

Cruise

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It's a yellow, flame-embazoned 1929 Model A that Joan said was her late husband Jim's "dream car."

Jim Sherman, a longtime circulation director for the Baker City Herald and lifelong Baker City resident, died of cancer on Feb. 7, 2018, at age 72.

Joan Sherman said this is the first time since Jim died that she'd brought his Model A for a public show.

Patrick Oberlander of Liberty Motorsports watched over an array of classic cars, some his own and some owned by friends.

"Second time I've done the show," Oberlander said. "First year I brought this many cars, though, most of these are newer ones, projects I just worked on."

Some of the cars were old enough to have been prized heirlooms for several generations. Some were raised from all but shells and reassembled with love and torque in equal measure, and some were the furious, modern, speed demons of today, the kind you only see in the mirror for a second before they shoot by in the passing lane.

Above the event, a crane held the giant American flag on prominent display on the east side of the park. The flag was supplied by Superior Towing.

Some of the cars also bore flags, including ones honoring military veterans who are missing in action or were prisoners of war.

After all, some of the oldest cars on display had lived through every war in recent memory.

At conclusion of this 30th version of the Memory Cruise, prizes and honorable mentions were doled out and ultimately the raffle managed to bring in nearly \$1,000 from donated items, according to the event's Facebook page.



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

While it wouldn't hold a candle to the modern engine, the Ford Model T is still the first mass production car, coming off the line as early as 1908.



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

A modified 1931 Ford Sports Coupe, given the pipe-organ exhaust and dragster wheels, on approach to being a century old and likely could carry on for another.



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

The custom 1929 Ford Model A, owned by Joan Sherman, a car maintained by her husband, Jim, who died in 2018, was on display at the 30th Baker City Memory Cruise on Aug. 20, 2022.

Investigators probing cause of Pendleton flour mill fire

BY DAKOTA CASTETS-DIDIER

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Investigators continue working to determine what sparked the fire more than a week ago that tore through the Grain Craft flour mill in Pendleton as well as plans for the future of the burned building.

Assistant Chief Anthony Pierotti with the Pendleton Fire Department said a structural engineer came Wednesday, Aug. 17, a week after the fire, and Grain Craft "is going to find a demolition company."

Pierotti also said an investigation is ongoing as to the cause of the fire. The fire department continues to keep a firetruck on-site to "knock down" the smoke and combat any potential flare-ups.

"All is status quo," he said.

Although the situation has remained unchanged, roads surrounding the mill have steadily reopened, and Grain Craft dispatched members of its leadership team to walk the site last week.

James Reeder, owner of the Outlying Perspective, a drone operator from Athena, flew a specialized drone on Aug. 17 on behalf of Grain Craft into and over the mill to create a 3D model of the building to help determine its structural integrity and to find any remaining hot spots.

A timeline for demolition has yet to be established, but there are discussions of opening an on-site asbestos testing facility, according to Pendleton Building Official Ty Woolsey.

Fires

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Like Meyer, McCraw credited the rain that accompanied the storms with quelling the flames long enough for crews to arrive.

The potential challenge, McCraw said, is with "holdover" fires — ones sparked by lightning that can smolder for several days before growing. When holdover fires are invigorated, sometimes by wind, there typically isn't any rain to slow their spread, McCraw said.

Fire officials were taking airplane reconnaissance flights over the region on Monday morning and afternoon to look for fires that have yet to be reported, he said.

Two helicopters are on standby at the La Grande/Union County Airport to help ground crews deal with any new fires, McCraw said. "We're feeling pretty good

Slightly cooler weather forecast

August is on pace to be the hottest on record at the Baker City Airport, but a slight cooling trend this week could end the bid for a new record.

Through Aug. 21, the average high temperature for the month at the airport was 92.1 degrees. The hottest August on record at the airport, where statistics date to 1943, was 2017, when the average high was 91.7.

The current average is likely to drop a bit, however, as the National Weather Service is forecasting daily highs between 87 and 91 for the rest of this week.

The recent heat wave has tied or set a couple of daily records.

The high temperature of 99 degrees on Aug. 17 tied a record for the date, set in 2020.

The low temperature of 62 degrees on Aug. 19 was the warmest low temperature on record for the date. The previous record was 58, set in 1991 and tied in 2020.

The high has topped 90 on 16 of the first 21 days in August, including a string of seven straight from Aug. 15-21.

— Jayson Jacoby

with our (firefighting) resources," he said.

Firefighters remained busy on Monday, Aug. 22, as another round of thunderstorms swept through.

