

# Local

## Baker Food Co-Op employee retires after 35 years

BY MEGHAN ANDERSCH  
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“I enjoyed my years working there and enjoyed working with the public,” said Lois Dickey of her more than 35 years at the Baker Food Co-Op. Dickey worked in the supplements section, ordering and stocking vitamins, medicinal herbs, and other supplements.

Carol Morrison, Co-Op manager, said Dickey was a “fountain of information,” and always willing to stop whatever she was doing to help a customer search for an item.

Dickey, 89, said she decided it was just time to let someone else take over. Her last official day at the Co-Op was January 6th, when she oriented her replacement. Customers coming in and asking for Dickey by name attest to the fact that she will be missed. Husband and “Clyde” Christian are stepping forward to fill Dickey’s large role.

Dickey grew up on a farm in South Dakota and also taught school there for a few years. Dickey said she then “headed for the coast.”

After raising her family in the Tri-Cities area, Dickey moved with her

husband, Del, to Baker City, where he worked in the Federal Building for the General Services Administration.

Dickey said being raised on a farm, everything was all-natural. She then got interested in vitamins when they started coming out. Dickey said she thought it was only just about 1952 when vitamins “got off the ground.”

She said she has seen many changes over the years, especially in research linking certain vitamins to helping with specific conditions, including things that were originally only treated by doctors.

Before coming to the Co-Op, Dickey worked at Carter Health Foods in Baker City. She said when Betty Carter sold the store for the final time, she and Betty both went over the Co-Op (then located on 10th Street). Dickey reckons that was in about 1978 and she has “worked religiously” there ever since.

Dickey said it’s nice to have a place in town to pick up not only vitamins but also specific herbal supplements.

Although the advent of the internet has given people abundant other options for finding specific supplements, she also com-



Meghan Andersch / The Baker County Press

After more than three and a half decades of service to the Baker Food Co-Op, Lois Dickey is ready for new adventures.

mented on the convenience of being able to find and get something right away.

In addition to an extensive range of supplements, the Co-op offers a considerable amount of gluten-free and organic products, bulk foods, herbs, spices,

and teas. Organic produce is delivered fresh every Tuesday morning.

Excluding major holidays, the Co-Op is open Monday through Friday 10-6 and Saturday from 10-4.

## D.A. files for re-election

Baker County District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff has filed for re-election.

Shirtcliff is seeking his fifth term as Baker County District Attorney. “I am excited about the opportunity to continue serving the citizens of Baker County.

We have a strong law enforcement team in Baker County. I look forward to continue developing our

Major Crime Team as well as the strong work we have been doing with the Baker County Narcotics Team fighting methamphetamine in our community. Working with Saint Alphonsus Hospital as well as Eastern Oregon Medical Associates medical providers on child abuse issues and sexual assault investigations are projects I look forward to continue to develop,” he said in a press release.

Shirtcliff also looks forward to becoming the President of the Oregon District Attorneys Association during this next term.

The last Baker County District Attorney to serve in that capacity was Jess Himmelsbach in 1965.



Submitted Photo.

District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff is seeking his fifth term.

## Baker events nominated for Ovation Awards

Five Baker County events and local volunteers from the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center have been nominated for this year’s Ovation awards at Oregon Festivals and Events Conference, March 6-8 in Portland. The Ovation Awards are given by the Oregon Festival and Events Association and seek to recognize the best festivals and events in Oregon in nine categories.

Baker County’s 2016 nominees include: Shriner’s Kids Rodeo - Best Hidden Gem; Sumpter Outhouse Races - Innovation Award; Baker City Turkey Trot - Best Fundraiser; Sumpter Valley Railroad Christmas Trains - Impact Award; Miner’s Jubilee - Best Oregon Festival with a budget under \$150,000.

Baker County Tourism and Marketing Director Timothy Bishop, is optimistic about this year’s nominees.

