# Local

#### TURNING BACK THE PAGES ——

#### **50 YEARS AGO** from the Democrat-Herald March 27, 1971

PORTLAND — Baker unleashed the baskets they didn't use Thursday to bomb the Medford Black Tornado 58 to 37 yesterday and move into today's game against Sunset for fourth place.

The Bulldogs took only 45 shots but they made them count, hitting 53 percent from the field. In the second half when they ran up their 21 point lead, the Bulldogs hit 12 of 17 for a scorching 77 percent.

#### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 27, 1996

The Baker City Council on Tuesday ratified a three-year labor contract with the fire department's union employees that includes a 3-percent salary increase the first year and raises of from 2 percent to 4 percent each of the latter two years.

#### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 28, 2011

The pickup truck that looks as if it didn't just drive through mud but was actually dipped in it, like a chocolate truffle, is one indication.

The appearance of a stream where water rarely flows is another.

This March already qualifies as abnormally moist by Baker County standards.

Whether its sogginess reigns supreme is yet to be determined.

#### **ONE YEAR AGO** from the Baker City Herald March 28, 2020

Brian Ratliff is investigating a medical mystery that threatens the future of Baker County's biggest herd of bighorn sheep.

Ratliff is the district wildlife biologist at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) Baker City office.

His sleuthing has turned up some facts about the more than 300 Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep that roam the Lookout Mountain unit, which makes up much of Baker County east and north of Interstate 84, extending to the Idaho border.

At least a handful of sheep have died over the past month or so from pneumonia caused by a strain of bacteria that had not previously been found in bighorns anywhere in Oregon, Ratliff said.

What's not yet clear, he said, is how dangerous this strain is.

Of the more than 50 identified strains of Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae, some can eliminate an entire herd relatively rapidly, while others are comparatively mild and kill few animals, Ratliff said.

"I don't know how bad it's going to be," he said Thursday.

The threat is serious enough, however, that ODFW this week canceled the two bighorn sheep hunts scheduled this summer and fall in the Lookout Mountain unit.

Those hunts included three tags — two for Oregon hunters and one for a nonresident.

"I'm always going to err on the side of caution," Ratliff

said. Ratliff said he and other ODFW employees are regularly monitoring bighorns in the Lookout Mountain unit to try to gauge the lethality of the bacteria strain.

Oregon Lottery

**MEGABUCKS, March 24** 6 - 22 - 24 - 41 - 44 - 47Next jackpot: \$3.6 million

**POWERBALL, March 24** 4 - 9 - 17 - 27 - 38 PB 18 Next jackpot: \$238 million

MEGA MILLIONS, March 23 12 - 23 - 35 - 38 - 55 Mega 11 Next jackpot: \$137 million

# WIN FOR LIFE, March 24

7 - 29 - 42 - 48PICK 4, March 25

• 1 p.m.: 1 − 7 − 0 − 1

• 4 p.m.: 4 — 3 — 3 — 8

• 7 p.m.: 6 - 2 - 3 - 6

• 10 p.m.: 7 - 2 - 8 - 7 **LUCKY LINES, March 25** 3-7-9-15-17-22-25-31 Next jackpot: \$53,000

## Senior Menus

- MONDAY: Barbecued pork ribs, au gratin potatoes, corn, biscuit, coleslaw, cookies
- TUESDAY: Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables, ambrosia, cheesecake
- **WEDNESDAY:** Sweet and sour chicken, rice, Oriental vegetables, Jell-O with fruit, apple crisp
- THURSDAY: Lasagna, zucchini, garlic bread, pasta salad,
- FRIDAY: Baked cod and clam chowder, Capri vegetables, roll, coleslaw, ice cream

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., from 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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#### **BACKHOE**

Continued from Page 1A The document, among

much else, requires that city officials, before selling land or buildings with an estimated value of at least \$5,000, or vehicles and other equipment worth at least \$10,000, put the matter on the ballot.

The idea seems to have been that voters might want to have a say in whether the city disposes of relatively valuable, but publicly owned, items.

Over the past 30 years or so the city has sought voter approval for more than half a dozen sales, all involving buildings or land. Voters approved each of those sales, and usually by relatively wide margins.

But as the value of vehicles and equipment has increased, the potential existed for property other than real estate to meet the monetary threshold in the charter.

During the spring of 2020, city officials deemed as surplus a 1995 Case backhoe. They also pegged its market value at \$16,000.

And so it was that the May 19, 2020, ballot included, among the usual political races, a measure asking voters to decide whether to authorize the city to sell that digger.

Voters approved that measure — which is to say, the future sale of the backhoe — by 92% to 8%.

But that wasn't the only unusual matter on the ballot.

City officials also had identified at least two other surplus items that could conceivably fetch more than \$10,000 — a 1990 Case excavator, and a 1988 International dump truck.



Baker City Public Works/Contributed Photo

The tall metal slide that stood in Geiser-Pollman Park for decades is up for auction at govdeals.com

To avoid larding future ballots with measures involving equipment sales, the city also placed on the May 2020 slate a measure that amended the city charter, allowing the city, without voter approval, to sell surplus vehicles of any value, so long as the money goes to the city's equipment replacement fund.

Voters also backed that measure, although not quite as enthusiastically as with the backhoe sale. The charter change measure passed by 75.5% to 24.5%.

(The measure did not affect the requirement that voters approve the sale of real examine items in advance.

estate; that \$5,000 threshold remains.)

City officials initially planned to sell the backhoe, along with the excavator, dump truck and several dozen other surplus items, via the online auction site, govdeals.com, in 2020, said Tom Fisk, operations supervisor for the city's public works department.

