

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald March 4, 1971

The Oregon Cattlemen's Association set their total membership goal for 1971 at 3,500 at their membership drive dinner at the Baker Hotel last night.

Membership for 1970 reached 3,029 statewide, which was highest in the association's 57-year history.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 4, 1996

Teachers, coaches, teens, sports fans, everyone involved with the high schools and their activities, like having the Class 1A basketball tournaments come to Baker City.

Among them are the merchants of downtown Baker City.

During the tournaments, most of the students and male family members are at the games, but many of the wives and mothers are downtown shopping.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 4, 2011

The Baker School District's tentative plan to move to a four-day week would lengthen the daily schedule and shorten the week for students while keeping teachers on the job half a day on Fridays to complete their 40-hour schedule.

Superintendent Walt Wegener outlined the plan for about 55 people who gathered at the Baker Middle School gymnasium Wednesday night.

The board must first authorize the change to the four-day week before work begins to refine the details, Wegener said.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald March 5, 2020

The aroma of disinfectant greets visitors at the front entry of Baker High School this week as staff members take precautions against the spread of coronavirus and other viral respiratory infections.

In addition to the usual BHS student load of about 450 and another 61 staff members, this week 16 boys and girls teams from small schools throughout the state and their fans will congregate there for the 1A state basketball championships, which started Wednesday.

Extra precautions for the tournament include providing two portable outdoor handwashing stations at the west parking lot entrance leading to the gymnasium. Another station has been placed at the team entrance to the building.

Kathy Taylor, chairwoman of Baker County Tournaments, which helps run the event, said the District obtained the handwashing stations from Baker Sanitary. Her organization also has hand sanitizers donated by OnPoint Credit Union to distribute and her staff will be wearing gloves and have hand sanitizer available for use at their stations in the building.

At the end of each night's session, the District will use its Vital Oxide misting system to sanitize all areas of the school used for the tournament, including the hallways and the cafeteria/commons area, Taylor said. The Vital Oxide system has been used in 5J school buildings and on its buses since October 2018.

The District is working diligently to provide protection for local students, staff and visitors, Superintendent Mark Witty stated in a press release issued Tuesday.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, March 1

1 - 6 - 12 - 41 - 43 - 47

Next jackpot: \$2.6 million

POWERBALL, Feb. 27

2 - 28 - 31 - 44 - 52 PB 18

Next jackpot: \$123 million

MEGA MILLIONS, March 2

4 - 8 - 13 - 34 - 64 Mega 18

Next jackpot: \$55 million

WIN FOR LIFE, March 1

23 - 28 - 49 - 68

PICK 4, March 2

• 1 p.m.: 5 - 5 - 7 - 4

• 4 p.m.: 1 - 6 - 4 - 1

• 7 p.m.: 5 - 3 - 7 - 5

• 10 p.m.: 7 - 9 - 2 - 5

LUCKY LINES, March 2

4-5-10-14-20-21-27-32

Next jackpot: \$30,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Baked ziti, zucchini and tomatoes, garlic bread, pasta salad, pudding
- **THURSDAY:** Breaded pork loin, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, roll, broccoli-bacon salad, brownie
- **FRIDAY:** Barbecued pork ribs, baked beans, corn, cornbread, potato salad, apple crisp
- **MONDAY (March 8):** Pork tips with gravy, fettuccine noodles, roll, peas and carrots, macaroni salad, lemon squares
- **TUESDAY (March 9):** Chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, Capri vegetables, roll, ambrosia, cheesecake

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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Each Oregon county gets 100 doses of one-dose COVID-19 vaccine this week

By Gary A. Warner
Oregon Capital Bureau

Every Oregon county will receive 100 doses this week of the new Johnson & Johnson single-shot COVID-19 vaccine that President Joe Biden said Tuesday is a key part of vaccinating all Americans before summer.

"We're now on track to have enough vaccine supply for every adult in America by the end of May," said Biden at a press conference in Washington on Tuesday.

