



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

A bighorn sheep was spotted wandering in Baker City on Tuesday, Nov. 15, garnering the attention of many locals.

## Sheep

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Brian Ratliff, district wildlife biologist at ODFW's Baker City office, said he took an airplane flight over town Wednesday morning to try to get a signal from the radio tracking collar the ram was wearing. Ratliff said he quickly picked up the signal, and about the same time an Oregon State Police officer called to say the ram was at 15th and Broadway.

Ratliff, who has worked in Baker City for about 16 years, said the ram is the first to wander into a city neighborhood that he knows of.

"We've had multiple bighorn sheep there on the hill just behind the golf course," Ratliff said.

He said the ram was most likely "looking for love," when it wandered into town, possibly lured by a domesticated animal. He said this is the peak of the bighorn breeding season.

The ram was quarantined at the ODFW station on Hughes Lane in Baker City while biologists waited for results of disease tests.

Ratliff said the results, which were all negative, arrived late Thursday afternoon, Nov. 17, and on Friday morning he was hooking up the trailer to haul the ram back to the Burnt River Canyon for release.

Ratliff said he was especially concerned about the ram being infected with *Mycoplasma ovis* pneumoniae bacteria, which has infected sheep in both of Baker County's bighorn herds over the past three years and caused fatal pneumonia in dozens of the animals.

Ratliff said the ram, which ODFW first trapped and collared on Dec. 2, 2021, has been exposed to the bacteria based on test results. But the nasal swab that biologists took on Wednesday was negative, and the sheep showed no signs of illness.

Ratliff believes the bacteria first infected sheep in the Lookout Mountain unit in eastern Baker County, north of Interstate 84 and south of

Highway 86.

Sick and dead sheep were found in that area starting in February 2020. The Lookout Mountain sheep are Rocky Mountain bighorns.

Around October 2020, sheep in the Burnt River Canyon herd — those are California bighorns, a somewhat smaller subspecies — also began dying. Ratliff believes sheep from the Burnt River Canyon herd, which is just south of Interstate 84, crossed the freeway and mingled with infected Lookout Mountain bighorns.

ODFW has not determined the source of the bacteria that initially infected Lookout Mountain sheep.

Ratliff estimated that all of the lambs born in the Lookout Mountain unit in the spring

of 2020 — 65 to 70 animals — died due to the bacteria, along with about 75 adult bighorns. The herd, which has been Oregon's biggest herd of Rocky Mountain bighorns, included about 400 sheep as recently as 2018.

Few, if any, lambs survived in 2021, but Ratliff said one group of sheep seems to have fared better in 2022.

The Burnt River Canyon herd is much smaller, with about 75 to 85 sheep, and biologists counted 14 lambs in the area this spring. That compares with a pre-infection average of 25 to 30 lambs per year.

Ratliff said he replaced the ram's radio collar with a GPS version that makes it easier for biologists to track its movements remotely. The radio collar signals have a limited range.

### Paul W. Schon

October 19, 1953 - November 4, 2022

Paul W. Schon, 69, of Baker City, died on Friday, Nov. 4, 2022 at his home.

Paul was born on Oct. 19, 1953 in Baker City to Pat and Paul Schon. Paul grew up in Halfway and graduated from Pine Eagle High School in 1972. He logged for many years for Phegley Logging out of Baker. He then spent many years selling cars to his friends and family.

Paul retired in 2019 where he was then able to spend all of his time doing what he loved, being an outdoorsman. You could never find him at home as he was either on a drive or in his side-by-side riding through the mountains with his friends or family. His adventures took him to Canada where he loved to hunt whitetail, caribou and moose. A place he wanted to go and never made it was Alaska.

He was preceded in death by both parents (Pat and Paul Schon), all three siblings, Patty, Davi, and Tom, and one nephew Brandon.

Paul is survived by nephews Mike Barber (Sheana) of La Grande, Robert Schon (Joanna) of Ontario, Robert Breshears (Amie) of Summerville and Dion Bergman (Kristina) of Elgin, and nieces Crissy Gipe (Bill) of Council, Idaho, Candi Bond of Payette, Idaho, great-nieces Brittany, Shaelee, Alyssa, Shannon, Samm, Hailey, Ireland and Addy and great-nephews Josh, Brayden, Reese, Austin, Zachary, Caleb, Cooper, Rory and life-long friend Lisa Breshears.

He impacted everyone he spoke to and everyone has a great story to tell. He was loved by many and will be missed by lots. There will be no services, as per Paul's request throughout his life.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).



### Gary Lee Young

September 19, 1940 - October 25, 2022

Gary Lee Young, 82, of Baker City, died peacefully in his home with his wife, Pat, by his side on Oct. 25, 2022.

Gary was born in Macy, Nebraska, (on the Omaha reservation) on Sept. 19, 1940, to Ruby and Roy Young. His family moved to McGill, Nevada, a year later in 1941, and then to Baker, Oregon, in April 1945.

