# Local

## **TURNING BACK THE PAGES**

#### **50 YEARS AGO** from the Democrat-Herald September 11, 1971

"It has been three years since we twisted that Tiger's tail," a delighted coach Joe Miller said following Baker's 24-0 win Friday night over the visiting La Grande squad.

## **25 YEARS AGO** from the Baker City Herald September 11, 1996

The Baker City Council learned Tuesday night that Behlen Mfg. Co. plans a grand opening at its livestock equipment factory in late October.

Roger Lee, Baker City/County economic developer, told councilors that the company expects to begin some production at the plant, which is south of Pocahontas Road, later this month.

Approximately 315 people have applied for approximately 50 jobs at Behlen, Lee said.

## **10 YEARS AGO** from the Baker City Herald September 12, 2011

#### Frugal.

That's the best way to describe Baker's play against Grant Union Friday in a nonleague football game at Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

Baker (1-1) ran just 45 offensive plays, including just 20 in the second half, but still rolled over the Prospectors (0-1) 48-0.

The Bulldogs tallied 35 points in the fourth quarter, using two interception returns for touchdowns, and a punt return for another score.

#### **ONE YEAR AGO** from the Baker City Herald September 12, 2020

While the most destructive wildfires in Oregon history are ravaging much of the state west of the Cascades, the northeast corner, where blazes are more common, remains relatively calm.

But local officials say that tranquility could become illusory, and that the wildfire danger is high or extreme.

And unlike the situation earlier this summer, when few fires were burning, fire managers won't be able to summon help from outside the area should a major blaze break out.

"Trying to get any kind of resources would be really hard," said Steve Meyer, wildland fire supervisor at the Oregon Department of Forestry's Baker City office.

Lightning, which in most summers sparks a majority of the wildfires in the Blue Mountains, isn't in the forecast for at least the next few days.

But with another warm and dry weekend, and the prospect for hordes of people getting outdoors as has been the case throughout this summer, the specter of humancaused fires leaves fire officials anxious.

High temperatures will approach record levels on Saturday and Sunday, according to the National Weather Service, and no rain is likely until early next week.

"What we worry about most this time of year is humancaused fires," Meyer said.

Blazes started by people are especially troubling be-

## TRAILS

Continued from A1

northwest of Baker City, has been expanding its operations beyond the winter season in the past several years.

The corporation has contracts with the Forest Service to operate the three campgrounds in the Anthony Lakes recreation area, as well as Union Creek campground on Phillips Reservoir and three other campgrounds in the Sumpter Valley.

Anthony Lakes has also opened its day lodge for lunches and dinners during the summer, and built a downhill mountain bike trail.

Peter Johnson, Anthony Lakes general manager, conceived the Trailhead Stewardship Project after a frustrating experience hiking the overgrown Cunningham Cove trail, on the west side of the Elkhorns southwest of Anthony Lakes.

Or, rather, trying to hike the trail.

The combination of brush and downed logs and erosion made it all but impossible to find the trail in places, Johnson said.

The Trailhead Stewardship Project got started this summer with Victoria Mitts as the paid employee.

Four volunteers also helped improve sections of several trails, said Megan Keating, operations coordinator at The Trailhead. The crew put in a total of 251.25 hours of trail work this summer, Keating said.

Mitts' first task, appropriately enough, was the very trail that convinced Johnson

that action was needed.

Mitts cut more than 70 logs that spanned the Cunningham Cove trail. She also trimmed the snowbrush, a chaparral-like shrub, that had crowded, and in some places spanned, the narrow trail tread.

addition, the crew rebuilt

sections of trail on the steep,

rocky areas above the lake,

and in another stretch about

six miles from the lower trail-

The workers cleared logs

and other debris on both sec-

tions of this trail — from the

North Powder River Road to

the lake itself, and from the

lake to the upper trailhead

at Cracker Saddle, above

Peavy Trail, Elkhorns

Workers cut trees and

trimmed encroaching brush

on the entire length of this

four-mile trail, which starts

The Sloans Ridge fire

route of the Peavy trail, and

it, like the Cunningham Cove

burned across most of the

trail, has been plagued by

The Trailhead Stew-

installed garbage cans at the

trailhead and restained the

sign kiosk there and at the

Anthony Lake. Dog waste

bags, and trash cans, are

trail, which runs from An-

Pass west of Baker City, is

among the more popular

routes in the range.

thony Lake to Marble Creek

Workers also cut trees

along the Hoffer Lakes trail,

climbs about half a mile from

Anthony Lakes to a pair of

a heavily used route that

Crest trailhead.

Elkhorn Crest trailhead near

also available at the Elkhorn

The 23-mile Elkhorn Crest

ardship Project crew also

ningham Cove trail.

falling trees.

at the same trailhead as Cun-

head, Keating said.

Summit Lake trail,

**Elkhorns** 

Bourne.

Snowbrush has grown in profusion since the 1996 Sloans Ridge fire burned much of the land that the trail traverses.

