

# Local

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald April 17, 1971

The Baker Junior High eighth grade track team swept first, second and third places in nine of 10 running events to demolish Pendleton Thursday in Pendleton.

The only running event Baker didn't sweep was the 1,320, and the Vikings took first and third in that event.

### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald April 17, 1996

The Baker School District will take the lead in developing a technical training center at Behlen Mfg. Co.'s new livestock equipment factory in northwest Baker City.

The 5J board directed Superintendent Arnold Coe to work with the company and the district's legal advisor to draft a lease to be signed by the district.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald April 18, 2011

Representatives from the state met Friday with Baker City councilors and public works employees. Their shared goal is to see the city finally begin implementing a storm-water management plan.

Councilors voted in February to shelve the version of the plan brought to them then — it has a projected cost of \$1.4 million over 20 years — until the city could get more information about what would be required.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald April 18, 2020

Sandy McGuire struggled for words to explain the situation to her longtime customer, for whom the Oregon Trail restaurant is something like a second home.

The customer showed up, right on schedule, one morning even after the coronavirus pandemic had closed Oregon restaurants' dining rooms in mid-March.

"It was heartbreaking," Sandy said. "Some of these people only see each other here. They didn't know what was going on."

And customers weren't alone in feeling confused and uncertain over the past month, said Dave McGuire, Sandy's husband. Dave McGuire and Mark Linderman are co-owners of the Oregon Trail restaurant and its adjacent motel of the same name in Baker City.

"A roller coaster," was Dave's description of their recent experiences. "I've never dealt with anything like this before."

That was on Wednesday morning, the day before the Oregon Trail's new drive-thru window, on the west side of the restaurant, opened.

Diners can call in an order and pick it up at the window, or place their order when they arrive.

On Friday morning Dave said the drive-thru's debut was successful.

"A lot of people were excited and happy," he said.

Dave said he and his wife decided to hire a contractor to install the window because although the Oregon Trail has offered takeout and delivery meals since restaurant restrictions started on March 17, those options haven't come close to making up for the business lost from the closed dining room — even with help from Elkhorn Taxi to deliver meals.

The restaurant also lost substantial revenue from large banquets and other catering jobs that were canceled.

## OREGON LOTTERY

**MEGABUCKS, April 14**  
16 — 21 — 31 — 32 — 33 — 41  
Next jackpot: \$1.5 million

**POWERBALL, April 14**  
13 — 30 — 33 — 45 — 61 PB 14  
Next jackpot: \$79 million

**MEGA MILLIONS, April 13**  
10 — 15 — 19 — 45 — 68 Mega 9  
Next jackpot: \$240 million

**WIN FOR LIFE, April 14**  
31 — 41 — 65 — 67

**PICK 4, April 15**  
• 1 p.m.: 8 — 9 — 8 — 1  
• 4 p.m.: 0 — 2 — 3 — 0  
• 7 p.m.: 3 — 1 — 1 — 4  
• 10 p.m.: 8 — 7 — 7 — 4  
**LUCKY LINES, April 15**  
2-7-12-15-17-21-26-32  
Next jackpot: \$20,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Pulled pork sandwiches, potato wedges, mixed vegetables, ambrosia, cheesecake
- **TUESDAY:** Beef burgundy with fettuccine noodles, rolls, peas, macaroni salad, brownies
- **WEDNESDAY:** Ham and cheese sandwiches, turkey noodle soup, green salad, apple crisp
- **THURSDAY:** Baked ham, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, pea and onion salad, cookies
- **FRIDAY:** Spaghetti, garlic bread sticks, green salad, green beans, 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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## STUDENTS

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It all started on Monday, April 12, when a student, who also plays sports, tested positive for the virus, Superintendent Lance Dixon said.

After sending the student home, the school began to conduct contact tracing. "Unfortunately with somebody involved with sports that exposed teammates, and Tuesday, when we were contact tracing, and early Wednesday we got a couple of phone calls saying they had taken their child because they weren't feeling well, got tested and tested positive," Dixon said.

With four students testing positive, district officials determined that 30 students had been exposed to someone who tested positive, leading to the quarantine. Dixon said district officials consulted with Union County health officials in making the decision.

"We decided for the safety and health of the district, rather than chasing our tail and dealing with this for weeks, it was in the best interest of the safety and well being of our students to cancel school," Dixon said.

The district also canceled athletic contests for the next two weeks.

During the quarantine,

elementary students will take online classes in the morning, with the upper grades having classes in the afternoon.

"So each one will be doing a half day, with the intent of being back in school with everybody on the 26th," Dixon said.

During the closure, workers will be conducting a deep-cleaning of the school, he said.

Dixon said he understands that the process can be frustrating for students and parents, but that safety is the overriding factor.

"It's important to be patient and it's important to understand we will get back to normal," Dixon said. "I think

the problem we have today is people have that fear that a year ago we said we were going to shut school down for a week or so, and they were shut down for months. The reality is that by shutting down and not being here next week, we get everyone in the district through the quarantine period so we can all come back to school safely."

The district sent a letter to parents Wednesday, April 14, urging them to contact the district if they have questions.

Parents can either call the North Powder School district at 541-898-2244 or go to its website: <https://www.npowder.k12.or.us/>.

## OBITUARIES

### Michael Beam

Baker City, 1956-2021

Michael Ralph Beam, 65, of Baker City, died April 11, 2021, at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center in Nampa, Idaho.

His memorial service take place later, the date and time to be announced soon.

Michael, also known as Mike, Mikey, or Beamer, was born on Jan. 21, 1956, at Baker City to Robert and Lillian (Siegler) Beam.