At the age of 13, he proudly joined the National Guard, and then graduated from Baker High School in 1958. He then went on to serve his country (for 3 years, 2 months, and 24 days as he often would note) as an E4 specialist in the United States Army. When he returned home, he attended Eastern Oregon University (EOC at the time), and then Portland State University where he graduated in 1971.

Gary married Patricia Barsotti in 1972 and together they had three children and eight grandchildren. He worked as a bank manager, loan officer, and eventually in bank administration for over 30 years at Pioneer Federal Savings & Loan (and then Pioneer Bank). In the last 10 years of his career, he worked as an appraiser for Baker County and happily retired in 2007.

Gary enjoyed participating in all activities that involved him spending time with his family and friends. He was an avid reader, he loved camping and playing cards with his family. Many a cribbage game was played during the family's camping trips. Gary's children grew up with a love of camping and the woods due to his love of exploring his beloved Baker County. A general love of games was also instilled in his kids and carried through to his grandchildren as well.

Gary also loved his canine companions and had many over the years. Each of the

family dogs became a part of his family, but none more so than his beloved Louie.

He was known by all his friends and family for his mischievous but fun nature.

He liked to tell jokes, and was a bit of a prankster; he was lovingly known as "grumpy grandpa" but we all knew that his grouchiness was just his hard outer shell and underneath he was an extremely loving and supportive husband, father and grandpa.

Gary was also a proud member of the VFW Post #3048, where he was very involved and helped run the post as well as the community Veteran's Memorial Club. Earlier he had also been very involved in the Elks and Lions Club during his career.

Gary was predeceased by his parents Roy and Ruby Young, his uncle Jack Sinclair, who died in WWII, and his beloved dog, Louie.

Gary is survived by his wife, Pat Young, and his proudest accomplishments - his children, Anne (Barry) Nemecek of Baker City, Craig (Leslie) Young of Eugene, and Chris (Amy) Young of Baker City; his grandchildren, Isaac, Isabella and Lincoln Nemecek, Jackson, Lauren and Benjamin Young, and Otis and Zea Young; his sister, Donna Nelson of Hines, Oregon; and his aunt, Margie Toney of Haines, Oregon.

A celebration of Gary's life will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Club on Nov. 26, 2022, from 3-7 p.m. Memorial donations may be made in Gary's name to the VFW Post #3408 to help support Baker County youth activities.

To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com).

## Sheriff

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Measure 114, which was rejected by voters in 29 of Oregon's 36 counties, including Baker, but had sizeable majorities in the state's most populous county, Multnomah, has multiple parts.

It requires people, before buying a gun, to obtain a permit, complete an approved firearm safety course at their own expense and pay a fee, expected to be \$65. The law also prohibits the sale of magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds (people who already own such magazines can continue to use them).

The law also requires that gun buyers have a criminal background check finished before they can buy a firearm.

"As the measure currently stands, after January 15, 2023 a permit will be required by law to purchase a firearm in Oregon," Ash wrote. "Unfortunately, this requires the state to create infrastructure that does not yet exist and coordination among numerous government entities with different administrative structures. In spite of these obstacles, the Baker County Sheriff's Office is working in collaboration with fellow law enforcement agencies to include the Baker City Police Department to ensure people have the ability to obtain a permit to pur-

### Baker County voters opposed Measure 114

Voters in most of Oregon's counties — 29 of 36 — opposed Measure 114, and Baker County had one of the higher rates of opposition.

In Baker County, which has almost 13,000 registered voters, 81.3% voted no on the measure.

That's the fifth-highest rate among the 29 counties.

Sherman County, in North Central Oregon, had the highest rate, with 88.7% opposed. Sherman County has 1,454 reg-

istered voters.

Lake County, which has 5,627 registered voters, rejected Measure 114 at a rate of 87.4%.

Harney County, with 5,606 voters, had 84.9% in opposition.

Grant County's opposition rate was 84.2%. The county has 5,629 registered voters.

Multnomah County, with 568,280 registered voters, supported Measure 114 at a rate of 74.1%.

chase firearms."

In reaction to the measure's restriction on the sales of magazines, Ash wrote: "The Baker County Sheriff's Office will not focus investigations on magazine capacity issues."

"There are many unknowns with the measure and we will provide updates as they develop," Ash concluded his statement.

Other sheriffs

Linn County Sheriff Michelle Duncan was the first to respond to the measure's passage, announcing that her agency "is NOT going to be enforcing magazine capacity limits."

Duncan called the measure poorly written and said she hopes its passage will result in an immediate lawsuit.

Union County Sheriff Cody

Bowen wrote on the agency's Facebook page that Measure 114 "is an infringement on our constitutional rights and will not be enforced by my office!"

"This measure will only harm law abiding gun owners and result in wasted time with additional redundant background checks," Bowen wrote. "With no funding from the state to provide additional payroll costs this will ultimately sacrifice patrol and deputy presence in our community. Another attempt at defunding our police at its finest. To the people who chime in with me picking and choosing which laws I want to enforce or not enforce! Hear this! When it comes to our constitutional rights I'll fight to the death to defend them. No matter what crazy law comes out of Salem!"

