

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

**Joint meeting between Baker County Board of Commissioners and Baker City Council:** 6 p.m. at the Baker County Event Center, 2600 East St. Citizens are encouraged to attend. Mask wearing and social distancing will be enforced.

### TURNING BACK THE PAGES

#### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald March 29, 1971

If the Baker County Court must approve of Gov. McCall's 14 Administrative Districts plan to receive funds to finance a tri-county youth care center, it seems Baker County will not participate in the program.

#### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 29, 1996

UNION CREEK CAMPGROUND — Logging usually is a loud business, with its snorting diesel engines and yelling men and grinding hydraulic arms.

Felled trees were piling up Thursday morning at this U.S. Forest Service campground on the north shore of Phillips Reservoir, but there was little ruckus to announce the fact.

#### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 30, 2011

The head of the Bonneville Power Administration was in Baker City Tuesday to talk about a proposed rate hike that could boost monthly bills for OTEC customers by as much as 7.5 percent starting in October.

#### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald March 31, 2020

Cynthia Hauer is ready to bare her vein to save a life but first she has to slip a metal probe beneath her tongue.

Blood drives during the era of coronavirus aren't quite what they used to be.

Once Red Cross volunteer Myrna Evans has confirmed that Hauer doesn't have a fever — a symptom of coronavirus infection — Hauer fills out the necessary form and waits for her turn to donate a pint of blood.

Hauer, 44, of Baker City, was the first donor to arrive at the First Church of the Nazarene just after noon Monday.

Hauer, who has donated blood a few times, said that not only was she not concerned about her own health, she was motivated to donate by a blood shortage resulting from the coronavirus crisis.

The Red Cross reported on March 17 that the coronavirus pandemic had led to the cancellation of about 2,700 blood drives in the U.S., resulting in 86,000 fewer blood donations.

The issue isn't finding donors, said Bill Williard, a collection specialist for the Red Cross' Idaho/Montana region who helped coordinate Monday's blood drive in Baker City.

"We're seeing a lot of donors coming in — we just need a place to take them," said Williard, who has been working on blood drives every weekday since the coronavirus crisis started. "Donors are concerned, naturally, about everyone's health — that's why they're here in the first place. It brings out the best in people."

### OREGON LOTTERY

#### MEGABUCKS, March 27

5 — 6 — 25 — 37 — 44 — 47

Next jackpot: \$3.7 million

#### POWERBALL, March 27

6 — 14 — 38 — 39 — 65 PB 6

Next jackpot: \$20 million

#### MEGA MILLIONS, March 26

4 — 25 — 37 — 46 — 67 Mega 15

Next jackpot: \$152 million

#### WIN FOR LIFE, March 27

18 — 28 — 35 — 40

#### PICK 4, March 28

- 1 p.m.: 7 — 2 — 8 — 9

- 4 p.m.: 5 — 9 — 6 — 9

- 7 p.m.: 9 — 5 — 4 — 6

#### LUCKY LINES, March 28

4-6-11-13-19-21-28-29

Next jackpot: \$56,000

### SENIOR MENUS

**WEDNESDAY:** Sweet and sour chicken, rice, Oriental vegetables, Jell-O with fruit, apple crisp

**THURSDAY:** Lasagna, zucchini, garlic bread, pasta salad, cookie

**FRIDAY:** Baked cod and clam chowder, Capri vegetables, roll, coleslaw, ice cream

**MONDAY (April 5):** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, roll, three-bean salad, cinnamon rolls

**TUESDAY (April 6):** Chicken-fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, roll, ambrosia, 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.

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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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## STORM

*Continued from Page 1A*

The temperature plummeted 13 degrees in 10 minutes at the Baker City Airport as a cold front moved through, dropping from 52 degrees at 10 p.m. to 39 degrees at 10:10 p.m.

The temperature dropped from 62 degrees at 8 p.m. to 38 degrees at 10:12 p.m.

A peak wind gust of 59 mph happened at 10:24 p.m., according to National Weather Service records.

Light snow was falling at the airport at that time.

The temperature plunge happened several hours after southwest winds brought balmy air into the area. The high temperature of 75 degrees at the airport tied the record for March 28, set in 1966. The average high temperature for the date is 52.



Lisa Britton/For the Baker City Herald

Justin Plumbtree of the Baker City public works department used a backhoe to push this mature fir tree, felled by a wind gust Sunday night, off Campbell Street.

Sunday was the warmest day at the airport in almost half a year. The high temperature on Oct. 9, 2020, was 81 degrees.

Tom Fisk, operations supervisor for the Baker City Public Works Department, said

the city received one call about wind damage from the Baker City/County 911 Dispatch Center Sunday evening about 10:30.