Keating said The Trailhead has received reports of a few big trees falling across the Cunningham Cove trail recently, and the goal is to cut those trees before winter.

In addition to cutting logs and doing other annual maintenance tasks that the Forest Service used to handle before its recreation budgets dwindled, the Trailhead Stewardship Project has a website --- www.thetrailheadbakercity.com - where hikers and other trail users can report problems on trails.

That information will help Mitts and volunteers focus on trails that most need attention. Johnson said.

The Trailhead Stewardship Project's other major efforts this summer included:

## **Dutch Flat trail, Elkhorns**

Workers cut logs on the entire 10-mile trail, which starts near the Anthony Lakes Highway and ascends the glacier-carved Dutch Flat valley to Dutch Flat, one of the larger alpine meadows in the Elkhorns, and Dutch Flat Lake. The trail connects with the Elkhorn Crest National **Recreation Trail at Dutch** Flat Saddle, about 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles south of Anthony Lakes. In

(Grant and Malheur):

smaller lakes.

- Lake, 40.1%
- Malheur, 42.2%
- Grant, 45.5%
- Gilliam, 45.6%
- Harney, 47.9%
- Umatilla, 49.4%

The two other neighboring counties are Union, with a vaccination rate of 53.2%, and Wallowa, at 63.1%.

Baker County's vaccination rate among residents ages 12-17 (people younger than 12 aren't eligible to be vaccinated) is 21.8%. The statewide average in that age range is 58.1%.

The number of vaccine

doses given in Baker County

There were 633 doses

compared with 398 doses

administered during August,

during July. That's an increase

For the first eight days of

with July.

of 59%.

increased in August compared

Another project was clearing logs and brush from the Two Dragon trail, a formerly abandoned but reconstructed trail, popular with mountain bikers, near Grande Ronde Lake.

## Martin Bridge trail, Wallowas

This project was as much about reviving a trail as it was about maintaining one.

This trail, in the southern Wallowas, follows Eagle Creek between Eagle Forks campground, north of Richland, and Martin Bridge.

Keating said the crew started at the campground and made it about five miles before the trail tread in effect disappeared. Up to that point, workers cleared patches of brush that obscured the trail and cut many fallen trees.

Keating has asked the Forest Service to survey the rest of the route, and hang flagging to mark the tread, so the Trailhead Stewardship Project can finish clearing the trail to Martin Bridge.

We have some great momentum going and would love to finish this project this year if possible," Keating wrote in an email to Teresa Fraser, recreation program manager for the Wallowa-Whitman.

For the rest of the summer and into the fall, Keating said Mitts and volunteers will respond to trail problems in the Elkhorns reported on the website or elsewhere.

Another goal is to come up with a plan for priority projects for the summer of 2022.

#### September, 134 doses were given in the county. That included 39 doses on Sept. 3, the highest one-day total since

June 10. September's daily average of doses given is down from August — 16.8 doses per day

so far in September, compared with 20.5 per day during August.

## Outbreaks

The OHA's weekly outbreak reported, released on Thursday, Sept. 9, doesn't list any active outbreaks in senior care facilities or other congregate living settings in Baker County. The county's lone active outbreak in a workplace is at Marvin Wood Products, where seven cases have been reported since July 23. The most recent case there was Aug. 21.

## COVID

## Continued from A1

Baker County has not recorded a COVID-19-related death since Aug. 17.

## **Breakthrough cases**

A breakthrough case is a person who tests positive after being fully vaccinated. Baker County's rate of

breakthrough cases has been lower than the Oregon average during the surge in cases that started in late July.

• Aug. 1-15 — 8.2% (12 of 147 cases) • Aug. 16-22 — 12.7%

(nine of 71 cases) • Aug. 23-29 - 17.5% (10 of 57 cases) • Aug. 30-Sept. 5 — 10.3%

## (nine of 87 cases)

## Vaccinations

Baker County's vaccination rate remains the seventhlowest among Oregon's 36 counties, as it has been for more than a month.

As of Thursday, Sept. 9, the county's vaccination rate,

cause they can't be predicted, he said.

"We can track lightning and have some idea of where to worry about for fires," Meyer said. "With human-caused fires you just have no idea. You can't plan for it."

## **Oregon Lottery**

MEGABUCKS, Sept. 8 19 - 22 - 23 - 29 - 42 - 44 Next jackpot: \$2.9 million

POWERBALL, Sept. 8 9-22-41-47-61 PB 21 Next jackpot: \$409 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Sept. 7

Next jackpot: \$368 million

16 - 17 - 18 - 42 PICK 4, Sept. 9 ● 1 p.m.: 1 — 6 — 4 — 7 • 4 p.m.: 3 — 8 — 1 — 8 •7 p.m.: 6 - 9 - 2 - 3 • 10 p.m.: 7 - 6 - 5 - 8 LUCKY LINES, Sept. 9 15 — 17 — 25 — 32 — 53 меда 12 3-8-11-15-17-22-27-32 Next jackpot: \$16,000

WIN FOR LIFE, Sept. 8

## SENIOR MENUS

- MONDAY: Chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, rolls, fruit cup, sherbet
- TUESDAY: Baked ziti, garlic rolls, vegetables, broccoliand-bacon salad, cookies
- WEDNESDAY: Barbecued ribs, baked beans, corn, cornbread, potato salad, apple crisp
- THURSDAY: Breaded pork loin, baked potatoes, peas, rolls, coleslaw, cheesecake
- FRIDAY: Roasted turkey, stuffing with gravy, broccoli rolls, pasta salad, lemon squares

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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From Aug. 1 through Sept. 5, breakthrough cases accounted for 17.9% of Oregon's total cases.

