

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

■ **Baker City Airport Commission:** 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St. Agenda items include the selection of chair and vice chair, and an update on runway 13-31 seal coat project.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald April 24, 1971

The Huntington Locomotives trailed Elgin for four innings yesterday in Huntington. But a bolt of lightning struck in the fifth, and the Locos poured on the coal for nine runs, defeating Elgin 12-4. The win gives the Locos a three win, two loss league record.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald April 24, 1996

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest plans to eliminate approximately 30 jobs over the next several months, about two-thirds from forest offices in Baker County.

This year's reduction continues a trend toward a smaller workforce that began about 1990, said Bob Richmond, the Wallowa-Whitman's supervisor.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald April 25, 2011

Baker's Greater Oregon League softball games against Ontario were like night and day Saturday.

The Bulldogs' D.J. McCauley outdueled Ontario's Jenny Yano for a 2-0 win in the opener. Baker's bats then got hot in a 15-5 6-inning win in the nightcap at the Baker Sports Complex.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald April 25, 2020

Sharon Brady makes her way down the line of trucks and cars at Burger Bob's Drive-In, taking orders from the growing line of customers Thursday afternoon.

Burger Bob himself — that's owner Bob Brady, Sharon's husband — said sales have actually increased during the coronavirus pandemic.

"Our customers have been very good to us," Bob said. "I have had no decline in business."

Burger Bob's is among the local restaurants that have had to make relatively minor adjustments during the pandemic because their operations were already geared to takeout meals.

Owners of dine-in restaurants, meanwhile, have had to close their dining rooms to comply with Gov. Kate Brown's March 17 executive order, and scramble to revamp their business models for takeout and, in some cases, deliveries.

As a mainly drive-thru business with no indoor seating, although there is a small lobby where people can place orders, keeping social distancing hasn't been difficult at Burger Bob's.

"People who are willing to go in, they can distance themselves. I've always been takeout, I'm not a sit-in," said Bob, who has owned the restaurant on 10th Street for 22 years.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, April 21

1 - 4 - 10 - 22 - 37 - 44
Next jackpot: \$1.8 million

POWERBALL, April 21

21 - 25 - 32 - 63 - 67 PB 6
Next jackpot: \$104 million

MEGA MILLIONS, April 20

6 - 23 - 43 - 49 - 52 Mega 5
Next jackpot: \$277 million

WIN FOR LIFE, April 21

39 - 60 - 64 - 69

PICK 4, April 22

• 1 p.m.: 5 - 1 - 4 - 7
• 4 p.m.: 1 - 4 - 1 - 3

• 7 p.m.: 9 - 9 - 1 - 0

• 10 p.m.: 2 - 7 - 8 - 1

LUCKY LINES, April 22

2-8-10-14-19-22-27-32

Next jackpot: \$27,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **MONDAY (April 26):** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with country gravy, rolls, corn, beet-and-onion salad, ice cream

■ **TUESDAY (April 27):** Boneless chicken breast, stuffing, rolls, mixed vegetables, cottage cheese salad, bread pudding

■ **WEDNESDAY (April 28):** Chicken and homestyle noodles, carrots, biscuits, fruit cup, birthday cake

■ **THURSDAY (April 29):** Baked ziti, zucchini, garlic breadsticks, green salad, brownies

■ **FRIDAY (April 30):** Barbecued pork ribs, au gratin potatoes, green beans, biscuits, broccoli and bacon salad, apple crisp

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.

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Program encourages stores to comply with tobacco sales law

■ Youth volunteers visit local businesses and try to buy tobacco or vaping products

By **Samantha O'Conner**
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The Baker County Safe Communities Coalition is conducting another Rewards and Reminders outing in Baker County during April, a program designed to remind stores that Oregon law prohibits them from selling tobacco and vaping products to people younger than 21.

The program also ensures that stores place those products behind counters, where they're not easily accessible, also required by state law.

"We've been doing the program for about 17 years locally here in Baker," said Ray Day, who coordinates the Rewards and Reminders program in the county. "It's a nationally recognized program for preventing the use and purchase of tobacco products and more recently in the last couple of years, we've included vape products."

Here's how the program works:

Two youth volunteers, both between 14 and 17, visit stores individually and look for where tobacco and vaping products are stored.

"Basically, Oregon law says they should be behind the

"It's not a punitive program whatsoever. We give rewards for being in compliance and then give them reminders if they are potentially out of compliance."