Biden likened the effort to ramp up production of vaccine to efforts by manufacturers to join together during World War II.

The key to cutting the timeline for inoculating the public is the introduction of the Johnson & Johnson one-shot vaccine. Biden announced a deal with pharmaceutical giant Merck to commit two of its manufacturing facilities to making the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Biden said he will invoke the Defense Production Act to help ready Merck's facilities and to ensure it gets the raw ingredients required for making the vaccine.

Along with increased orders of the previously approved two-shot Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, enough doses will be available to suppress the virus, which has



Phil Masturzo/Akrorn Beacon Journal-TNS

A pharmacist fills a needle with the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.

killed over 515,000 Americans over the past year, including more than 2,200 in Oregon.

Scientists with the Centers for Disease Control have said that sup-

pressing the virus as quickly as possible will limit the continued mutations of COVID-19, some of which have proven to be more contagious and virulent than the original virus.

In early February, the timelines for inoculating all American adults was as long as early 2022 in some estimates. Recently, the increase in Moderna and Pfizer vaccines shortened estimates to the end of summer.

Oregon will receive 34,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Every county will initially receive 100 doses to familiarize health officials with the vaccine, the first new vaccine since December.

"Because doses will be limited for the first few weeks, the state has committed some allocations to addressing access issues for some Oregonians who've experienced barriers to getting vaccinated," said Jonathan M. Modie, lead communications officer for OHA's public health division.

About 4,800 doses will go to Local Public Health Authorities (LPHAs) to vaccinate Oregonians living in adult foster homes and other in-home senior populations.

OUTBREAK

Continued from Page 1A

Residents who have tested positive are self-isolating in their apartments, according to the press release.

"The health and well-being of our residents and team members are our greatest priority," said Jackie Wirth, executive director at Settler's Park. "While individuals at our community have tested positive for COVID-19, we continue working together to care for our residents, protect the safety of our team members, and protect the people in our community.

"We are following enhanced internal protocols in order to help control the spread of COVID-19," Wirth said.

Nancy Staten, director of the Baker County Health Department, said in the press release that "we will continue to support Settler's Park in their work, and walk alongside them as they fight this virus."

That includes providing second doses of COVID-19 vaccine to those who are eligible, and first doses to residents and staff who weren't vaccinated earlier but have opted to be inoculated now.

According to the most recent weekly outbreak report from the Oregon Health Authority, the first case at Settler's Park was reported Feb. 5. There were three cases as of Feb. 21, with the other 12 reported between Feb. 22 and March 2.

Settler's Park is one of two care

facilities in Baker County with an active outbreak.

The other involves three cases, the first reported Jan. 20, at Memory Lane Homes.

Two other facilities have had outbreaks that the OHA lists as "resolved."

Ashley Manor had four cases, the first reported Dec. 18, 2020.

Meadowbrook Place had 27 cases, including two deaths. The first case there was reported on Aug. 9, 2020.

Workplace outbreak

The first virus outbreak at a workplace in Baker County, as opposed to a care facility, is at Behlen Mfg. Co., which produces livestock equipment at its plant in northwest Baker City.

The OHA outbreak report includes only businesses that have at least 30 workers and that have had at least five cases.

The Behlen outbreak includes 10 cases, the first reported on Feb. 15, according to the OHA weekly report.

The OHA counts all cases linked to the outbreak, which can include household members and other close contacts in addition to actual employees.

Kathy Gover-Shaw, human resources manager at Behlen, which employs about 140 people, said all of the employees who tested positive have been cleared by the health department to return to work after quarantining at home.

Gover-Shaw said the first employee who tested positive initially had symptoms and, per the company's policy in place throughout the pandemic, stayed away from work. That employee later reported testing positive.

The other employees who tested positive had been close contacts, which includes roommates, friends and relatives, Gover-Shaw said.

She credits the company's protocols with keeping the virus out of the factory for most of the pandemic.

