

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald May 6, 1971

County extension agent John Hesketh announced to the county court yesterday morning that the expanded food and nutrition program in Baker is in operational status.

He said 25 families are signed up for the program, most of the initial contacts coming from welfare of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Most are on the food stamp program, but this is not a requirement to take advantage of the service.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 6, 1996

You still have a chance to buy a lot adjacent to the land where Baker City wants to build nine new holes for its public golf course.

City officials had thought earlier this year that they had buyers for all seven of the lots. But one potential buyer decided not to purchase one of the lots, City Attorney Tim Collins said.

The lot is still available for \$35,000. Terms are available, Collins said.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 6, 2011

Baker City is pretty diminutive in terms of population, but it's making a big showing in an online beauty contest.

Baker City is vying for the title "Most Beautiful" in an Internet competition for small towns sponsored by Rand McNally (the atlas maker) and USA Today.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald May 7, 2020

Baker County has its first confirmed case of the coronavirus.

The Baker County Health Department announced Wednesday morning that a county resident had tested positive. The Department declined to give any information about the person or the circumstances under which the person was tested, citing a federal health privacy law.

Holly Kerns, Baker County public information officer, said she could not provide information that might in any way identify the person. Kerns said the county was notified of the confirmed case Wednesday a short time before a press release was issued at 10:14 a.m.

While Kerns said she understands the public's concern and desire for more information about the person, federal privacy rules, known by the acronym HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), prohibit authorities from releasing any individually identifying health information.

"I know the public is looking for that information, and I'm sorry there isn't more that we can provide legally," Kerns said.

The person who tested positive has been directed to isolate from others for the duration of the illness, which is until they are symptom-free for 72 hours, according to a press release from the Health Department.

The Health Department will employ "contact tracing" to interview the infected person and try to identify people who the person might have been in contact within the past 14 days.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, May 3
2 — 10 — 25 — 29 — 34 — 42
Next jackpot: \$2.3 million

POWERBALL, May 1
35 — 36 — 47 — 61 — 63 PB 3
Next jackpot: \$142 million

MEGA MILLIONS, May 4
35 — 36 — 47 — 61 — 63 Mega 22
Next jackpot: \$370 million

WIN FOR LIFE, May 3
3 — 7 — 44 — 57
PICK 4, May 4
• 1 p.m.: 1 — 5 — 1 — 2
• 4 p.m.: 5 — 0 — 9 — 3
• 7 p.m.: 7 — 4 — 8 — 4
• 10 p.m.: 9 — 4 — 5 — 7
LUCKY LINES, May 4
4-6-9-15-19-24-25-30
Next jackpot: \$21,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **FRIDAY:** Baked ham, candied yams, mixed vegetables, green salad, rolls, tapioca pudding
- **MONDAY (May 10):** Meatloaf, red potatoes, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, rolls, apple crisp
- **TUESDAY (May 11):** Chicken strips, mashed potatoes with country gravy, corn, biscuits, Jell-O and cottage cheese salad, cookies
- **WEDNESDAY (May 12):** Ham and cheese sandwich, split pea soup, potato salad, bread pudding
- **THURSDAY (May 13):** Fettuccine Bolognese, Italian vegetables, breadsticks, 3-bean salad, lemon squares

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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HARVEY

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"This is my own statement. It has no reflection on anybody here or staff members in any department," Harvey said.

Among the topics he mentioned:

- That he has intimidated department heads.

"I have not heard this before and it is not true," Harvey said. "If it is true, it's only by a very few and none have come forward personally to visit with me about it."

- That he and his son have a contracting business, and that he has advocated for his son's project at the planning level.

Neither is true, Harvey said.

"We both own our own companies," he said.

Records from the Oregon Secretary of State's office shows that Harvey's son, William Shawn Harvey, owns W. Harvey General Contracting LLC, and that Commissioner Harvey owns Bill Harvey Custom Builder Inc.

- That he has meddled in a city project to improve sections of 10th Street.

