

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald February 12, 1971

Mason Dam will begin releasing water Monday, Feb. 15, in preparation for an unusually high runoff projected for this spring, Baker Irrigation District manager Warren Travis said.

“The Boise weather bureau estimates a 94,000 acre foot runoff for February through September which is 183 percent of normal,” Travis said.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 12, 1996

The Rock Creek Schoolhouse, three miles west of Haines, was destroyed by fire Sunday afternoon. Sherry Moutsanides said she learned about the fire from a neighbor who called to alert her. She and her husband, Greg, had owned the seven-room home for about 14 years. Although the family lost most of their possessions, no one was hurt in the fire.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 11, 2011

A geologic study planned for this August in Eastern Oregon could help scientists refine their theories about how our region was formed hundreds of millions of years ago. But the research could also have more practical applications for the future, ranging from identifying places to tap the Earth's heat to produce electricity, to mapping faults that generate earthquakes.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald February 11, 2020

What Baker County Commissioner Mark Bennett describes as the result of a “clerical error” has led local Republican Party officials to question whether commissioners were on the verge of approving an ordinance that the GOP officials contend would “dilute” the “Second Amendment Preservation Ordinance” that county voters overwhelmingly approved in November 2018.

Both Bennett and Bill Harvey, chairman of the three-member board of commissioners, said on Monday that that's not the case.

“There wasn't any intention for us to rewrite it,” Bennett said of the 2018 ordinance, which county voters approved 5,432 to 2,736. “That's what the people passed. I can't apologize enough for the mistake. We did it in good faith.”

Harvey said commissioners won't be considering a new ordinance related to preserving Second Amendment rights.

A proposed new ordinance posted to the county's website, www.bakercounty.org, last week was deleted from the website on Monday.

That's a good thing, according to Suzan Ellis Jones, chair of the Baker County Republican Party and one of the three chief petitioners for the 2018 voter-approved ordinance.

But Jones said Monday that she's concerned that Bennett and Harvey didn't contact either her or the two other petitioners — Jake Brown, the Republican Party county vice chair, or Tom Van Diepen, a Republican precinct committee member — before posting on the county's website a draft of a proposed new ordinance.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Feb. 8
9 — 19 — 27 — 33 — 38 — 45
Next jackpot: \$1.7 million

POWERBALL, Feb. 6
1 — 16 — 48 — 49 — 65 PB 8
Next jackpot: \$42 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Feb. 9
7 — 18 — 21 — 31 — 40 Mega 9
Next jackpot: \$82 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Feb. 8
21 — 63 — 69 — 73
PICK 4, Feb. 9
• 1 p.m.: 2 — 2 — 0 — 9
• 4 p.m.: 3 — 8 — 6 — 6
• 7 p.m.: 7 — 6 — 1 — 4
• 10 p.m.: 9 — 1 — 6 — 3
LUCKY LINES, Feb. 9
2-8-10-13-18-21-26-32
Next jackpot: \$23,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **FRIDAY:** Baked ham, candied yams, mixed vegetables, roll, macaroni salad, cheesecake
- **MONDAY (Feb. 15):** Office is closed in commemoration of Presidents Day.
- **TUESDAY (Feb. 16):** Spaghetti with beef sauce, green beans, garlic bread, green salad, lemon squares
- **WEDNESDAY (Feb. 17):** Pulled pork with bun, potato wedges, mixed vegetables, garlic bread, macaroni salad, pudding
- **THURSDAY (Feb. 18):** Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes, baby carrots, Jell-O with fruit, peach crisp

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.

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8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Baker City Herald
ISSN-8756-6419
Serving Baker County since 1870
Published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays except Christmas Day by the Baker Publishing Co., a part of EO Media Group, at 1668 Resort St. (P.O. Box 807), Baker City, OR 97814.
Subscription rates per month are \$10.75 for print only. Digital-only rates are \$8.25.
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Baker City Herald, P.O. Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814.

Periodicals Postage Paid
at Pendleton, Oregon 97801

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Mary Lou Wirth

Baker City, 1935-2021

Mary Louise (Dolby) Wirth, 85, died Jan. 18, 2021.

No service will be held at this time. A celebration of her life will take place at a later date. She will be buried in the Big Creek Cemetery, next to Bucky, overlooking their home.

Mary Lou was born on April 8, 1935, at Baker City to her parents, Ford and Mary (Colton) Dolby.

She attended school in Keating for first grade. She then attended second through fourth grades in Portland, Oregon, during World War II while her father, Ford, worked in the shipping yards.

