

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald

April 4, 1972

Retention of Hughes Air West (HAW) service, to offset the airline's announced intention to withdraw flight service from Baker, topped the agenda at the Chamber of Commerce aviation committee breakfast this morning.

25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

April 4, 1997

Two Baker County men want the U.S. Forest Service to pay almost \$1.4 million for damage the Sloans Ridge fire caused to their property last August.

Robert R. Bowen Jr. of Baker City and Larry Dinger of Haines filed damage claims Feb. 14.

10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

April 6, 2012

Baker County Commissioners this week approved a two-season agreement with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for the continued campaign to remove yellow perch from Phillips Reservoir.

According to the intergovernmental agreement, eight Merwin net traps will be set each spring.

Work to ensure that many perch are captured this season began last Friday, March 31. That's when ice-off started, said Vince Woods, the county's facility maintenance director.

ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald

April 6, 2021

Gary Timm understands that it's a good time to burn dead grass along ditches and fences, or piles of debris.

Too good, potentially.

The combination of a dry March and occasional strong winds can rapidly turn even a small blaze into an inferno, said Timm, with the Baker County Emergency Management department.

Timm recommends property owners outside Baker City not only avoid lighting fires on especially blustery days, but that they also call their local fire department or protection district before igniting grass or brush on more placid days.

(Residents within Baker City need to obtain a free permit from the Fire Department, 1616 Second St.)

A quick call alerts local fire officials about where to expect smoke, and potentially save volunteer firefighters from making an unnecessary trip to check on a fire report from a citizen who mistakes a planned blaze from one that's burning out of control, Timm said.

That's happened several times this spring in Baker County, he said.

Sometimes the call for help is needed, though, Timm said.

In a few cases, he said, a landowner needed help dousing a fire that spread faster than expected due to wind gusts.

The Keating Rural Fire Department helped confine a blaze in the Keating Valley on Saturday afternoon, according to the Baker County Consolidated Dispatch Center.

The Dispatch Center's log also includes two other controlled burns reported that day, one along Interstate 84 near North Powder, the other along Highway 245 in the Burnt River Valley.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, APRIL 2

8 - 18 - 33 - 37 - 39 - 47

Next jackpot: \$3.7 million

POWERBALL, APRIL 2

6 - 28 - 47 - 58 - 59 PB 18

Next jackpot: \$231 million

MEGA MILLIONS, APRIL 1

26 - 42 - 47 - 48 - 63 Mega 21

Next jackpot: \$81 million

WIN FOR LIFE, APRIL 2

18 - 52 - 53 - 72

PICK 4, APRIL 3

• 1 p.m.: 0 - 9 - 4 - 0

• 4 p.m.: 8 - 6 - 3 - 1

• 7 p.m.: 9 - 3 - 7 - 1

• 10 p.m.: 1 - 4 - 3 - 3

LUCKY LINES, APRIL 3

1-6-10-13-20-24-28-29

Next jackpot: \$15,000

SENIOR MENUS

WEDNESDAY (April 6): Stuffed green peppers, corn, garlic bread, carrot-raising salad, apple crisp

THURSDAY (April 7): Barbecued ribs, scalloped potatoes, carrots, rolls, green salad, bread pudding

FRIDAY (April 8): Roast turkey, stuffing, corn, rolls, Jell-O with fruit, cheesecake

MONDAY (April 11): Baked ziti, garlic bread, zucchini and tomatoes, ambrosia, brownies

TUESDAY (April 12): Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, peas, green salad, cookies

WEDNESDAY (April 13): Chicken broccoli fettuccine, green beans and tomatoes, garlic bread, fruit and cottage cheese, 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.

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OSP mourns loss of Sgt. Marcus McDowell

BY RONALD BOND

Wallowa County Chieftain

LA GRANDE — Members of the Oregon State Police are reeling after the sudden loss of one of their own last week.

"It's devastated our region," retired OSP patrol Sgt. Kyle Hove said of the death of Sgt. Marcus McDowell. "He has friends all over, not just Union County (and) Wallowa County. He has friends in Baker, Umatilla (counties) — he has worked the whole state."

McDowell, 48, was found dead in his patrol vehicle in front of his Joseph home Tuesday afternoon, March 29, of a single gunshot wound to the head.

An investigation determined the gunshot wound to be self-inflicted. OSP stated McDowell was on duty at the time of his death.

"Our hearts go out to his family, friends, and co-workers as they cope with this tragic incident," OSP said in a statement March 31.

Those who worked with McDowell remembered him for his strong work ethic, for his smiling personality, for being a friend, and for caring for those around him during an OSP career that spanned 17½ years.

"He was a wonderful human being," said La Grande-based East Region Capt. Daniel Conner. "He is going to be sorely missed by everybody for a long time."

McDowell spent the majority of his career in Union and Wallowa counties, but got his start with OSP Sept. 1, 2004, being initially assigned to the John Day outpost, Conner said. He was later transferred to La Grande and worked out



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group

An Oregon State Police officer watches over the casket of Sgt. Marcus McDowell one last time before loading it into a funeral vehicle at Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande on Monday, April 4, 2022.

of Northeastern Oregon for the rest of his career.

"Marcus has always been a very motivated and driven state trooper," said Conner, who has been with OSP since 2005 and knew McDowell most of his career. "He's got a very good work ethic. He comes to work ready to go, always gives 110%."

McDowell spent five years as a K-9 handler based in La Grande, and followed that with five years in the Fish and Wildlife division. He also spent time in drug interdiction, where on patrol he would search for vehicles suspected of transporting illegal substances, seeking to disrupt drug trafficking.

