

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald April 3, 1971

The Baker Bulldog track team put together five first places and six seconds to sweep the Sagebrush Relays in Hermiston yesterday. The Bulldogs garnered 77 points in a field of six schools to beat out second place Pendleton with 67.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald April 3, 1996

What could have been a disastrous situation ended without incident about noon Tuesday after a Schwan's frozen food delivery truck leaking propane was moved to East Campbell Street and repaired.

The leak was discovered about 8:50 a.m. on the truck parked at Fifth and Church streets, according to Fire Chief Bill Smith. Schwan's deliveryman Richard Day had filled the propane-powered truck the night before at the Texaco station, Smith said.

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

Canadian police are investigating the disappearance of a British Columbia couple who haven't been seen since they bought gas at a Baker City service station more than two weeks ago.

Albert and Rita Chretien of Penticton, British Columbia, stopped at the Shell Station on Campbell Street about 2:45 p.m. on March 19.

The couple, who were driving to a business convention in Las Vegas, never arrived there.

"To date, the couple's banking activities and cell phone usage have been nil," said Cpl. Dan Moskaluk of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Their children reported the Chretiens as missing on Thursday, March 31, when the couple failed to return to Penticton early last week as they had planned.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald April 4, 2020

In searching for ways to make productive use of their time and to help others during the coronavirus crisis, Baker County seamstresses are crafting medical masks and gowns in case of a shortage.

Cherrie Carlson-Conklin, 70, who took up sewing at the age of 5 following in the footsteps of her mother and grandmother, is making masks in her leisure while recovering from knee surgery.

She's done research over the internet to develop what she says is a design superior to other homemade masks.

"They are more difficult to make," Carlson-Conklin says, but she has the experience to construct them on the Bernina sewing machine she's been using for most of her life.

Instead of wires to crimp the mask tight over the nose, her design features darts to keep the fabric close to the nose and more darts to ensure a tight fit under the chin.

She adds a layer of interfacing to stiffen the masks, which also adds another layer of protection.

Carlson-Conklin first made some masks to send to a girlfriend whose husband is immunocompromised.

She says she turned to her scrap pile of fabric, elastic, interfacing and thread accumulated over the year for supplies to make the masks.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, March 31

7 — 19 — 24 — 36 — 38 — 43
Next jackpot: \$3.9 million

POWERBALL, March 31

3 — 10 — 44 — 55 — 68 PB 24
Next jackpot: \$32 million

MEGA MILLIONS, March 30

11 — 37 — 47 — 53 — 56 Mega 15
Next jackpot: \$168 million

WIN FOR LIFE, March 31

18 — 20 — 48 — 50

PICK 4, April 1

• 1 p.m.: 9 — 3 — 2 — 6

• 4 p.m.: 7 — 3 — 0 — 2

• 7 p.m.: 0 — 4 — 8 — 1

• 10 p.m.: 2 — 1 — 7 — 6

LUCKY LINES, April 1

2-6-12-16-18-22-26-29
Next jackpot: \$60,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, roll, three-bean salad, cinnamon rolls
- **TUESDAY:** Chicken-fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, roll, ambrosia, brownies
- **WEDNESDAY:** Soup and sandwich, ham and cheese sandwich, split pea soup, coleslaw, cookies
- **THURSDAY:** Beef pot roast with gravy, red potatoes, roll, peas and carrots, potato salad, cherry cheesecake
- **FRIDAY:** Roasted turkey, stuffing with gravy, mixed vegetables, roll, macaroni salad, tapioca

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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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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VACCINE

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In a Wednesday email to the Herald, Rudy Owens, a public affairs specialist for OHA, wrote that the agency is investigating the error.

"We estimate that roughly 50% of individuals indicated as residing in Baker County were incorrect on the county data tab dashboard feature" on the OHA website, Owens wrote. "We presume Baker County had such a significant impact because it is the first county, alphabetically, in the list of Oregon counties."

Owens wrote that OHA expects to have more detailed numbers next week.

Owens wrote that one possible source of the mistakes is a March 15 outage in the computer system, supplied by a state vendor, that tabulates vaccination statistics. The system is called Alert IIS.