After the war, she moved back to Medical Springs and grew up at the Dolby Ranch on the Powder River. She went to Keating for fifth through seventh grades, and then attended Baker High School.

Mary Lou married Robert “Bucky” Wirth on Nov. 15, 1952. They had three children, John, Jim, and Vickie. Mary Lou and Bucky spent 65 years together raising their children and ranching in Medical Springs. Their love of family and the outdoors has been passed down through many generations.

Mary Lou took great pride in her beautiful yard and plentiful garden. Her home was always filled with the smells of that season's bounty as she processed the majority of their food.

Mary Lou spent many of her years baking for family and friends. She won numerous competitions for cake baking. Mary Lou loved to make wedding cakes and was sought after by everyone she knew for the honor of receiving one. She did amazing detail work, and every cake was a piece of art. Her parkerhouse rolls (white rolls) were the best ever made.

She cherished her grandchildren and was always willing to give cooking lessons and pass her craft on. She also was very involved in the Baker County Cattlewomen and spent many years helping with their cow pie fudge and serving breakfast during events. She volunteered for the community every chance she got when not busy working on the ranch fencing, changing pipes, or doing any of the other countless ranching chores.

Mary Lou was preceded in death by her loving husband, Bucky Wirth; parents, Ford and Mary Dolby of Medical Springs; brother, Ronnie of Baker; and sister, Dorothy, at birth.

She is survived by sons, John (Janice) Wirth and Jim (Lori) Wirth, all of Medical Springs; daughter, Vickie (Cal) Foster of Bowen Valley; grandchildren: Joey Wirth of Caldwell, Idaho; Jackie Wirth, Jason (Mandy) Wirth, Angie (David) Hays, Kim (Corey) Jonas all of Medical Springs; and Dan (Tanna) Ferree of Bowen Valley; sister, Betty Jean Dwyer of Medford; 14 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends.

Her family expressed a special thank you to the staff members at St. Alphonsus in Boise for their care in her final days and to the Baker County EMTs for all of their help.

Thank you to everyone that has sent cards and well wishes. We really appreciate all of you. She was loved by so many, her family said.

Memorial contributions

may be made to the Baker County Livestock Producers Foundation through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

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

Raymond Hubert

Baker City, 1970-2021

Raymond Lee Hubert, 50, of Baker City, Oregon, died Feb. 3, 2021, at his residence.

A service will be held at a later date in Baker City. Service details will be announced in the near future.

Raymond was born on May 27, 1970, at Springfield, Oregon, to Willard Hubert and Christine (Humphries) Tatom. Raymond attended high school in Baker City, graduating on April 11, 2011. He went on to study business management, art, and math at Chemeketa Community College.

Raymond was self-employed and worked in general construction, specifically doing concrete work. He enjoyed landscaping, remodeling, drawing, playing the guitar, fishing, barbecuing with family and friends, and watching movies.

He is survived by his mother, Christine Tatom of McMinnville; his brother, Mathew Hubert of Baker City; a son, William M. Hubert of Portland; daughter, Ayla R. Hubert of Baker City; and his granddaughter, Vellouria Hubert of Baker City.

Raymond was preceded in death by his father, Willard Hubert, who passed away in 2019.

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

Arlene Schoorl

Unity, 1949-2020

Arlene May (Clark) Schoorl, 71, of Unity, died peacefully on Dec. 16, 2020, at her home.

On April 22, 1949, Arlene was born along with a twin sister, Darlene, to Dale and Ruth Clark. Early childhood years were spent in the areas of Huntington and Durkee.

In 1960, her family moved to Haines, where she continued grade school then on to Baker High School for graduation in 1968.

Early on, in support of her livelihood, she worked at different positions. While living in Payette, Idaho, she was employed as a long-haul truck driver.

Upon driving for several years, she decided to work in the gold mining industry. To accommodate this new occupation venture, she moved to Battle Mountain, Nevada.

With a new opportunity in life, she relocated to Unity in 1980. She was employed at the Burnt River School District where she spent her remaining working years in varying capacities until her retirement in 2008.

While living in Unity, she met Rex Schoorl, which culminated in marriage on May 26, 1988. Arlene and Rex had many common interests. They enjoyed the serenity of the area that afforded them camping, fishing, and country exploring. She cherished the times spent with friends and family there. Her charitable heart benefited St. Jude Children's Hospital as well the community of Unity.