He earned his GED in Baker and served his country with the United States Army for two years.

After his time in the military, he worked as a butcher/meat cutter and was a partial owner of Orlins Meats for several years. He also worked at the Safeway Meat Department for 12 years.

Mike married Lorna Hall on Sept. 11, 1978, in Winnemucca, Nevada.

He enjoyed camping, hunting, fishing, men's softball, basketball, and playing cards. Mike also enjoyed watching sports, bowling, and shuffleboard. He was a youth baseball coach and a member of the VFW and the Eagles. Mike never knew a stranger; he was liked by everyone he met and will be greatly missed.

Mike is survived by his wife of 42 years, Lorna Beam; his son, Jerry (Trina) Dowdy of Baker City; his brothers, Tom (Suzann) Beam of Powell Butte, and John Beam of Baker City; his sister, Susan (Carlisle) Staab of Chehalis, Washington; his grandchildren, Kimberly Givens, Mason Dowdy and Trenton Dowdy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Lillian Beam; and his grandparents, John and Katherine Siegler, and Ralph and Rose Beam.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR97814.

To leave an online condolence for Michael's family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com).

### 'Pennie' Dowdy

Baker City, 1949-2021

Madeline "Pennie" (Allen) Dowdy, 71, of Baker City, died April 15, 2021.

She left this earth just like she came in — too early and in her own way. She was surrounded by some of the people who loved her most, but not nearly enough of them due to COVID.

A celebration of her life will take place later, the date to be announced, in her hometown of Baker City.

She was born on Sept. 13 in a year that's none of your darn business (or 1949 for you nousey people) in Baker City, to Conrad and Madeline Allen. Pennie was the third of five children and often competed with her siblings to be the first troublemaker. Born Madeline, most know her as Pennie, a name she adopted because her dad said she was no bigger than a penny when she was born.

She leaves behind her greatest achievement, an unbelievably dysfunctional family, with the exception of her two brilliant (and constantly embarrassed by the antics) grandsons. This unruly group consists of more than those related by blood, as her adopted family extended far beyond her family tree. Pennie was a giver — a giver of wisecracks, life lessons, junk food, and friendship. But most of all she gave love — with a majority of it being the tough kind. She was renowned for her knack of telling it like it was and having a heart bigger than any of the ones found in the smutty novels that were never more than an arm's reach away.

Her incredibly honest outlook and hope for the future made her the perfect foster parent, and so many young women benefited from her wisdom and her extensive and inappropriate vocabulary. She was who you called for advice and a good laugh, but not one who you put on speakerphone.

Pennie left her hometown in Oregon to join her daughter and son-in-law in Ohio in the mid-1990s, no one can remember exactly when as it's

been a really long 30 years. Looking back, we don't know who was most excited about the move — Pennie, her daughter, or the city of Baker! But we do know it wasn't her son-in-law.

All jokes aside, Pennie will be missed more than could be put in a few simple words ... or any that can be printed here, anyway.

Carrying on her legacy will be her daughter, Kim (Dan) Reed of Canton, Ohio; her two remarkable grandsons, Marcus and Derek Reed of Canton; her brother, Thomas (Lynn) Allen of Jacksonville Florida; her sister, Patricia Bork of St. Helens; her sisters-in-law, Jeannie Wright of Baker City, and Sandra Allen of Salem; her brother-in-law, Larry Piece of Mt. Vernon; and a list of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, foster children, friends, and adoring fans too long to list.

Although her family is heartbroken, they know that once Pennie gets through those Pearly Gates, St. Peter will have his hands full and less likely to focus on their misdeeds.

While the Allen family was first in line for looks and personality, they got the short end of the stick when it comes to longevity. Pennie was preceded in death by her parents, Conrad and Madeline Allen; her oldest brother, John Allen; her little sister, Suzie Pierce; her nephews, Thomas Allen, Charlie Allen, Bill Morris and Patrick Morris; and her brother-in-law, Alan Bork. You know what they say about only the good dying young? Pennie was a terrible example of this.

If you would like to honor her incredible spirit, her family encourages you to go get a fountain Diet Coke, pick up a brand new pair of thongs (flip-flops), and a Harlequin romance book, then sit down and think about all the good that's in this world, let out a choice four-letter word, and give your loved ones a hug.

### Ronda Lindley

Formerly of Baker City, 1944-2021

Ronda Lindley, 76, of Eugene, and a former Baker City resident, died April 6, 2021.

Her funeral took place on April 15 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Eugene. Private burial was at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Ronda was born on Dec. 3, 1944, at Baker City to Herbert Gray and Nell Evelyn Hester. Ronda attended school in Baker City and graduated from Baker High School in 1963.

Ronda married the love of her life, Larry, on Feb. 1, 1964, in Baker City. Together they had two sons.

Ronda worked for the Oregon Food Services for 25 years. During this time she was elected state president for Oregon School Food Services. She made several trips to Washington, D.C., to meet with legislators to encourage them to continue funding school lunch programs.

She loved watching her sons play basketball, baseball and soccer. Later she really enjoyed watching all her grandkids playing sports. She was on the board of directors for the American Legion Challengers baseball team.

Ronda is survived by Larry, the love of her life for 57 years; her sons, Philip and his wife, Amy, and their two children, Joe and Sarah; and Troy and his wife, Lisa, and their two children, Jacob and Wyatt.

Ronda was preceded in death by her parents; her older sister; her brother, Gary; and two nephews, Douglas and Rodney Hester.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Challengers Baseball in her name.

Arrangements were under the direction of Musgrove Family Mortuary. You can sign the guest book at [musgrove.com](http://musgrove.com).



Ronda Lindley

All info found on our social media!

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younglife

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