There were several other fire reports during the morning, according to the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center in La Grande. Details weren't available for

most reports by press time Monday, although one lightning fire, in the Taylor Spring area about 15 miles south of La Grande, was 0.1 of an acre.

Friday fire near Halfway

The biggest blaze during the weekend was reported around 2:30 p.m. on Friday along the Sag Road about 4 miles south of Halfway.

The fire, which started on private land and spread onto BLM ground, burned in grass and sagebrush near the road that runs south from Highway 86 to Brownlee Reservoir.

Crews from the Bureau of Land Management's Vale District, along with volunteers from the Keating and Greater Pine Valley districts and employees from Idaho Power Company, contained the fire about 7:20 p.m. on Friday. Four single-engine air tankers also dropped retardant to block the fire's spread.

The fire turned active again Saturday, however, and air tankers and two helicopters helped ground crews suppress the blaze.

The fire, which didn't threaten any structures, burned about 250 acres.

The fire was human-caused, and it remains under investigation, said Larisa Bogardus, public information officer for the Vale District.

Crews mopped up and monitored the fire through the weekend to ensure the control lines held.

The focus on Saturday shifted to the numerous fires sparked by lightning that spread across the region during the afternoon and evening.

Many of the lightning strikes were west of Baker City, in the Elkhorn Mountains and the North Fork John

Day River area farther west.

The list of fires, all of which were contained either Saturday, Aug. 20, or Sunday, Aug. 21:

- Packsaddle trailhead area, 23 miles southeast of Ukiah, 0.1 of an acre, Saturday, 3:19 p.m.
- Yankey Sawmill area, North Powder River, 11 miles southwest of North Powder, 0.1 of an acre, Saturday, 4 p.m.
- Mount Ireland area, 9 miles northwest of Sumpter, 0.25 of an acre, Saturday, 4:13 p.m.
- Sponge Creek Camp, 23 miles southeast of Ukiah, 0.1 of an acre, Saturday, 4:46 p.m.
- Boulder Creek, 10 miles northwest of Sumpter, 0.1 of an acre, Sunday, 9:21 a.m.
- Bucks Crossing trailhead, 14 miles northeast of Halfway, 0.1 of an acre, Sunday, 3:06 p.m.

Deputy

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He is a point of contact for unrepresented individuals in the community including unsheltered homeless, veterans who aren't receiving benefits, and others.

Maldonado said he recently helped investigate an assault against an older man who is homeless. Maldonado said he interviewed the man and offered services trying to connect him with community partners.

He also helped return a homeless veteran to his community in Washington.

"Just yesterday I heard that there was a homeless person living out of a tent in the Sumpter area," Maldonado told commissioners. "So I went and tried to find them to offer services and see what we could do to help, see what services they are getting, see if they are missing out on anything."

Maldonado has partnered with Community Connection and coordinated a week-long crisis intervention team training with a variety of speakers. Another training is planned for this fall.

Maldonado also works as a liaison with each city council in the county.

"Each community is unique, so it's not just a cookie cutter situation," he said. "I have to get to know each mayor and each recorder and all these people and figure out what they need and make sure they know what we have to offer."

He represents the sheriff's office on different committees including the Baker County Housing Task Force, the Baker County Suicide Prevention Committee, and others.

"All those things expose me to different things that we might be able to provide ser-

vices for, make connections with community partners," Maldonado said.

His other duties include investigating complaints about violations of the county's nuisance ordinance.

There are nine open cases, he told commissioners.

Maldonado said much of his time regarding the nuisance ordinance is explaining to residents what it entails and how the enforcement process works.

"This part of my task and my assignment all starts with keeping an open line of communication with both the person complaining, making the complaint, and the person that they're complaining against," he said.

Commissioner Chairman Bill Harvey asked Maldonado how he deals with issues about potentially dangerous dogs.

Maldonado said the sheriff's office doesn't enforce ordinances that cities, such as Baker City, have in place.

"If you have a city that has its own ordinances, they are in charge of dealing with that," Maldonado said.

He said he frequently receives questions about dogs, and when he does he helps callers navigate the various city ordinances.

Maldonado has been in communication with Rick Gloria, Baker County's veteran service officer, the VFW, and people at the armory to help veterans.

"What we can do for the locals that are unbenefited is make sure that everybody's tied into Rick Gloria so he can get them as many benefits as possible," Maldonado said.

Commissioner Bruce Nichols said he had heard great things about the county's community service deputy program so far.



