

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald

May 21, 1972

Ralph Rhea Jr., 2745 College St., was elected State Warden of the Oregon State Council Knights of Columbus at their recent state convention at The Dalles. He was chosen for the post over three other nominees.

25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

May 21, 1997

The Baker City Municipal Airport will leap back 55 years on May 31.

Airplanes and ground vehicles that helped win World War II will be on display. A hangar will be decorated with war era memorabilia. A nine-piece big band will play.

The event is a tribute to America's veterans. It's also a fundraiser for Thunder Mountain Motorsports, a nonprofit group from Baker City.

The air show will begin at noon.

Among the planes scheduled to appear are a P-51 Mustang, which many experts consider the best single-engine fighter of World War II, Russian Yaks and a North American Harvard IV M naval trainer.

The Oregon National Guard will display modern military vehicles such as Humvees. There also will be restored jeeps and trucks from the World War II era.

10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

May 21, 2012

Pine-Eagle and Baker high school students will have the opportunity to prepare for jobs in industrial automation and control systems thanks to a \$153,326 state grant.

The grant was one of eight career and technical education projects funded by Oregon's Department of Education and Bureau of Labor Industries this spring. The eight awards will serve 21 school districts throughout the state.

ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald

May 22, 2021

HAINES — The big show that will brighten the night sky is about seven weeks away, but Garla Rowe is already excited.

Although this year she's even more enthusiastic about what's slated to happen on the ground in Haines on the Fourth of July.

Rowe, who is with Friends of Haines, the group that organizes the annual holiday celebration in the town 10 miles north of Baker City, said the cowboy breakfast, parade, arts festival and other events that for decades have been part of Haines' Independence Day festivities are scheduled to return this year.

Those events were canceled due to the pandemic in 2020.

"I'm really excited for the Fourth this year," Rowe said on Tuesday, May 18 inside her store, Haines Sell-Rite. "I think the community needs to have something positive to celebrate."

Last year the fireworks illuminated the skies above Haines on the holiday.

The community's other signature seasonal event, the Haines Stampede Rodeo, took place as well.

Both the fireworks and the rodeo are planned this year as well (the rodeo is a two-day event, July 3 and 4).

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, MAY 18

1-3-18-20-31-34

Next jackpot: \$1 million

POWERBALL, MAY 18

40-41-58-64-65 PB 17

Next jackpot: \$117 million

MEGA MILLIONS, MAY 17

7-21-24-41-65 Mega 24

Next jackpot: \$131 million

WIN FOR LIFE, MAY 18

11-28-47-73

PICK 4, MAY 19

• 1 p.m.: 5-7-8-6

• 4 p.m.: 9-2-3-7

• 7 p.m.: 7-9-2-8

• 10 p.m.: 1-2-3-7

LUCKY LINES, MAY 19

2-6-11-15-19-23-27-32

Next jackpot: \$38,000

SENIOR MENUS

MONDAY (May 23): Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables, rolls, 3-bean salad, pudding

TUESDAY (May 24): Orange-glazed chicken, rice pilaf, peas, rolls, green salad, cookies

WEDNESDAY (May 25): Chicken enchilada casserole, Spanish rice, corn, rolls, carrot-raisin salad

THURSDAY (May 26): Stuffed peppers, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, green salad, ice cream

FRIDAY (May 27): Clam chowder, Caesar salad, rolls, peach crisp

MONDAY (May 30): Closed for Memorial Day

TUESDAY (May 31): Pork tips over noodles, peas, rolls, ambrosia, sherbet

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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Oregon braces for challenging fire season

BY KATY NESBITT

For EO Media Group

SALEM — Despite a long winter and a cold and wet spring, Oregon fire authorities are preparing for a challenging season.

During a press conference on Monday, May 16, Gov. Kate Brown highlighted the state's challenges — despite the state's rainfall the past two months, there are many places experiencing a "mega" drought, with worse conditions expected to continue.

Early indications, Brown said, are that southern Oregon and the east side of the Cascades along with the Columbia Gorge are especially vulnerable this year.

To alleviate some of the stress of extended drought and increasingly large wildfires, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 762 in 2019, adding funding for additional personnel and equipment, like air tankers and helicopters.

Brown claimed Oregon has one of the best response systems in the country, but the new funding will help keep resources from being maxed out when fire season arrives. The governor also stressed prevention to curb the outbreak of wildfires.

"Please be smart and careful when enjoying the outdoors to prevent tragic loss," she said. "Being prepared can mean the difference between life and death."