A mature fir tree fell across Campbell Street between 11th

and 12th streets, blocking the street.

Fisk said Justin Plumbtree, a public works employee, used a backhoe to push the tree out of the street.

A no-parking sign was topped at Washington Avenue and Resort Street, Fisk said.

A tree limb that fell across a power line cut electricity to about 1,025 Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative customers from about 3:30 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Monday, March 29, said Joseph Hathaway, communications manager for OTEC. The outage affected residents mainly in the downtown and east parts of town, from Hughes Lane south to Elm Street and Indiana Avenue.

There were four other wind-caused outages during the night, each affecting fewer than a dozen OTEC members, Hathaway said.

## OBITUARIES

### Donald Thomas

Former Baker County resident, 1983-2021

Donald "Donny" Thomas, 37, of Caldwell, Idaho, a former Baker County resident, died Feb. 20, 2021, at Halfway.



Donny Thomas

A service was held in Idaho earlier this month. There will be a celebration of his life on April 10, 2021, at 10 a.m. at Marshall Hall Park in Maryland. There will be a repast at St. Catherine's Hall in Welcome, Maryland.

Donald Lee Thomas was born on Sept. 25, 1983, at Laplata, Maryland. He was raised in Bryans Road and Indian Head, Maryland. Donnie graduated in 2000 with honors from Lackey High School where he played soccer. He went to work at Facchina Construction Co. right out of high school, where he was on a crew to rebuild the Pentagon after 9/11.

Donnie enjoyed rappelling, drinking beer, hanging with friends, spending time with family and being outdoors, loving the summer and hating the winter. He enjoyed random adventures, hot springs, firefighting, telling jokes, listening to music, laughing and helping others. His favorite color was blue and his favorite team was the Buffalo Bills. He loved everything and put his heart into it, be it people or places, things or activities.

He especially loved his "Mom Lady," and his favorite catch phrases were "the wetter, the funner," or "Buffal-up." Donnie saved dozens of communities by his service with wildland firefighting. He could always bring a smile to anyone's face and cheer anyone up.

Survivors include his daughters, Merissa Thomas

and Tomi Jean Thomas; son, Donald Lee Thomas II; parents, Shirley and Larry Kugler and Mark Johnson; brothers, Bruce Hazel and Tony Kugler; sisters, Amy Binger and Nina Burwell; and grandparent, Donald J. Thomas.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Julie Thomas.

Donations in memory of Donny may be made to Wildland Firefighters through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

### Keith Lindstrom

Former Halfway resident, 1941-2021

Keith Lindstrom, 79, formerly of Halfway, died March 26, 2021, at his home.

There will be a graveside service at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 1, at Pine Haven Cemetery in Halfway.

Keith Lem Lindstrom was born on April 17, 1941, at Newcastle, Wyoming. He was raised in Pine Valley and graduated from Pine Valley High School in 1959.

Keith married Bonnie Irwin on June 22, 1963, and they had two children.

He worked in the union as a carpenter. Keith enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Bonnie of Baker City; children, Stacy Lindstrom of Baker City and Kevin Lindstrom of Salt Lake City, Utah; sister, Kay Pickett of Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents; brother, Malcolm Lindstrom,

a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Unity Community Hall. To offer online condolences, go to www.grayswestco.com

and sister-in-law Rose (Crow) Lindstrom.

The family would like to express their "immense gratitude for all the amazing care that Heart 'N Home Hospice was able to provide during this time."

Donations in Keith's memory may be made to Heart 'N Home Hospice through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

### Eleanor Sullivan

Baker City, 1932-2021

Eleanor Clare Sullivan, 89, of Baker City, died March 6, 2021, with her beloved family by her side.

A private Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Mission in Unity. A celebration of Eleanor's life and disposition of her ashes will take place this summer at her home on the family ranch in Hereford.

Eleanor was born on Jan. 3, 1932, at La Grande to Oris Mehlhorn and Jean Malone. She spent her early years in Pine Valley as well as many subsequent summers there with her grandparents, Ethel and Albert Mehlhorn, most often on horseback. Pine Valley always held a special place in her heart as well.

Eleanor was preceded in death by her parents, Oris and Jean; her husband, Duwayne; and her sister, Lois Moody. Memorial contributions may be made to Heart 'N Home Hospice, who the family greatly appreciated, the Hereford Community Hall, and St. Joseph's Mission, where Eleanor devoted much of her time and love. Contributions can be made through Gray's West and Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To offer online condolences to Eleanor's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

*Editor's note: Eleanor Sullivan's obituary originally was published in the March 16 issue. This version corrects the mailing address for sending contributions in her memory.*