"For the record, this was my project that I presented to Cliff Bentz as projects requested by him for improvements in Baker County," Harvey said. "This was a county project first and foremost. I then worked with, a year before, with a group of busi-

ness owners on 10th Street to come to a list of improvements that they would have liked to have seen. I then worked with our roadmaster to fine tune that list and worked with ODOT's help to include other projects."

"This was my project, is my project, and I will continue to work on it as long as I'm in office," Harvey said.

Harvey built the Tenth Street Complex offices at 3370 10th St., which includes the Baker City DMV office and the Intermountain Law office.

The property belongs to Rock Creek Developments LLC, which Harvey and his wife, Lorrie, own.

- That Harvey and Commissioner Bruce Nichols have "hated each other" since high school.

"The truth is I did not go to high school in Baker City but I did work for Safeway 50 years ago and may have worked with Bruce," Harvey said. "I did work with his brother, which we got along well."

Harvey said he and his wife had hired Nichols, who is a CPA, and they had attended the same church.

"In the past election I used my Facebook page to show my support for his reelection and asked all of my friends to support him and vote for him," Harvey said. "The fact and truth is I do not hate Mr. Nichols. We just disagree on a few issues but I will not

hate him for that."

- That Harvey treats county staff "like crap."

"This is completely untrue, I have always been polite and respectful to people I come in contact with," he said. "We may disagree on an issue but I have not treated anybody poorly."

- That he misuses his position for his own personal advantage or to benefit his business.

"This has never happened and it is completely untrue," Harvey said.

Harvey said that in the past year he and his wife donated countless hours to help Baker County's Hewitt and Holcomb parks near Richland and other projects at no cost to the county. He said many times they had paid their own expenses to take their RV to the parks for multiple weekends in a row to help the new staff managing the parks.

"Through my efforts this past year, I have saved the county citizens by either supervising construction projects or doing the work myself," Harvey said. "This has totaled over \$33,000 on four projects which include Bishop Springs repair work, Halfway Road Department rebuilding their shop, repair work at Hewitt-Holcomb parks and the Fourth Street Remodel Project and the East Eagle Bridge replacement project."

Harvey said he had been working nights and weekends

so much so he did not have a day off the for half of April, all of May and half of June in 2020, at no additional cost to the county.

"I say all of this not to get praise or enrich myself but to serve the citizens of Baker County like I promised," Harvey said. "I ask that we do everything possible to stop the negativity so we can all get back to doing our jobs. All of this has hurt my family, my friends, my coworkers, and the citizens of our county. I'm asking that please, let's stop this and get back to our jobs and serve the citizens of Baker County. Thank you very much."

In September 2020, Baker County District Attorney Greg Baxter filed a complaint with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission outlining Harvey's alleged violations of state ethics laws.

An investigator for the state agency found a "preponderance of evidence" that Harvey tried to use his position to benefit himself, his son and his son's business and that he failed to disclose conflicts of interest last year.

Harvey has denied that he committed any violations.

The Ethics Commission was initially scheduled to review the investigator's report during its April 30 meeting, but Harvey had scheduling conflicts that day, and the discussion was postponed until the Commission's June 11 meeting.

RISK LEVEL

Continued from Page 1A

The state continues to exceed the former limit, with 345 patients statewide on Tuesday.

But the increase in hospitalizations was 14.9%.

"Oregon no longer meets the statewide metrics," Brown said in a statement. "Based on today's numbers, I am keeping my commitment to Oregonians."

All 15 counties, including Baker, will move to high risk starting Friday.

At that level, restaurants and bars can have indoor dining at 25% of capacity or up to 50 total people, including workers, whichever is fewer.

Capacity limits are the same for fitness centers, theaters and museums.

Brown said last month that even if both statewide hospitalization limits were exceeded, individual counties could potentially drop from extreme risk based on their case counts and test positivity rates.

But Baker County would not have qualified, even though its case count and positivity rate have both dropped substantially over the past 10 days.

Although state officials are reviewing county risk levels every week rather than every two weeks, as in the past, they continue to assess counties on a two-week basis.

During the most recent two-week period, April 1 through May 1, Baker County had 61 new cases and a test positivity rate of 10.6%.