### Kenneth R. "Ken" Bond

March 6, 1935 - November 10, 2022

Kenneth Bond, 87, a longtime resident of the Forest Grove community, died Thursday morning, November 10, 2022, at his home.

An open house in honor of Ken's life will be held on Saturday, December 3 from 1-3 p.m. at the Forest Grove United Methodist Church, 1726 Cedar Street in Forest Grove.

Kenneth Ray Bond was born March 6, 1935, in Baker, Oregon, the son of the late John Herbert Bond and Vera Leone (Speelman) Bond. He was raised and received his education in the Baker community, a graduate of Baker High School, Class of 1953. He is in the BHS Hall of Fame for baseball as well as Student Council leader. Ken attended the University of Oregon, receiving a B.S. and M.S. degree in education. In 1960 he received the second School Psychologist Certificate awarded in the state from the UO. He was on the UO Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Athletic Honor Roll from 1953-1957.

He was united in marriage to Nancy Kelly on September 11, 1955, in the Baker United Methodist Church. They celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary this past September. Following their marriage, they resided in Eugene and San Antonio, Texas, after which they moved to the Forest Grove community in the summer of 1959. They have resided in Forest Grove since that time.

Ken served in the U.S. Army in 1958-59 in the Medical Corps. He continued serving in the Reserves for eight years, receiving his honorable discharge with the rank of Captain.

He played semi-pro baseball in the Tri-State League from 1951-57; played baseball for the UO from 1953-57; coached Little League and Jr. Babe Ruth in Forest Grove from 1961-79. He managed and coached the Forest Grove Grimmitt Senior Babe Ruth team from 1979-1993 and was the director of the local Jr. and Sr. Babe Ruth program during that time. He was manager/coach of the Grimmitt team that won the Sr. Babe Ruth World Series in 1989. The 1989 team was awarded the George Pasero Team Award. The Forest Grove City baseball field was renamed Bond Field in 1995. In 1986 and 1991 the Grimmitt teams also participated in the World Series.

Ken served as the Forest Grove High School Viking baseball coach from 1979-94. He also did his own groundskeeping and renovated the old high school baseball field. He later designed and built, with the help of players and parents, the baseball field at the current Forest Grove High School. He was Metro Coach of the Year in 1990.

Ken served in several professional groups including the State Committee in the field of Mental Health for State of Oregon Mental Health Division in the 1960s; Oregon Guidance Association, Oregon Coaches Association, National Federation of Coaches, Rotary Paul Harris Fellow 1985, Member of Order of the O and a UO donor. He served on the City Recreation Commission and was part of the renovation of the City Field.

Ken came to the Forest Grove schools in 1959 where he established the first counseling and guidance program for the district, serving as Director of Counseling/School Psychologist. He also taught



psychology classes at the high school and counseling courses at Pacific University summer sessions. He volunteered twice weekly in teaching parenting classes in the Forest Grove district from 1978-1990. He was the recipient of the National School Public Relations Award in 1987, an award for significant contributions to education through public relations practices. Later he became the High School

varsity baseball coach where he served for 15 years until his retirement in 1994. Of Ken's teams, a number of players have played at various college and professional levels. Some are now coaching their own ball clubs.

Ken always wanted to "help make a person's life better," give them confidence in their own abilities and promote positive attitudes toward forward progress. He worked at this continually in his counseling and with his baseball players. Messages have confirmed he was much revered as a coach and man are "paying it forward" in their daily lives, some as coaches.

He counseled the need for sportsmanship, discipline, respect for others and themselves and responsibility for their actions. Sports were important but positive life lessons were more so. He always expected a "winning with honor" attitude from his teams. Many former players remain in contact.

Ken was an active member of the Forest Grove United Methodist Church where he served as lay leader and on all church commissions. He also volunteered for many years as part of the church groundskeeping crew.

He began golfing when he retired and spent 22 winters on the golf course in Palm Desert, CA, where he was awarded several trophies for his tournament play.

Ken and Nancy traveled to many of the Western European countries and, while he was always open to discovering new cultures and customs, he was happy to return home with a renewed appreciation for his own country.

He always said his life has been blessed with many good things and many kind friends. He had a deep appreciation for this. His fondest memories were always of his family. He was very devoted to each of us and enjoyed many special occasions and trips together. The welfare of the family was his top priority.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents, Vera and Herb Bond and his sister, Marilyn Diehl. Survivors include his wife, Nancy, Forest Grove; his son and daughter-in-law, David and Laurie Bond of Independence, Oregon; his daughter Patti Bond of Forest Grove, and his two sisters, Kathryn Eidson (Tom) of Houston, Texas, and Gayle Sorter (Don) of Myrtle Creek, Oregon. Also surviving are his two granddaughters, Christa Whaley (Josh), their sons, Cole, Caleb, and Casey Whaley, of Brookings, Oregon, and Alyssa Bond (Anthony) of Salem, Oregon.

The family suggests that, in his memory, remembrances may be contributions to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, SPCA and Oregon Special Olympics.

To sign the online guest book or send a condolence to the family go to [www.fuitenrosehojt.com](http://www.fuitenrosehojt.com)

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove is entrusted with the arrangements.