"Marcus, he loved his job," said Hove, who McDowell replaced as patrol sergeant for the La Grande-area in March 2020. "He was a hard worker. He was very productive. He was active in the community. Back when we were doing interdiction and stuff on the

freeway, he was so good at his job. He has some incredible seizures of all kinds of different things."

Kainoa Delatori, who worked with McDowell the entirety of his six-year OSP career, and even prior during a stint with La Grande Police, said McDowell was the "resident expert" when it came to drug interdiction work, and someone he would consult often.

"We talk on a daily basis," Delatori said. "I would pick his brain when it came to work on (interdiction) stuff. We got pretty close the last couple years."

Delatori also commented on McDowell's impeccable work ethic, and called him a man with whom you knew where you stood.

"That's one of the things I respect most out of Marcus," Delatori said of McDowell's work. "After that long, a lot of people get burned out or they fade off. (But) he had the most stops in the office month in



McDowell

Water

Continued from Page A1

The city released wastewater that exceeds the E. coli concentration limits in its permit due to a leak discovered March 7 in a dike on the largest lagoon, which covers about 70 acres, said Michelle Owen, the city's public works director.

City workers plugged the leak with soil and bentonite, but as a precaution the city also lowered the water level in that lagoon to below the area where the leak was found, moving some of the water to the three smaller lagoons, each about 10 acres, Owen said.

That forced the city to release about the same amount of wastewater into the river as was

coming into the lagoon complex each day, to avoid overflowing the smaller lagoons.

The city typically avoids releasing wastewater late in winter because the natural organisms that consume some of the potentially harmful bacteria aren't active due to cold temperatures and ice cover on the lagoons, Owen said.

The ice melted in late March, and by March 25 the wastewater being released no longer exceeded bacteria limits, she said.

The plug in the leak appears to be holding, according to a weekly newsletter from City Hall posted on Friday, April 1.

The city is preparing to start using the newly constructed treatment lagoon, which is east of Interstate 84 and just south of Highway 203.

News of Record

DEATHS

Mardelle LaDorise Webb Allen Ebell: 100, a longtime Baker County resident, died on April 3, 2022, at her home, surrounded by family. A traditional funeral service will take place on Saturday, April 16, at 2 p.m. at the Pine Valley Presbyterian Church in Halfway. Interment will follow at Pine Haven Cemetery. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Rev. Donavon Ray McCall: 48, died Nov. 25, 2021, in Billings, Montana. He was born on Dec. 7, 1972. Services will be Wednesday, April 6, at 10 a.m. at Blue Mountain Baptist Church, 2998 Eighth St. in Baker City. He is survived by his wife, Jasmine; his daughter, Miaya; his parents, Dr. Karen Franke (Richard); his siblings, Ronald McCall (Carina), Noah Franke (Yuliya), and Jennifer Richards (Adam). He is also survived by many nephews and nieces and other relatives. We miss your great sense of fun and adventure, his family said.

Helen Georgia Buckmaster: 89, of Baker City, died April 1, 2022, surrounded by family at her home. A celebration of her life will be announced at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Helen's memory, or to offer online condolences to her family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

FUNERAL PENDING

Kathleen Mae Bradshaw: Her memorial service will be Friday, April 8, at 1 p.m. at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. A reception will immediately follow the service, at Community Connection, 2810 Cedar St. Refreshments will be served. Memorial contributions can be made to the Make A Wish Foundation through Gray's West & Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for Kathleen's family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police
Arrests, citations
FAILURE TO APPEAR (Union County warrant): Destiny Lynn Duvall, 21, Baker City, 7:36 a.m. Sunday, April 3, at 16th and Carter streets; cited and released.
FOURTH-DEGREE ASSAULT (domestic): James Leroy Edison, 73, Baker City, 3:17 p.m. Saturday, April 2, in the 2000 block of Seventh Street; jailed.
Baker County Sheriff's Office
Arrests, citations
HARASSMENT (Baker County warrant): Alyssa Renee Owens, 27, Baker City, 7:06 p.m. Saturday, April 2, on Foothill Drive; cited and released.

OTEC

Continued from Page A1

The other recipients are Harli Grove of John Day, Harrison Holt of John Day, Maverick Miller of Canyon City, Skyler Perkins of Cove and Aubrey Walker of Seneca.

"We are pleased to award these scholarships to help support these students as they pursue their career paths and gain the valuable skills needed for highly in-demand jobs in the trades or in the electric utility industry," Joe Hathaway, communications manager at OTEC, said in a press release. "Member-owned cooperatives like OTEC are, by their very nature, community partners and we have always been proud to support the educational goals of local students and give back to the communities in our service territory."

Scholarship winners are

selected from a pool of candidates from OTEC's service territory in Baker, Grant, Harney, and Union counties. Scholarship funds come from unclaimed capital credits.

"We encourage all OTEC members, regardless of age, who want to pursue a trade or attend lineman school to apply for our scholarships," Hathaway said.

"Lineman schools and trade schools provide excellent opportunities for those who don't want to pursue college, but want to learn marketable skills, work in an interesting living-wage job and carry little or no student debt."

Applications for both trade and lineman school scholarships are open year-round. Apply at www.otec.coop/scholarships. The OTEC Member Foundation plans to award more trade and lineman school scholarships later this year.

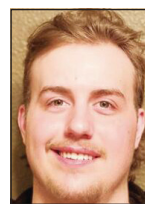
OTEC's 2022 academic scholarship recipients will be announced this spring.



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