In the wake of fires that not only destroyed hundreds of thousands of forest and rangeland, some of Oregon's recent wildfires, especially in September 2020, left thousands homeless. Brown asked that people stay informed through outlets



Wallowa-Whitman National Forest/Contributed Photo, File

The Rock Creek fire burns in the Elkhorn Mountains west of Baker City on Aug. 31, 2021.

like oralert.gov on fire activity and evacuation orders.

"If you are asked to evacuate, please just do it," she said.

Mike Shaw, Oregon Department of Forestry's fire protection chief, said the cool, wet weather of April and May are welcome respite from the drought and has helped put off fire season, but echoed the governor about the continued threat of wildfire across most of the state.

"We are in a very significant drought pattern, especially on the east slope of the Cascades and vast parts of eastern, southern and central Oregon," he said.

According to maps predicting the national wildfire outlook, the season will likely ramp up in mid-July and be very active in August. Travis

Medema, chief deputy for the state fire marshal's office, said that is the same time period that competition for resources could be a problem.

"We are going to try and keep fires small and out of communities," he said.

The state has 305 fire departments and three incident command teams.

"We will work with local communities to bolster capacity when needed," Medema said.

With technology that predicts lightning and detects fuel moisture of grasses, live fuel like trees and dead and down material, Medema said fire crews can be pre-positioned in areas that are likely to have high fire activity.

While state and federal agen-

cies have contracts with air support, the Oregon National Guard will also have two Blackhawk helicopters that can haul 500 gallons of water at a time and one Chinook that can fly with a 1,500-gallon bucket. National Guard troops will be trained and ready for ground support, as well, according to Maj. Gen. Michael Stencil, the adjutant general of the Oregon National Guard.

Andrew Phelps, director of the Office of Emergency Management, said there are several state agencies coordinating efforts for the upcoming wildfire season like Oregon Department of Human Services that works with nonprofits to provide shelter and food for those who are displaced and Oregon Department of Transportation that works with the Department of Forestry cross-training employees in fire fighting and snow removal. He said the state also has a mutual aid agreement with its neighbors.

"As seasons are longer and more intense, the agencies' roles are keeping people safe," he said. "We have a shared responsibility to prepare for emergencies."

The Department of Environmental Quality's focus is on smoke management, air quality and communication, said Deputy Director Leah Feldon.

Tom Roick, DEQ air quality monitoring manager said the network of smoke monitors across Oregon is expanding. He said his department received money to install 20 new monitors. The information will be shared to through the state's air quality index on the OregonAIR app and <https://oregonSmoke.blogspot.com/>.

News of Record

DEATHS

Jerry L. Franke: 81, a former Baker County resident, died May 18, 2022, at his home in Nampa, Idaho. A funeral service will be announced soon. To light a candle in Jerry's memory, or to offer online condolences to his family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Robert 'Bob' Pollock: 88, of Halfway, died May 17, 2022, at his home. A celebration of Bob's life will take place Saturday, June 11 at 11 a.m. at the Pine Valley Fairgrounds exhibit hall, followed by a potluck. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Lynette Bullington: 71, of Sumpter, died May 7, 2022, in Boise. Arrangements are under the direction of Thomas Funeral Home. Condolences can be sent to the family at www.lienkemper-thomason.com.

Tina Hall: 68, of Halfway, died May 18, 2022, at her daughter's home in Enumclaw, Washington. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Leon Carl Willis: 87, of Baker City, died May 11, 2022, at the Deer Valley Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona, where he snowbirded for part of the year. No services are planned at this time. To light a candle in memory of Leon, or to offer online condolences to his family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Jerry Don Linear: 64, of Seattle, died May 15, 2022, near Durkee. His family is arranging a funeral service for him in Louisiana, where he will be laid to rest. To offer online condolences for Jerry's family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Richard Lee 'Dick' Sherman: 82, of Baker City, died May 15, 2022, at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City. A memorial service will be announced in the fall of 2022. To light a candle in Dick's honor, or to offer online condolences for his family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

FUNERALS PENDING

Deward Thompson: Celebration of life will be Saturday, May 21, at 4:30 p.m. at the Durkee Community Center. For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Deward, the family suggests either the Durkee Community Corp. or Baker FFA Alumni through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Gloria Wilson: Memorial service and celebration of her life will take place Friday, May 27 at 2 p.m. at the Pine Baptist Church in Halfway. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