Larry Willis Rood

September 13, 1946 - August 13, 2022

Larry W. Rood, age 75, of Haines, Oregon, passed in a memory care home on August 13, 2022, in Meridian, Idaho.

Larry was born on September 13, 1946, in Emmett, Idaho, to Walter and Phyllis Rood. He married Kathryn (Kay) Spence on December 14, 1965, after they graduated high school. Together they had three children, Wes, Nancy, and Randy.

Larry is a Vietnam veteran. He served as a Navy corpsman at the Da Nang Naval Hospital from August 1967 to August 1968. He received the following honors: Meritorious Service Citation as Senior Ward Corpsman under arduous living and working conditions in an advanced combat area while keeping the highest traditions of the hospital corpsman and the United States Navy. Award of Commendation in recognition of his meritorious support of combat operations in Southeast Asia July 11, 1968.

If you asked Larry what he enjoyed most about his working career, he would tell you "logging." Larry was strategic when it came to who he worked for and where.

He was passionate about his family and thoroughly enjoyed logging. His pastime activities included hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and many other outdoor recreational activities. If you told him the trail was unsafe, he would disagree with you and prove you wrong.

He was the Scout leader for the Haines Boy Scouts Troop #422 for many years. Larry willingly helped any boy who wanted to make it to Eagle Scout and become successful. He was also a Little League baseball coach.

Larry survived by his wife of 57 years, Kay, son, Wes (Joy) Rood of Meridian, ID, daughter, Nancy (Jarrod) Bunker of Greenleaf, ID, and son, Randy (Cristina) Rood of Boise, ID. Eleven grandchildren, Rex Rood, Trinity Kirkwood, Leamae Bunker, Zach Rood, Sam Rood, Josh Rood, Charlotte Rood, Kayden Rood, Audrey Bunker, Kylie Truax, and Michael Truax; sister, Bonnie (Dewey) Maxwell of Lincoln City, Oregon, and nieces, Tammy (Erin) Spellman of Hermiston, Oregon and Deanna Chandler of Weiser, Idaho.

A memorial service will be held at Larry and Kay's home on Saturday, September 24, at 1 p.m. PDT. The address is 740 2nd St. Haines, OR 97833. The United States Navy will conduct the military ceremony.

For those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Larry, the family suggests making the donation to the VFW, Baker City, Oregon.



Billy Lee, Sr.

October 9, 1931 - August 8, 2022

Billy James Lee, Sr., 90 years young, of Baker City, Oregon, passed away on August 8, 2022, at his residence with his loving family by his side.

Bill was born on October 9, 1931, in Exeter, Missouri. A memorial service was held on August 13, 2022, at the Nazarene Church, including family and friends.

The service included military honors with members of the Coast Guard playing "Taps" and a flag presentation. Musicians Ellie Winkler (great-granddaughter) and Pastor Lennie Spooner played his favorite songs, including: "Wildwood Flower" and "Amazing Grace." As Bill Sr. was honored, it was said that he "loved and lived!" He enjoyed and lived his life to the fullest, every day, for as long as he was able. Neither age, a cane, nor a wheelchair slowed him down.

Honorary pallbearers included: Taylor Lee, Jack Schroeder, Otis Schroeder, and Bill Lee, Jr.

Bill was a member of the Coast Guard. During his time in the Coast Guard, he worked on various construction crews, which taught him skills he would later use. After the military, Bill spent time as a laborer in the construction trade. While Bill was very skilled at construction, music was his life's passion.

Over the years, Bill Sr. played in many bands, as well as with the Elks. Bill was a talented and gifted musician. He also taught guitar lessons for several years. Bill loved music and sharing his music with other people. There were many Sundays when he played his guitar in church. He loved his guitar, pickup trucks, boats, ATVs, and motorcycles. He was an avid outdoorsman.

Bill Sr. was a musician, a music teacher, a friend, a veteran, a grandfather, a husband, and a father. But most importantly, Bill was a man of God. Bill was a member of the Christian Church for many years; for the last few years, he attended the Nazarene Church.

Bill J. Lee, Sr., was preceded in death by his wife, JoAnn Lee, his mother, Gladys Lee, his father, James Lee, and his son, Stephen Duane Lee.

Survivors include his wife of four and a half years, Wynona Lee, LaYelle Palmer (the mother of his children), daughter, Sue Schroder, son-in-law, Forrest Schroder, son, Bill James Lee, Jr., daughter-in-law, Shandra Lee, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Special friends include Mary Brooks and Melissa Robertson.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Northeast Oregon Compassion Center through Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel at 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, Oregon 97814.