In Baker County the breakthrough case rate for that period was 11.1% - 40 of the 362 cases were breakthrough.

Baker County's breakthrough case rates:

Martha Jane Spratling 1930-2021

With profound sadness the passing of Martha Jane Spratling, 91, on Sept. 3, 2021, was announced.

As per her request there will be no funeral,

with the interment being private. Martha was born on July 19, 1930, in

the Baker Valley to Harold and Jennie Colvin. Martha grew up on the family farm.

She attended Eastern Oregon College

among people 18 and older, was 49.6%. That includes 6,361 people who are fully vaccinated, and 503 who are partially vaccinated. The statewide average is 73.2%.

The six counties with lower vaccination rates, among residents 18 and older, include two that border Baker County

## JBITUARY

and met her first husband, Paul Jacobs, while working there. After their marriage they continued to work there and run the family farm. They then moved to full time ranching. After Paul's death, Martha continued to run the ranch until she met Max Spratling. Martha and Max ran the ranch until his death. She retired at the age of 80 years. Martha remained on the family farm until her death.

Martha was very involved and held many offices in the Chamber of Commerce, Cowbelles, and Oregon Cattlemen's Association. She was also a supporter of local youth participation in

# News of Record

**POLICE LOG Baker City Police** 

Arrests, citations WARRANT: Alex Cooper Horn, 25, Baker City, 8:44 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9 in the 1200 block of Camp bell Street; cited and released.

HARASSMENT: Griffith Carl Jayden, 18, Baker City, 6:40 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9 at 1640 Eldon Ave.; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Christian R. Oliver, 21, Baker City, 10:25 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 9 at Birch and Campbell streets; cited and released.

WARRANT: Gage Michael Niehaus, 21, Baker City, 7:04 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8 in the 2700

livestock shows and rodeos.

Martha is survived by her nephews, Robert, and Richard Knowles and his wife, Siobhan; her great-niece, Brenna Warburton and her husband, Bill, and their children, Vivian and William.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Lavelle; her first husband, Paul; and her second husband, Max.

Contributions in her name can be made to a charity of your choice through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place Street, Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Martha Jane, go to www. colestributecenter.com.

> block of Eighth Street; cited and released.

PROBATION VIOLATION: Loren Dean Alexander Prevo, 28, Baker City, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8 in the 2200 block of Failing Avenue; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Justin Shelton, 31, Baker City, 7:57 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8 at Resort Street and Valley Avenue; jailed.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Two Baker County Justice Court warrants): Michael Steven Myers-Gabiola, 30, transient, 7:49 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8 at Cedar and H streets: cited and released.

funeralhome.com GRUMPY'S "You'll love the work we do. I guarantee it." air 🕘 Inc. REPAIR TRUCKS 541-523-3200 • East of I-84 541-523-3200 225 H Street grumpysrepair.con

Spratling

#### DEATHS

Perry Jacobs: 60, a longtime Keating resident, died Sept. 10, 2021, at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at www. tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Cheryl 'Sherry' Worster: 71, of Baker City, died Sept. 7, 2021, at her home. To leave an online condolence for her family, go to www. grayswestco.com

Vicki Sue Profitt: 56, of Baker City, died Sept. 5, 2021, at her home. A celebration of her life will be announced at a later date. To offer online condolences to her family, or to light a candle in her memory, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Dale Gene Koontz: 81, of Baker City, died Sept. 5, 2021, at his home. A celebration of his life will be planned for a later date. To offer online condolences to his family, or to light a candle in his memory, go

# Martha Jane

to www.grayswestco.com.

James Walter Green: 50,

2021, near Huntington. To leave an

of Caldwell, Idaho, died Sept. 6,

online condolence for his family,

go to www.grayswestco.com.

**FUNERALS PENDING** 

of life, Sunday, Sept. 19 at 4 p.m.

at the Quail Ridge Golf Course,

2801 Indiana Ave. in Baker City.

vice will be Saturday, Sept. 25 at

11 a.m. at the Eagle Valley Ceme-

tery in Richland. Arrangements are

under the direction of Tami's Pine

Valley Funeral Home & Cremation

Services. Online condolences can

be made at www.tamispinevallev-

Donna Weir: Graveside ser-

David Coughlin: Celebration