"We are also actively working with our ALERT IIS vendor on solutions to avoid this error in the future," Owens wrote in his email to



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

More than 450 people were inoculated against COVID-19 on Friday, Feb. 26, in the Baker High School gym.

the Herald.

March 15 is about when Baker County's vaccination numbers began to rise rapidly, particularly the number of Pfizer vaccine doses administered.

By March 24 the OHA website showed that more than 4,200 doses of Pfizer vaccine had been given in Baker County, compared with just 325 in neighboring Union County, which has about 10,000 more residents.

Yet Baker County's vaccine providers, including the Baker County Health Department, Saint Alphonse Medical Center-Baker City, and pharmacies at the Safeway, Albertsons and Bi-Mart stores told the Herald that they either don't use the Pfizer vaccine at all, or administer it in small numbers.

A notice posted Wednesday on the OHA COVID-19 website stated: "Vaccination data by county of residence

LODGING

Continued from Page 1A

Guests at motels, bed and breakfasts, RV parks, vacation rental homes, campgrounds and other lodging establishments pay a 7% tax. The tax is collected in Baker City, some other incorporated cities, including Halfway and Sumpter, and in unincorporated parts of the county. The tax generated about \$440,000 in the most recent fiscal year.

Both the county commissioners and the Baker City Council have debated issues related to the lodging tax over the past year or so.

In 2020, commissioners delayed a decision on awarding

a new contract to operate a visitor center in Baker City, a \$77,000 annual contract that for many years has gone to the Baker County Chamber of Commerce.

Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort also submitted a proposal to operate the visitor center.

Earlier this year the Baker City Council rejected by a 4-3 vote a proposal from McQuisten to have the city withdraw from the 2006 agreement with the county, under which the county administers the tax program.

Under an ordinance, 70% of the tax revenue is spent for tourism promotion and 25% for economic development.

The county can keep up to 5% of the revenue for administrative costs.

Harvey said the work group's purpose is largely informative.

"All we're attempting to do is answer questions that one side or the other may have in regards to the normal policy and procedures and then to suggest or at least bring up the thought of something different if that's what they would like to have," he said.

The work group's timeframe is tied to the county commissioners March 3 decision to extend the county's contract with the Chamber of Commerce, for operating the visitor center, through Aug. 31, 2021.

McQuisten said the work

is currently unavailable. An error in county designation for some individuals was identified on March 30, 2021 and the Oregon Immunization Program Alert IIS team is working on a solution to correct the error in county assignment."

The error doesn't affect statewide totals, which are still available on the website.

Bennett said that despite the counting error, he is pleased with the county's progress in vaccinating residents.

The Health Department administered 717 doses on March 12, most at a clinic at Baker High School, and about 560 more during a March 26 clinic, most of those being second doses.

The Health Department's next major clinic, also focusing on administering second doses to people who had their first dose on March 12, is set for Friday, April 9 at BHS.

To get on a waiting list for a vaccine, go to www.baker-countycovid19.com or call 541-523-0015.

group's format is casual, and that any recommendations the group has will be presented to the commissioners or Baker City Council later.

"Anything that seems like something we may recommend in the future will head to the commissioners or council in a public meeting," McQuisten said. "We are not there yet."

Harvey said the public can attend work group meetings, though there will be limited seating.

"They're not going to be involved in the meeting. They can ask us questions later or separately, they're not going to be participants in the meeting, that's not the purpose," Harvey said.

OBITUARY

Robert Williams Jr.

Baker City

Robert (Bob) Williams Jr., 91, of Baker City, died peacefully on March 27, 2021, in his home in the arms of his wife and his son, Rod.

His graveside service took place Friday, April 2, at the Eagle Valley Cemetery in Richland. Pastor Troy Teeter of the First Church of the Nazarene in Baker City officiated.

Born and raised in Richland to Robert (Bob) and Elva (Waely), he married the love of his life, Ethelyn (Randall), in 1951 soon after she graduated high school. They soon had three children. Bob worked as a sawyer for Ellingson Lumber Company until his retirement in 1994, shortly before the mill closed.