John Crow: Memorial service with military honors will take place Saturday, May 28 at 10 a.m. at the Lions Community Hall in Halfway. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Marge Harris: Memorial service will take place Saturday, May 28 at 2 p.m. at the Pine Valley Presbyterian Church in Halfway. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Ivan Harry Bork: A celebration of his life and potluck will take place Saturday, May 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the ballroom at the Baker Heritage Museum, 2480 Grove St. For those who would like to make a donation in honor of Ivan, the family suggests Hunt of a Lifetime through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services,

P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Georgia and Larry Wells: Graveside memorial service will take place May 31 at 11 a.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to Community Connection through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave an online condolence for the family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police

Arrests, citations

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Caleb Colton Flint, 36, Baker City, 4:28 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, in the 1200 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

FAILURE TO REPORT AS A SEX OFFENDER: Juan Pablo Burgos, 61, Baker City, 1:11 p.m., Thursday, May 19, in the block of 1000 Campbell Street; jailed.

CRIMINAL TRESPASS: Michael Ray Federdy, 61, Baker City, 8:09 p.m., Thursday, May 19, in the block of 400 Spring Garden Avenue; cited and released.

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Oregon Department of Transportation

NOTICE OF ROAD WORK



Beginning **May 31** the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will be chip sealing 60 miles of the Baker - Copperfield Highway (Oregon Highway 86), plus three other state routes in the Halfway area. All work is expected to be completed by end of June.

- OR 86 work will start at Oxbow/Snake River (milepost 70.8) and continue to the junction of Keating Cutoff Road (milepost 10.1, about 10 miles east of I-84).
- OR 86-S (spur) between OR 414/Record Street in Halfway and OR 86 (milepost 53.55 - 54.70).
- OR 413/Cornucopia Highway between Eagle High School/Halfway city limits and OR 414/Record Street in Halfway (milepost 10.8 - 11.45).
- OR 414/Pine Creek Highway between Record Street and OR 86 (mileposts 0.09-1.82).

NOTE: All dates are dependent on weather conditions and other factors that may impact the project start and end times.



PARKING RESTRICTIONS: No parking in work zones during chip seal activities in downtown areas.

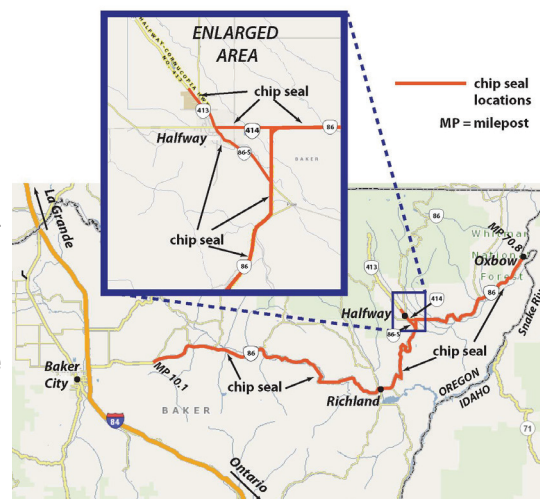
OR 86 CHIP SEAL PROJECT - SUMMER 2022

TRAVEL IMPACTS: Expect up to 20-minute delays, reduced speeds, loose rock on the roadway, flaggers, and pilot cars directing single lane traffic through the work zones. Minor delays during nighttime/early morning hours for road sweeping. Please reduce speed and watch for construction activities in the area. Plan extra travel time and slow down to prevent loose rock from flying onto other vehicles. Crews will sweep roadway, but expect some loose rock to be present for several days after chip seal.

Bicycle riders should be prepared for traveling on rock chip covered highway sections behind a pilot car with no usable shoulders. Use alternate routes or delay travel if possible to avoid chip seal work zone. Pedestrians, including those with disabilities, will be provided access through or around the work zone.

RANCHERS, FARMERS, PROPERTY OWNERS:

Please keep farm equipment off the impacted highway sections during and up to two days after the chip sealing. Also, adjust irrigation pivots and lawn sprinklers to keep water off the roadway. If you have plans for moving livestock on these highway sections, please advise ODOT Baker Section Maintenance Manager Allen Jensen at (541) 523-4566, cell 541-519-4934, or by email at Allen.S.JENSEN@odot.oregon.gov.



We greatly appreciate your support and cooperation during this paving operation.
For more info on this project, contact Allen Jensen (phone/email listed above).
For information on other eastern Oregon highway construction projects contact Vicki Moles at 541-620-4527 Vicki.L.Moles@odot.oregon.gov
For updated road conditions check TripCheck.com or call 511, or (800) 977-6368.