Social media afforded her the special time spent conversing with her beloved children and grandchildren. Being spread far and wide, they became as close as her fingertips and a screen away. She was dedicated to never

forgetting a birthday of any of her children.

One loving comment stated so sweetly by a granddaughter exemplified Arlene's love.

“Thank you for always trying to check up on me and Mom — Thank you for showing me that caring for others matters more than anything else — Thank you for teaching me to put God first and to also not to put up with anyone treating me wrongly — I am so blessed to be part of you. My heart is heavy today ... You are loved ... You are Gold ... until I see you again.” This statement is also a reflection of our entire family's sentiment.

Survivors include her husband, Rex Schoorl of Unity; sister, Darlene, and husband Charles Wendt of Weiser, Idaho; children, Dale (J.R.) Clark and his wife, Kim Clark, of Jerome, Idaho, Tammy O'Dell of Bridger, Wyoming, Evan and his wife, Christine Pritchett, of Roswell, Georgia, Candace (Candy) Tooley of Battle Mountain, Nevada, and Darla and her husband, Tony Liebhardt, of Battle Mountain, Nevada; 12 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arlene was preceded in death by her father, Dale E. Clark; her mother, Ruth Clark Ballo; and her sister, Catherine Kay Bailey.

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

Jeffery Thomas

Baker City, 1972-2021

Jeffery Paul Thomas 48, a resident of Baker Valley, died Feb. 6, 2021, at his home near Baker City.

At his request, cremation was held.

Jeffery was born on July 1, 1972, at Las Vegas, Nevada, a son of Jerald Wayne Thomas Sr. and Roxanne Raleigh. He received his education in various locations and worked for the Job Corps and as a carpenter.

He then became an apprentice with the Pipefitters Union. He remained with the Pipefitters Union working as a welder. He worked on many construction projects.

His hobbies were barbecuing, cooking, cars, racing and he enjoyed being home when not working.

He is survived by his father and stepmother, Jerald and Shelly Lupfer Thomas Sr. of Baker City; mother, Roxanne Raleigh of Wickenburg, Arizona; sisters, Deanna Thomas of Spokane, Washington, and Dawn Ranne Lomax of Deltonia, Florida; brothers, Kainen Thomas of Colorado and Jerald W. Thomas Jr. of Spokane, Washington; Grandmother Ma Tate; and stepmother, Pam Brock,

Memorial contributions maybe made to a charity of one's choice, through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St.,

Baker City, OR 97814.

To light a candle in Jeffery's memory, go to www.celestributecenter.com.

Janice Schroeder

Baker City, 1931-2021

Janice Claire Richard Schroeder, 89, of Baker City, died peacefully on Feb. 2, 2021, with her family by her side.

No services are planned. Janice was born on May 23, 1931, at Portland to Wilma and George Sarchet. She was raised by her grandparents on a small farm at the corner of 82nd and Division streets in Portland.

In 1951, she met Ted Richard at a fraternity party at Oregon State University. They were married on Nov. 2, 1952. Jan and Ted had four children. Jan was a stay-at-home mom who helped with her four kids' education and extracurricular activities. She was a dedicated wife and mother. The family had many happy times, including vacations that took them around the western U.S. and into Mexico and Canada. Ted died in 1975 of heart failure.

From a young age, Jan had a strong interest in handcrafts, including needlepoint, cross-stitch, knitting, crocheting, spinning wool into yarn, using natural materials to dye the yarn, and weaving. She also played the piano, although rarely for others. She believed her hands should always be busy.

In December of 1977 she married LeRoy Schroeder. They were married for 41 years, until LeRoy passed away in 2019. During their marriage, they traveled each winter into Mexico, entering that country through nine different border crossings. They lived at the Oregon Coast, where LeRoy fished for salmon for many years. LeRoy and Jan moved to Baker City in 2019 to be closer to Jan's children.

Her family wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks to the caregivers and staff at Meadowbrook Place and to Heart 'N Home Hospice. Jan's care was outstanding and they are very thankful.

She is survived by her four children, Fred (Janet) Richard of Oklahoma, Sue Richard, Vince Richard, and Jani Marie (Rick Teegarden) Richard of Baker City; her nine grandchildren, Juliette Richard Molina, Amanda Hurst, Freddy Richard, Ted Richard, Aaron Richard, Jacque Cobb, Logan Kerns, Paul Richard and Johnny Richard; and 12 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the charity of one's choice through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Jan, go to www.celestributecenter.com

OBITUARIES



Mary Lou Wirth



Raymond Hubert



Janice Schroeder

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