

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

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

Baker 13-year-olds downed the Ontario Americans in Babe Ruth tournament play at the Harmon Killebrew field in Payette last night 5 to 4 in a squeaker that had the crowd on its feet. Duffy Miles went the full seven innings to claim the victory for Baker.

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

The Baker City Council on Tuesday voted 4-2 to ask the state to paint new lines on Campbell Street from Main Street to the freeway, switching from two travel lanes in each direction to one.

Other changes include adding a 14-foot-wide center turn-only lane and 6-foot-wide bicycle lanes on each side of the street.

Parking would still be allowed at the curb on both sides.

The new paint job is among the projects recommended in the city's almost-finished transportation system plan. That plan, which David Evans & Associates wrote, will guide the city for the next 20 years.

The city doesn't know when the state will paint the new lines, City Attorney Tim Collins said.

The Oregon Department of Transportation usually repaints Campbell Street in the spring.

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

The first "Conversation at Crossroads" this week will feature a view of recent efforts to improve the health and safety of American soldiers and Afghans.

The speaker is Dr. Daniel Lowe. Lowe, a 1965 Baker High graduate, is a retired surgeon, and his talk is "Lessons Learned in Afghanistan," a conversation about his experience as a health care systems developer working for the U.S. Department of Defense in Afghanistan.

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

It all started with a modest crop of potatoes and now, 105 years later, the Ward family's fields in Baker Valley continue to yield their yearly bounty of spuds.

But this year the Ward Ranches' harvest will include something new.

Something not so tasty as a french fry, to be sure, but valuable in its own way.

The business, still operated by two grandchildren of its founder, Clyde Ward, has been honored as an Oregon Century Farm.

The Oregon Century Farm and Ranch program, which started in 1958, is run by the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation. The program recognizes families that have worked the same land for at least 100 years.

Ward Ranches is Baker County's one entry in the 2020 class.

It joins 28 other farms and ranches in the county to receive the Century designation.

"We are blessed and thankful by this heritage and lifestyle that makes us who we are today," Clyde's granddaughter, Kathy Ward, wrote in the biography she compiled as part of the family's application. "Ward Ranches is the result of generations of family working together to make their farm's legacy live on and thrive."

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, July 21

5 — 6 — 7 — 13 — 19 — 25
Next jackpot: \$5.7 million

POWERBALL, July 21

27 — 28 — 44 — 67 — 68 PB 11
Next jackpot: \$174 million

MEGA MILLIONS, July 22

10 — 26 — 30 — 52 — 57 Mega 10
Next jackpot: \$138 million

WIN FOR LIFE, July 21

4 — 11 — 42 — 55

PICK 4, July 22

• 1 p.m.: 6 — 8 — 4 — 7
• 4 p.m.: 6 — 5 — 1 — 9
• 7 p.m.: 6 — 1 — 5 — 9

LUCKY LINES, July 22

2-5-11-16-20-22-28-31
Next jackpot: \$36,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Chicken-fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, biscuits, corn, coleslaw, pudding
- **TUESDAY:** Lasagna, garlic breadsticks, Italian vegetables, three-bean salad, pineapple sherbet
- **WEDNESDAY:** Beef burgundy over fettuccine with mushrooms, mixed vegetables, rolls, pea-and-onion salad
- **THURSDAY:** Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, ambrosia, bread pudding
- **FRIDAY:** Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls, green salad, ice cream

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$5 donation (60 and older), \$7.50 for those under 60.

CONTACT THE HERALD

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Elbow Creek fire nears 21,000 acres

By Ronald Bond
Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — Link Smith has fought fire in every portion of Oregon except for the northeastern corner.

He's now coordinating the attack on the Elbow Creek Fire burning southwest of Troy.