But officials decided to postpone the auction due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he said.

Although the auction is conducted online, prospective bidders sometimes want to

Also, buyers are required to pick up their lots. Fisk said it made sense to wait until the pandemic had eased.

The backhoe, and more than 100 other surplus items, are available for bidding now at govdeals.com. Search for "Baker City" to summon the

local items. The online auction continues through April 2, with a couple of items extended through April 9.

As of Friday morning, March 26, the Case backhoe had drawn 12 bids, the highest being \$18,000.

Neither the excavator, with a minimum bid of \$12,000, nor the dump truck, minimum bid \$10,000, had yet attracted a bid.

Among other interesting items on the block:

- The tall slide that stood in Geiser-Pollman Park for decades before being removed last year to make way for the all-abilities playground. As of Friday morning the top bid was \$102.
- A four-sided steel climbing structure and slide, which also was removed from Geiser-Pollman Park last year. Top bid was \$102.
- Fiberglass steps from Sam-O Swim Center. Top bid, \$10.
- Two fire hydrants. Top bid for each, \$10.
- Three historic metal street signs, two for Campbell Street, one for Fifth Street. Top bid for each, \$5. • Side boom segments from
- an old city street sweeper. The city suggests these segments, with bristles six inches long, "would make great boot scrapers."There are two separate lots, each consisting of 66 segments. There were no bids for either as of Friday; minimum bid is \$5 each.

## **O**BITUARIES

#### Ronald Peterson

Baker City, 1960-2021

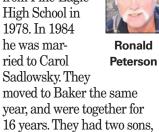
1960, and grew

Ronald Dale Peterson, 61, of Baker City, died March 19, 2021, at his home.

To honor Ron's wishes, there will not be a service. Ron was born on Jan. 2,

up in Halfway. He graduated from Pine-Eagle High School in 1978. In 1984 he was married to Carol Sadlowsky. They

Cody and Landon.



Ron drove a log truck from the age of 19. As a logger and a true Eastern Oregonian he was proudly committed to being a woodsman and working hard for a living. As a father, Ron was adamantly devoted to making sure his kids knew how to hunt, fish, fix anything with nothing, how not to get your pickup stuck in the mountains and how to get it out if you do. Above all, he made sure his kids knew they were loved. He loved being outside, undeterred by weather or temperature. What he shorted us in years, he well

loved much more than a Dad, he will be missed much more than a Dad, and remembered for his immeasurable patience and immense size of heart that he put behind all that he did. To those of us whom he loved, Ron could only ever be accused of being generous to a fault.

Ron loved a good hunting story, was always up for a four-wheeler ride, was a firm believer in couch naps, and Sunday breakfast at the Inland. Always prepared and always on time, Ron was a legend in his own time.

He is survived by his two sons, Cody and Landon Peterson; his mother, Charlene Peterson; one brother, Bill Peterson; one sister, Sandy Mills; and numerous great friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bryan Peterson.

#### **James Romine**

La Grande, 1957-2021

James Romine, 63, of La Grande, died March 4, 2021, at his home.

His memorial service will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, April 2, at the Pine Valley Presbyterian Church in Halfway.

James Russell "Jim" Romine was born on Oct. 18, 1957, at

Romine. He attended Greenwood Elementary School and graduated from La Grande High

**James** 

Romine

La Grande to

David and Ora

"Skip" (Hendrix)

School in June of 1976. Jim then joined the U.S. Army, attending the Ordnance Center School in November of 1976, then going on to the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. He served at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in the Hospital Food Service in 1978.

In 1980, he met and married his wife, Chae. Together they had Jon and Tom. His career continued in the Army, being stationed at Fort Sherman in Panama in 1982. He completed his eight-year tour at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he received his discharge. Jim went to work for a

short time with the Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon State Parks. His talent in maintenance took him to Lynch Motors

for about a decade, then he worked for Goss Motors for four years. Jim had a very likeable

personality. His life skills were learned early. Jim enjoyed motorcycle riding in the mountains, tinkering with his bike and was a very good cook. Jim loved to FISH. He was proud of his boys and loved them very much.

Jim is survived by his sons, Thomas Dongsu and Jonathan Russell Romine; and his parents, David and Skip Romine; and lots of extended family.

He was preceded in death by both sets of grandparents, James and Eva (Buchanan) Hendrix and Oliver Russell and Carrie (Houston) Romine.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Pine Valley Presbyterian Church through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispine valleyfuneralhome.com

# News of Record

#### **DEATHS**

Lucille Connie Petty: 96, of Baker City, died March 24, 2021. at her home. To leave an online condolence for the family of Connie, go to www.grays westco.com

overpaid in mileage. Ron was

#### **FUNERALS PENDING**

James Dwight 'Jimmy'

Hebert: There will be a celebration of Jimmy's life, Saturday, April 3, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Bonita's home in North Powder. Donations in his memory can be made to Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland or the Wolf Creek Grange No. 596 in North Powder in care of Gray's West &

Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for Jimmy's family, go to www. grayswestco.com

Arlene Mae Schoorl: There will be a public celebration of Arlene's life, with a potluck, on Saturday, April 24, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Unity Community Hall. To offer online condolences, go to www.grays westco.com

## Young black lab mix captured March 20, west **Baker City.** First observed

Seeking owner or info leading to owner. Call 541-403-0724

February 14.

**Contact info is Richard Haines New Hope for Eastern Oregon Animals** cell 541-403-0724 rjhaines64@msn.com

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