREE THEFT (Multnomah County warrant): Makayla Paige Lafferty, 23, of 3220 Campbell St., 3:38 a.m. Sunday, in the 2300 block of Clark Street; cited and released.

UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY INTO A MOTOR VEHICLE and SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASS:

Kody Allen McManus, 24, of Richland, 4:19 a.m. Saturday, on Myrtle Street; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (two Baker County Circuit Court warrants): Sydne Presten Lee Baltzell, 22, of 1139 Elm St., 4:19 a.m. Saturday, on Myrtle Street; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (two Baker County Circuit Court warrants): Tamara Kay Fine, 47, of Baker City, 1:56 p.m. Saturday, at Washington Avenue and Chestnut Street; jailed.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Justin Lee Harding, 37, transient, 5:19 p.m. Friday, in the 2300 block of Resort Street; jailed.

**Crime reports**  
FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL MIS-

CHIEF: In the 3700 block of Auburn Avenue at an unknown date and time; Julie Davis, 42, of Baker City, reported the bed of her 2008 Ford F250 pickup truck sustained damage of more than \$1,000 while parked in the driveway at her home.

SECOND-DEGREE BURGLARY: At 2815 E St., between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday; Donald Humphress, 57, reported that the building that has housed Dick's Bike shop was entered by burglars who removed wood panels from the outside of the building; damage was estimated at \$100. Police seized a backpack and gloves left inside the building. John Shepherd, an adjacent property owner, reported that between Dec. 17 and Jan. 1 the garage at his home was

entered. Shepherd reported that a bicycle valued at \$500 and miscellaneous tools and parts valued at \$500 were left in the garage. Police Chief Ray Duman said the two burglaries appear related; the investigation is continuing.

### Baker County Sheriff's Office

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant) and UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE (Baker County Circuit Court warrant) and two Union County warrants: Brandy Dawn Arthur, 28, of Baker City, 5:19 p.m. Friday, in the 2300 block of Resort Street; cited and released.

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