Smith is the incident commander for the Type 1 Oregon Department of Forestry Incident Management Team 3 that has been on the scene trying to quell the Elbow Creek Fire since Sunday morning, July 18. Smith, the district for-



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

A stump continues to burn in a section of the Elbow Creek Fire near Promise on Thursday, July 22, 2021.

ester for the Western Land District west of Eugene, is a veteran firefighter. He said during an interview with the

Chieftain July 20 this is his 37th year fighting fire, his 29th with the ODF and his eighth as an incident commander.

He's faced some of the state's biggest blazes, as well. Smith was the IC on the Holiday Farm Fire, which burned more than 173,000 acres east of Eugene and Springfield in 2020.

The Elbow Creek Fire, while much smaller than the Holiday Farm Fire at 20,810 acres as of Friday, July 23, presents its own challenges.

See Fire / Page A5

Organizer expecting a crowd for Community Night Out event Aug. 3

By Lisa Britton
lbritton@bakercityherald.com

Phoebe Wachtel is expecting hundreds of people for dinner on Tuesday, Aug. 3.

Her projection is based on experience — every August, as many as 700 people spend a few hours in Geiser-Pollman Park for Community Night Out.

"It will be pretty much like we've always done it," said Wachtel, who is the administrative assistant for the Baker City Police Department and helps organize Community Night Out.

A free dinner — barbecued pork loin sandwich, grapes, chips, and soda or water — will be served starting at 5

p.m. The meal is provided by Oregon Trail Restaurant, Elkhorn Grills, and the Baker City Lions Club.

Vendors will be set up throughout the park. Space is still available — it is free for nonprofit organizations, or \$20 for those selling products or sharing political information. To inquire about being a vendor, email pwachtel@bakercity.com or bakercityevents1@gmail.com.

"We're hoping to interact with the public and let them know what services are out there," she said.

Each vendor is asked to donate an item or basket to the raffle.

"I encourage them to donate something that reflects their mission or

what they do in the community," Wachtel said.

Every person who goes through the food line receives one free raffle ticket. Additional tickets can be purchased — one for \$1, seven for \$5, 15 for \$10, or 35 for \$20.

"That's what funds (Community Night Out) for next year," Wachtel said of the ticket sales.

Raffle winners will be announced after 6:30 p.m. when most people have had a chance to get food and a ticket.

Updates on the evening, and a list of vendors, can be found on the Facebook page for the Baker City Police Department.

COMPOST

Continued from Page A1

Periodically turning the batch ensures that every bit of material reaches the heat in the middle, which can get up to 160 degrees under the tarp. Garrett Virtue is the landfill manager at Baker Sanitary Service, and he's in charge of turning and managing the batches.

After eight weeks, the batch is moved to another location where it can begin the two- to three-month maturation process. The material

breaks down into a product that resembles what buyers are used to seeing when they purchase compost. Eventually, Henry plans to use worm fertilizer called vermicast to improve the process. But he's not quite there yet.

"That's still our end goal," Henry said. "I think at this point, it'll probably be next spring."

Henry plans to test the benefit of the finished product before selling it to commercial ranchers and farmers, and even vineyards and orchards that desire a high-quality

compost. Eventually, he'd like to sell it to customers directly out of Baker Sanitary Service.

"We're just early enough that we don't know what the final product is going to look like and there might need to be adjustments," Henry said. "But the goal would be to have some sort of product that has a market value, and that would have some form of being available to customers."

The facility is also able to compost food waste, although Henry has not started reaching out to restaurants and grocery stores to solicit their

material. It will essentially be the same process, but more challenging because the food waste can attract birds and rodents, and emit odors, if not managed properly.

The Baker County Planning Commission modified Baker Sanitary Service's conditional use permit for the landfill in August 2020 to allow the composting facility.

"We just wanted to be slightly innovative and try to be ahead of the curve there and see what options could come out of that experimentation," Henry said.

OBITUARY

Kerry Cameron

1946-2021

Kerry Duane Cameron, 74, died on July 17, 2021.

A military service will be scheduled at a later date.