Those include providing masks to employees — many of whom wear respirators or other protective equipment as part of their regular work, which includes welding — not scheduling group meetings and other gatherings, and regular sanitizing of frequently touched surfaces.

Behlen Mfg. Co. also lacks a timeclock (the company uses the honor system, Gover-Shaw said), which in other factories can be a place where employees tend to congregate.

The company has also required workers who feel sick to stay home and self-monitor their symptoms.

Behlen Mfg. Co. provided each worker with a thermometer, she said.

"Everybody's doing their part," Gover-Shaw said.

The combined 25 cases between Settler's Park and Behlen Mfg. Co. account for half of the 50 new COVID-19 cases in Baker County since Feb. 15.

OBITUARY

Marilyn Perkins

Formerly of Baker County, 1931-2021

Marilyn J. Perkins, 89, of Eagle, Idaho, and a former Baker County resident, died Feb. 21, 2021, at Grace Assisted Living in Boise due to complications of a moderate stroke two weeks previously.

Services for immediate family will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 13, at the Cathedral of the Rockies, 717 N. 11th St. in Boise.

Marilyn was born on Dec. 25, 1931, at Payette, Idaho, to Leo and Esther Dougherty, the second of five daughters. Marilyn moved to Baker when she was in the fourth grade. She claimed Baker as her "hometown" and throughout her entire life her love for Baker never faded.

In her teen years, she moved to Sweet Home to live with an aunt. She completed her high school education

there and married Pete Bennett in July 1950. Pete's employment took them to several small towns on the Oregon Coast plus two years at Fort Lewis, Washington, for Army service. The marriage didn't survive, and Marilyn returned to Baker with her four children where she was employed at City Hall, sold real estate, and operated a diet center from her home.

In 1963 she married Pete Schoeningh, a Haines rancher with three small sons. She was immensely proud of her years on the ranch raising seven kids, her four and Pete's three. During that time she became active in the Baker County CowBelles and the Rock Creek-Muddy Creek Mutual Improvement Club. She was also an active member of the Parent Teachers Association at Haines Elementary School and taught children's swimming lessons at Radium Hot Springs.

This marriage ended in

1972 and Marilyn moved to Boise. She worked at Valley View Retirement Home in Boise as the activities and social director. She enjoyed this job greatly as it utilized her extensive social skills and exposed her to a wide range of people of various personalities.

She married Bill Perkins on April 30, 1990. Bill and Marilyn enjoyed their retirement life, spending lots of time with family and watching their great-grandchildren grow into teenagers.

Marilyn is survived by her husband, Bill; her seven kids: Bruce Bennett (Kathy) of Phoenix, Arizona, Mike Bennett (JoLou) of Boise, Linda Hines of Boise, Jill Jenkins

of Star, Idaho, Mike Schoeningh (Debby) of Baker City, Cliff Schoeningh (Karen) of Baker City, Eric Schoeningh of Star, Idaho; and Bill's kids, Richard and Scott Anyan of Norwalk, Connecticut. She is also survived by her sisters, Nancy Ferree of Baker City, Carmen Ott of Baker City, and Carol Cushing of Taylorsville, Utah. In addition, she is survived by 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren; and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Doris Hovie; and her step-daughter, Dianne Anyan.

To plant a memorial tree in Marilyn's memory, go to www.sympathy.legacy.com

NEWS OF RECORD

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Jace Taylor Prowell, 30, of Baker City, 11:24 a.m. Tuesday, at Nevada and Wabash streets; jailed.

VIOLATING RESTRAINING ORDER: John Fuzi, 61, of Baker City, 3:59 p.m. Monday, in the 2400 block of Second St.; jailed and released after time served.

FOURTH-DEGREE DOMESTIC

ASSAULT IN THE PRESENCE OF MINORS: Leigh Scott Carpenter, 34, of Baker City, 7:28 p.m. Monday, in the 1700 block of Valley Avenue; jailed and granted a conditional release during arraignment on Tuesday, March 2.

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