“We’re very excited to have a great group of nominees for this year’s awards and it’s especially exciting to see such a variety of events in the running ... With so many great events happening in Baker County throughout the year it’s easy to sometimes overlook all the great work that all of these groups are doing.”

Baker County’s Tourism and Marketing Director Timothy Bishop will also be presenting at this year’s conference.

Winners for this year’s Ovation Awards will be announced Monday, March 7th at the awards Banquet during the Oregon Festivals and Events conference in Portland. For more information visit [www.regonfestivals.org](http://www.regonfestivals.org) or [www.basecampbaker.com](http://www.basecampbaker.com).

## Permit granted for Keating-area winery expansion

• WIND POWER DISCUSSED AGAIN

BY TODD ARRIOLA  
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The Baker County Planning Commission held a work session to discuss a draft Wind Power Generation Facilities chapter of the County Zoning Ordinance, and a public hearing, for Conditional Use Permit CU-15-003, an application to locate a winery in the Exclusive Farm Use zone, on Thursday, January 28, 2016, at 5 p.m., in the County Courthouse Commission Chambers.

Present from the Commission were Chair Alice Trindle, Vice Chair Lauri Hoopes, and Commissioners Jim Grove, and Randy Joseph. Commissioners Suzan Ellis Jones, and Thomas Van Diepen were absent.

Planning Department staff included Planning Director Holly Kerns, Planner Eva Ceder, Planner Kara Harris, Planner Carson Quam, and Planning Assistant Kevin Berryman.

Attendance also included Mike and Cathy Cook, Peggy Brown, Mike Miller, and Madhavi Bradford.

The work session began with introductions of Commissioners, and staff, including new Planners Harris, and Quam. Kerns then discussed the draft Chapter 750, Wind Power Generation Facilities, with the Commission.

A significant segment of the discussion centered around draft section 750.060, Application Requirements, subsection (A)(5), Socioeconomic Impact Assessment, known



Todd Arriola / The Baker County Press

Winery owners Cathy and Mike Cook (far left) met with the County Planning Commission last Thursday, and were granted a conditional use permit.

as “Goal 5.” It states, “A socioeconomic impact assessment of the facility shall be submitted, evaluating such factors as, but not limited to, the project’s effects upon the social, economic, public service, cultural, visual, tourism, and recreational aspects of affected communities and/or individuals.”

Kerns stressed the importance of finishing the Chapter, and having the critical tools in place to address issues, from a zoning ordinance standpoint, which is more about site standards, than where, exactly, it’s located.

Included in the discussion was the topic of balancing cost and benefits to the community. The Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) Balancing Test Summary (part of the staff research) states, “The EFSC (Energy Facility Siting Council) Balancing test allows EFSC to issue

or amend a site certificate for a facility that does not meet EFSC siting standards. Balancing test can be applied to all EFSC siting standards. This allows EFSC to determine that ‘the overall public benefits of the facility outweigh the damage to the resources protected by the standards the facility does meet.’”

Joseph spoke about the visual aspect—one of the major concerns—at one point, showing the rest of the Commission a map of the County on the interactive Smart Board, while indicating that, in certain areas where wind power generation would be viable, it would be difficult to see the turbines. Trindle voiced concerns about generated power, and therefore, benefits, including monetary, being routed outside the County, even with facilities located here. Joseph gave an example of local generation—his own

wind turbine—which he said employs his two sons, keeps benefits local, and offsets carbon production.

The Commission continued discussing topics such as property value, noise levels, generation facility lighting (including collision warning systems), and other considerations, and ultimately, the discussion will continue to another work session, the next one scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 5 p.m.

The minutes from the Thursday, November 19, 2015 session were approved, with a motion from Grove, and a second from Hoopes.

The public hearing, in the matter of Conditional Use Permit CU-15-003, was held at 6 p.m. Introductions were made, and Trindle read a hearing process statement.

SEE WINERY PAGE 8

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