(The case total includes people who tested positive as well as presumptive cases — people who had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and were in close contact with someone who tested positive, but who didn't test positive themselves. The county doesn't separate positive tests and presumptive cases, listing the two together as total cases.)

The thresholds for extreme risk are 60 or more new cases over two weeks, and a positivity rate of 10% or higher.

The county's two-week records exceeded the first metric by two cases, and the second by 0.7%.

However, during the second week the case total (from 42 to 19) and positivity rate (from 13.6% to 7%) both dropped.

No return to extreme risk?

Brown said on Tuesday that she

doesn't expect any of the 15 counties to return to extreme risk "for the duration of the pandemic."

She said last month that no county would remain at that level for more than three weeks, starting April 30.

Brown urged Oregonians to be vigilant in trying to reduce the spread of the virus.

"Let me be clear: across the state, COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are still high, and Oregon is not out of the woods yet," Brown said. "With our statewide hospitalization rate stabilizing, our hospitals should have the capacity to continue treating patients with severe cases of COVID-19 and other serious medical conditions in the coming weeks.

"I know this will bring relief to many across the state. However, the lifting of Extreme Risk health and safety measures comes with great personal responsibility for us all," Brown said.

The governor said her goal is to have the state fully open, with no risk levels and related restrictions, by the end of June. Brown said vaccinations are the key to meeting that goal.

OBITUARY

'Andy' Anderson

Fomerly of Baker City, 1926-2021

Elwin Roy "Andy" Anderson, 95, of Boise, and formerly of Baker City, died April 29, 2021. He will be dearly missed by friends and family.

His memorial service will be Monday, May 10 at 2 p.m. MDT at the Cloverdale Funeral Home in Boise. Due to COVID-19, attendance will be restricted. The service will be webcast live at www.cloverdalefuneralhome.com.

Andy was born on April 18, 1926, at Baker to Roy and Lenora (Hewitt) Anderson. He was the middle child between two sisters, Edith and Grace. He was educated in Baker schools and graduated high

school in 1944. He immediately joined the US Navy and went to boot camp, then became a radio and signalman. He served in Pearl Harbor after it was attacked and in post-war Japan. While in the US Navy Reserve, he was recalled to active duty during the Korean conflict. He began working for the US Post Office in Baker following honorable discharge in 1951. He moved his family to Boise to take a new position with the post office. He retired there after 35 years of service.

He married the love of his life, Beverly DeMastus, formerly of Unity. They have four sons: Gary, Ron, Gregg and Larry, all living in Boise. They also have six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Andy was a proud, yet

humble man. He left a list of the things he was proud of, where he knew family would find it. Top of the list was always his family. He was a great father, supporting and teaching four boys. He was very proud of his sons' accomplishments and military service. He was also proud of his service in the US Navy, and proud that he donated over 32 gallons of blood to the American Red Cross over the years. He volunteered at the Idaho State Veteran's Home for the last eight years.

Andy skied until he was 86 years old. He was given a Distinguished Service Award by the Intermountain National Ski Patrol for assisting injured skiers down the mountain. He especially enjoyed volunteering at the Idaho Warhawk Museum. He

participated in the Bridging Generations program where he educated school children about his military experiences. He was a life member of the American Legion and multiple county historic societies. He enjoyed local history, stamp and coin collecting. He competed in the swimming portion of multiple triathlons and was proud of his many trophies.

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DEATHS

Verla Boles: 88, of Baker City, died May 3, 2021, at Meadowbrook Place. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Kaitlan M. Galvan, 23, Baker City, 12:59 a.m. Tuesday, May 4 on

Church between First and Second streets; cited and released.

CONTEMPT OF COURT: Joshua Adam Carpenter, 35, Baker City, 7:32 p.m. Monday, May 3 in the 1800 block of East Street; jailed.

Oregon State Police Arrests, citations
NEGOTIATING A BAD CHECK:

Steven Michael McBride, 39, Baker City, 11:12 p.m. Monday, May 3 at Campbell and Oak streets; cited and released.

CONTEMPT OF COURT: Malia Leialoha Quiroz, 37, Baker City, 1:42 a.m. Monday, May 3 at Oak Street and Washington Avenue; cited and released.

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