— **Ray Day, Rewards and Reminders coordinator**

counter," Day said.

The youths, who are wearing face masks, also bring \$2 to buy a soda, candy bar or other items.

"So, we're not actually just disrupting the business, the kids are actually paying customers there," Day said.

But in addition to buying the items, the youth also asks the clerk for a tobacco or vaping product. They're trained to know what to ask for so they don't seem overly nervous.

"Our goal is that the clerk is going to check ID and not sell tobacco products to them," Day said.

If the clerk asks for ID, or asks the youth how old they are, and then refuses to sell the product because it's illegal, the youth will buy the

candy or other legal items, and give the clerk a \$5 dollar gift certificate to a local business.

Day said the youth will also give the clerk a note thanking them for not selling tobacco to a minor.

If the clerk is willing to sell the products, Day said the youth will say they don't have their wallet and can only buy their soda, candy or other product.

"They do complete the purchase for the soda or candy bar, they don't touch the tobacco or vape products," Day said.

When the youth leaves, they give the clerk a note that explains the state law about checking ID to confirm a person's age before selling tobacco products to anyone who looks under a certain age.

According to Day, about 95% of the time the clerks will not sell the tobacco product to a minor.

He said he tries to have the youth volunteers visit about six stores in the county during the operation, rotating among businesses to ensure none is visited more often than others.

Day said he informs law

enforcement, both city and county, to let them know when they are doing this in case a clerk calls the police.

Day said he follows up with the store manager or the store owner if the clerk is willing to sell the tobacco products and gives them information about the state's refresher training for the employees.

"We're not trying to be punitive by any means, it's not a punitive program whatsoever," Day said. "It's just a rewards and reminders. We give rewards for being in compliance and then give them reminders if they are potentially out of compliance."

Day said in his experience, most clerks who were willing to sell simply made a mistake, perhaps because the store was busy, or because they miscalculated the youth volunteer's age.

Some stores have machines that allow them to scan an ID to see if the buyer is old enough.

"But there have been a couple in the 17 years that, I believe, were deliberate and the clerk just did not care. At least, that was our perception," Day said.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Seating at the Main Frontier restaurant in Haines has been adjusted to comply with state mandates in the restaurant side (shown here). In the separate bar area, plastic dividers are placed between customers and the bartender.

FRONTIER

Continued from Page 1A

Pandemic problems

Restaurant restrictions over the past year caused The Main Event to be closed for about four months.

And after every shutdown, Kari said fewer employees came back to work.

She said it hasn't been easy to run a restaurant in the current climate.

"I've never worked so hard as in this past year," she said. "I have to be on the front lines with them — good leadership is weathering the storm with them. We really are a family and a team."

When restrictions eased and The Main Event reopened, Kari and her staff saw an uptick in takeout orders.

And they saw some new

faces trying the restaurant for the first time.

"It was a blessing in disguise," she said. "We got a lot of new customers."

Although indoor dining is allowed now — although at reduced capacity — she said both restaurants still see a fair number of takeout orders.

"We're doing lots of takeout," she said.

There's been a learning curve to package the food and separate hot and cold items. And even then, she knows takeout can't mimic the experience of dining in.

"Those to-gos aren't the same as when you sit down and it's right off the grill," she said.

The Main Frontier, she said, offers another option for the local restaurant scene.

She's had some customers call the Haines location

if restaurants in Baker City have a long wait time.

"If Baker's crazy on a Friday or Saturday, we usually have room," she said.

So far, she said the Main Frontier has seen mostly local customers, although others from out of town did stop on their way down from Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort.

Both restaurants have the same menu, as well as daily food and drink specials.

The Smokejumper burger is a local favorite, as well as the BLTA and prime rib street tacos.

She recently added the Main

Frontier burger to both menus.

"We're coming up with new stuff all the time," she said.

The Main Frontier is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The Main Event is open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Both locations now offer breakfast on the weekends.

For takeout orders, call the Main Frontier at 541-856-3688.

The Main Event phone number is 541-523-6988.

GRAY'S WEST & CO. PIONEER CHAPEL

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much whatever the part. Special thank you for all the loving care Reva received from Heart 'n Home Hospice, the staff at the St. Alphonsus Emergency Room, and the Baker City Ambulance.

Sincerely,

The family of Reva Calhoun

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