Kerry was born on Nov. 30, 1946, at McMinnville. He was raised in McMinnville and graduated from McMinnville High School in 1965. He graduated from Oregon State University in Corvallis in 1969 with a bachelor of science degree in Forestry and Business Administration.

Kerry met Judy Senn on a blind date in 1967. They got married in October 1969 at McMinnville and have been married 51 years.

Kerry worked with his father and brothers while growing up helping their dad build houses. During summer vacations, Kerry worked for US Plywood.

Upon graduation from Oregon State, Kerry joined the United States Navy. He went to Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida. He was commissioned as a Naval Flight Officer in 1970. During his 22 1/2 years in the Navy, Kerry traveled the globe. He was on the Commissioning crew of the Dwight D. Eisenhower in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1977 and his favorite duty station was Adak, Alaska, from 1984-1987.

He retired from the Navy in 1991 and began work for the Department of Energy in Richland, Washington, for 12 years. After resigning from the Department of Energy in 2003, Kerry and Judy began a 17-year journey with Volunteer Mobile Missionaries and then Volunteer Mobile Missionaries, doing volunteer work throughout the US including construction-related work for Christian churches, camps, Christian schools, etc. This was the highlight of his life.

Kerry was an avid bike rider, loved going on tandem bike rides with Judy, loved

tennis, racquetball, sports, camping with his family, hunting with his brothers, and helping others. He loved attending the sporting events his grandchildren were involved in.

Kerry leaves behind his wife, Judy; his son, Kris (Liz) Cameron of Spokane, Washington; his daughters, Kailin (Carter) Wells of Union, and Kacy (Karissa) of Fox Island Washington; five grandchildren, Elly, Audrey and Noah Wells, Issac Cameron, and Claire Cameron; his brothers, Forrest Cameron of Turner, and Colin Cameron of McMinnville; his sister, Shelli Thornton of Salem; numerous nieces and nephews and numerous loving cousins in Arkansas.

Donations in Kerry's honor can be made to Faith Center in Island City, Heart 'N Home Hospice in La Grande, or Meals on Wheels in La Grande, through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.



Kerry Cameron

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Nancy Curtiss: 66, of Baker City, died July 19, 2021, at Memory Lane in Baker City. Her graveside service will be Tuesday, July 27 at 11 a.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Father Suresh Telagani of St. Francis de Sales Cathedral will officiate. Donations may be made to The Knight of Columbus, through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St. Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Nancy's memory, go to www.colestributecenter.com.

FUNERALS PENDING

Denny and Charlie Oliver: Memorial service and celebration of their lives, Saturday, July 31 at noon at the Pine Haven Cemetery in Halfway. Friends are invited to join the family for a reception immediately following at the Halfway Lions Hall.

Laurie Gulick: Memorial service Sunday, Aug. 1 at 10 a.m. at the Gulick Ranch on Pine Town Lane in Halfway. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Robert Kent Nelson: Me-

morial service, Aug. 14 at 11 a.m. at the Baker City Church of the Nazarene, 1250 Hughes Lane. A reception will follow the service at the Nazarene Church's Family Life Center. Memorial contributions can be made to the Burnt River Community Church or the Northeast Oregon Compassion Center through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for Kent's family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (10 Baker County Justice Court warrants): Michael Steven Myers-Gabiola, 30, Baker City, 6:30 a.m. Thursday, July 22 at Broadway and Chestnut streets; jailed.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Sharon Lee Beck, 35, Baker City, 9:51 p.m. Monday, July 19 on Campbell Street at Geiser-Poll-

man Park; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff HARASSMENT: Brandon Cole Cook, 46, Richland, 7:35 a.m. Tuesday, July 20 in Richland; cited and released.

SECOND-DEGREE DISORDERLY CONDUCT: Jessica M. Gonzales, 31, Halfway, 3:33 p.m. Monday, July 19 in Halfway; cited and released.

Funeral for LAURIE GULICK

August 1st at 10:00 a.m.
At the Ranch on Pine Town Ln., Halfway
*Shade will be provided

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