Bob loved the outdoors, especially the

Wallowas, and enjoyed many family trips to the mountains hunting, fishing and camping. Family vacation road trips were an almost annual tradition to explore new sights. He had many interests and hobbies including remodeling houses, fixing appliances, woodworking, old cars, and he even learned how to fly an airplane. He loved archaeology and historical information and traveled both the Oregon Trail and the Lewis and Clark Trail.

After retirement he filled his time volunteering at Meals on Wheels, the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, the Baker Heritage Museum, and the Baker Rural Fire Department. He and Eth also then took the opportunity to explore places that interested them around the world via cruises and country tours. They especially enjoyed a trip through the Panama Canal, after reading a documentary about its construction.

Bob was eventually sidelined by the effects of diabetes but he didn't let that keep him from continuing to be as active and engaged with people as he possibly could. He continued to find ways to improve the world around him.

Survivors include his wife, Ethelyn; his sons, Dan (Sue) Williams and Rod (Jacque) Williams; his daughter, Linda (TJ) Lively; his sister, Dorothy Randall; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents and his sisters, Lorene (Chandler) and Isla (Graven).

Memorial contributions in Bob's honor can be made to the Baker Heritage Museum, or, per his wishes, to the charity of one's choice through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

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



Robert Williams Jr.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Marion Linton: 90, of Richland, died March 30, 2021, at Settler's Park Assisted Living Center. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Verla Henry: 98, of La Grande, died April 1, 2021, at her home. Arrangements are under the direction of Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center.

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

Robert 'Bob' J. Hendriksen: A memorial service will take place Friday, April 9, at 2 p.m. in Mount Hope Cemetery for Bob and his wife, Nita, who died April 28, 2017. The Rev. Suresh Kumar Telagani of St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Baker City will officiate. Contributions in Bob's memory may be made to Cancer Research through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in

memory of Bob and Nita, go to www.colestributecenter.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.grayswestco.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
FAILURE TO APPEAR (Two Baker County Circuit Court warrants): Melissa Jean Lattymyer, 36, of Baker City, 11:44 a.m. Thursday, in the 1800 block of 15th Street; cited and released.

FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASS: Adrienna Dione Morris, 23, of Baker City; and Joseph Allen Charbonneau, 41, of Baker City; both were cited and released at 2:57 p.m. Thursday in the 1300 block of C Street.

PROBATION VIOLATION (Marion County warrant): Joseph Daniel Rife, 35, of Salem, 4:50 p.m. Thursday, in the 1500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

VIOLATION OF RELEASE AGREEMENT and FOURTH-DEGREE DOMESTIC ASSAULT (Marion County Circuit Court warrant): Amy Jo Rife, 39, of Salem, 4:50 p.m. Thursday, in the 1500 block of Campbell Street; jailed.

THIRD-DEGREE THEFT (Baker County warrant): Michael Steven Myers-Gabiola, 29, of Baker City, 10:01 p.m. Wednesday, in the 1500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

Oregon State Police Arrests, citations

ESCAPE FROM COMMUNITY CUSTODY (Washington State Department of Corrections warrant): Gerry Sweat, 48, of Renton, Washington, 10:29 a.m. Monday, on Interstate 84, near North Powder; jailed. Sr. Trooper

David Aydelotte wrote in his daily media log that he arrested Sweat after responding to a report of a single-vehicle noninjury crash. Sweat was a passenger in the vehicle. He was transported from the Baker County Jail to Washington on the shuttle Wednesday, according to jail records.

FAILURE TO REPORT FOR ANNUAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION: George Rocky Alan Hoch, 52, of Baker City, 1:12 p.m. Monday, in the 1300 block of Walnut Street; cited and released.

REGISTERING NOW FOR 2021-22

St. Stephens

Preschool PreK

2177 1st Street (south entry)

Friday, April 9th • 3 PM – 5 PM

Saturday, April 10th • 9 AM – Noon

Tala Yencopal, Head Teacher

For more information call:

Tala - (541)519-3091

Email: talayencopal@hotmail.com

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