

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald

January 20, 1972

District 5-J school board and budget board members tentatively last night approved a salary schedule for school administrators.

The board met to consider five possible salary plans that would reorganize the salary schedule at the request of the administrators.

25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

January 20, 1997

Baker sent a message to the rest of the Greater Oregon League girls basketball teams Saturday. The Bulldogs served notice that any hopes of vying for the league title will have to go through them.

Baker squared off with Ontario, both sporting a 4-0 GOL record, Saturday. And, when the dust had cleared, Baker had marched away with a 70-43 victory.

10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

January 20, 2012

Almost a foot of snow has fallen over the past day at Anthony Lakes Ski Area.

And that was the quietest day all week.

One of the snowier series of storms in the past two decades has bestowed better than three and a half feet of powder on Anthony Lakes since Saturday.

On Thursday morning, dozens of skiers and snowboarders convened at the triple chairlift, aiming to get up the hill and make the first tracks in the fluffy new layer.

ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald

January 21, 2021

Baker County has recovered most of the jobs it lost early in the COVID-19 pandemic, but the county's unemployment rate, driven by continuing struggles in the restaurant and hospitality industry, remains higher than it was for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

That three-year period marked the lowest jobless rates for the county since the Oregon Employment Department started tracking that statistic in 1990.

The annual seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the county was 5.5% in 2017, 5.3% in 2018 and 4.6% — a record low annual rate — in 2019.

In December 2019 the monthly jobless rate reached an all-time low of 3.8%.

The rate rose slightly, to 4.1%, for the first three months of 2020.

Then the pandemic started.

Its effects were almost immediate.

In April the county's jobless rate more than tripled, to 13%. That was higher than in any month during the national recession that started in 2008 and persisted in Baker County for four years.

The county's annual jobless rate ranged from 10.3% to 10.9% for the period 2009-12.

Starting in 2013 the county's jobless rate declined for each of the next seven years, reaching the record-low of 4.6% in 2019.

As the spring of 2020 progressed, with many local businesses remaining closed or subject to state-mandated restrictions, Baker County's jobless rate peaked in May at 13.2%.

The county's number of private, nonfarm jobs followed a similar trajectory.

There were 4,210 private, nonfarm jobs in March 2020 — the most ever during that month, according to Oregon Employment Department records.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, JAN. 17

20-25-28-31-32-35

Next jackpot: \$8.5 million

POWERBALL, JAN. 17

9-24-35-46-65 PB 22

Next jackpot: \$62 million

MEGA MILLIONS, JAN. 18

4-19-39-42-52 Mega 9

Next jackpot: \$376 million

WIN FOR LIFE, JAN. 17

38-68-70-74

PICK 4, JAN. 18

• 1 p.m.: 6-9-9-6

• 4 p.m.: 8-3-3-6

• 7 p.m.: 3-5-7-8

• 10 p.m.: 4-0-5-1

LUCKY LINES, JAN. 18

2-6-12-13-19-23-26-29

Next jackpot: \$13,000

SENIOR MENUS

FRIDAY: Barbecued ribs, baked beans, corn, rolls, coleslaw, brownie

MONDAY (Jan. 24): Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, rolls, broccoli-and-bacon salad, apple crisp

TUESDAY (Jan. 25): Ground beef steak with onions, scalloped potatoes, peas-and-carrots salad, rolls, green salad, cookies

WEDNESDAY (Jan. 26): Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables, macaroni salad, birthday cake

THURSDAY (Jan. 27): Pork roast, baby red potatoes, carrots, rolls, cottage cheese with fruit, brownies

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.

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Herald wants to hear what readers want to know about governor's race

News organizations and nonprofit groups in Oregon have teamed up to learn what voters want candidates for governor to be talking about as they compete for votes. They seek Oregonians to participate in a "Let's Talk" 90-minute virtual listening session soon to share their understanding of the race through the media. There is no cost to join in this nonpartisan event.

Voters would join others via the Zoom platform to discuss off the record what information they want to know about the candidates — and what they don't want to hear. The intent is for news organizations to provide reporting in the coming months that serves the interests and needs of Oregonians instead of candidates and their campaigns.

The governor's race promises to be one of the most important in recent Oregon history with several

high-profile candidates and a state reeling from the pandemic and political divides.

The effort is led by the Oregon Capital Chronicle, a nonprofit digital news service focused on state government and politics; Rural Development Initiatives, a nonprofit focused on community vitality in rural Oregon; and the Agora Journalism Center, part of the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication in Portland.

The Baker City Herald is participating as a host.

"We're keenly interested in having voters help frame news coverage, to provide reporting beyond the usual polls and campaign financing reporting," said Les Zaitz, editor of Oregon Capital Chronicle.

"We look forward to hearing from diverse groups representing small communities throughout Oregon, to make sure we understand what's

important to people as we consider who the next governor should be," said Jennifer Groth, director of Policy and Partnerships at Rural Development Initiatives.

"Understanding and fulfilling the public's information needs to inform their decision at the ballot box is a critical democratic role for the media. Listening is a key first step," said Andrew DeVigal, director of the Agora Journalism Center.

Sessions with voters grouped in their region will

take place by the end of February.

To participate, Oregonians can go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8JV25WF> to submit their interest.

For more information:

- Les Zaitz, Oregon Capital Chronicle, lzaitz@oregoncapitalchronicle.com
- Jennifer Groth, Rural Development Initiatives, jgroth@rdiinc.org
- Andrew DeVigal, Agora Journalism Center, adevigal@uoregon.edu

Local Briefing

Soroptimists offering two scholarships

The Soroptimists of Baker County are offering two \$1,000 scholarships to a graduating senior girl from Baker County high schools and Powder Valley High Schools, or those who have graduated in the past five years from any of these schools. Scholarship information can be found at your school, or email Barbara Stiff at stiffbarbara7@gmail.com for application forms.

Seth Butler named to dean's list at Wartburg

WAVERLY, Iowa — Seth Butler, a Pine Eagle High School graduate from Oxbow, was named to the fall term dean's list at Wartburg College.

To qualify, students must earn a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Wartburg, a four-year lib-

eral arts college, enrolls 1,543 students.

Baker City veterinarian nominated to continue on state board

Brett Hamilton, Baker City veterinarian, has been nominated by Oregon Gov. Kate Brown to serve another four-year term on the Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board. Hamilton, who was originally appointed to the board on March 1, 2018, will serve another four-year term starting March 1, 2022.

Brown submitted a list of board and commissioner appointments on Tuesday, Jan. 11. The Senate Rules Committee is scheduled to consider the nominations in February.

According to its website, the state Veterinary Medical Examining Board was established in 1903 to test, license, monitor and regulate practitioners of veterinary medicine in the state.

News of Record

Deaths

Luis Manuel Torres-Rivera: 44, of Lynnwood, Washington, and formerly of New York City, died Jan. 16, 2022, near Baker City. To leave an online condolence for Luis' family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

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Hope matters
ROMANS 15:13

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY
JANUARY 23, 2022

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 15:13

Hope matters so much to our clients. When they walk through our doors, they usually feel like they don't have any. They come to us seeking answers. We give them much more than that. We offer them hope through honest information and caring services. They leave our center feeling reassured, empowered, and confident. It is hope that allows them to see their many options. It is hope that allows a little baby to experience life.

This hope matters so much to them.

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