Local & Entertainment

Newspaper lawsuit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

As McQuisten had long since let that registered business name lapse and had never used it, she simply signed a statement agreeing not to use the name, and the Perkinses' counterclaim was then dropped.

With the counterclaim finished, that left the main lawsuit with which to be dealt.

The defendants filed a motion for summary judgment hoping to have the suit dismissed in its entirety. Two of the five claims were dismissed, but three upheld to continue to jury trial first in the spring, then bumped to the early summer of 2016.

Then, due to a criminal trial and other court calendar conflicts, that civil trial was bumped again to October of 2016 after being on hold for months.

As the trial date drew nearer, Rebecca Knapp expressed her desire to resign as attorney for the defense, and petitioned the court for formal removal from the case, which was granted.

On June 4, 2016, Gina Perkins was arrested in a situation completely unrelated to the lawsuit at 912 Front Street in Haines, for Criminal Mischief 2, Disorderly Conduct 2 and Criminal Trespass. Perkins was arraigned on these charges and lodged in the Baker County Jail on $13,000 bail. She was released and transported to a facility where she received psychiatric care.

On July 10, the following post appeared on *The Record-Courier's* Facebook page: "Because of health reasons, the Record-Courier is closed and won't be printing any further editions until further notice. I apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your kindness and support."

Thus sadly ended a local icon—a more than 115-year-old newspaper.

Shortly thereafter, Lynn Perkins contacted Mannix along with Mannix's fellow attorney Connor Harrington, who also worked on the case, and stated that they as the defense no longer had an attorney, had not retained a new attorney, and were now financially destitute. He also pointed out his wife's medical issues, and confirmed that the couple had defaulted on their agreement with Brinton.

The Perkinses had filed for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy protection previously in 2010, and that protection had been lifted in 2011. Plaintiffs further considered the financial situation of the defense in that items such as the defendants' vehicles would be exempt from a court ruling if the defense was protected by any newly filed bankruptcy, which the plaintiff believed a possibility.

No liquid and few other assets to speak of were now associated with their newspaper.

In addition, Gina Perkins had also previously owned and operated multiple businesses briefly, including It's the Bag Lady and The Speckled Hen prior to working at the Economic Development Office, but was now unemployed.

Mannix advised McQuisten that she would most likely spend more money attempting to collect the amount he felt would be awarded during trial, than the defense would ever realistically pay.

The plaintiff offered up a settlement agreement to close the matter.

According to the settlement paperwork filed, in exchange for the suit to be dropped, "Defendants hereby confirm that Defendants do not hold any right, title or ownership to the name, assets, or subscriber lists, of *The Record-Courier*, a newspaper businesses located in Baker County, Oregon, and Defendants confirm that all archival records of *The Record-Courier* previously in Defendants' possession are now in the possession of the Baker County Library."

In addition, "Defendants hereby agree not to engage in, consult with, be employed by or otherwise be involved in any business or enterprise which publishes news articles whether in paper, electronic or other form of medium located within 100 miles of Baker City, Oregon, for a period of five years from the date of this Agreement."

McQuisten believes that the one positive that came from the situation is that the Baker County Public Library now has possession of the historic archives from *The Record-Courier*.

Library Director Perry Stokes says that due to the width of the bound archives, shelving at the local library isn't sufficient to display them. Any donations from the public toward helping construct such a display are welcome.

Meanwhile, *The Baker County Press* continues to operate regularly coming up on its third year of reporting Baker County news, releasing a new issue like clockwork every Friday afternoon.

Hells Canyon road delays expected

The road over Hells Canyon Dam will be closed during work hours Monday, Sept. 26 through Thursday, Sept. 29, with brief openings to allow traffic to pass. Delays could last up to four hours.

(All times are Mountain Time.)

Monday: The road will be closed from 7:30 a.m. to noon, and 1-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday: The road will be closed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. and from noon to 4:30 p.m.

Maintenance crews will be using a crane to install stoplogs on the upstream side of the dam.

The Baker County Press

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Bebe's word search

Baby

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 50 letters spell a secret message.

B O T T L E R L H J L P R O T I N O M
Y D D A D S E U O T U A U I L L A M S
H E T L C M H L O O I M U C S W I N G
T R A R T I T L D L R S P G Y E S C T
M F E E D L E A I F Y D E E H P E O T
O A S I L E E B E D L W O B R K P L M
M A R K R I T Y O E H I G H C H A I R
M P E T H R B B E B T R G U N I S C S
Y O T R G P A O G E A E D I S I T S M
T W S E T T A C M T Y R D F G P R O I
S D O P N R O R T R E T P D B G O G L
E E O A E E P L E B G A D L Y R L O K
P R B I C L E S B N C I A E N B L E N
I T A D O A R U I I T N C A R S E A T
W S W I N U R Y F R K S N O Y I R A C
T N A F N I R I A E I S E N O A T U R
R H K E I C E S T A R F O R M U L A I
S L E E P R H T E R A C N I K S S P B

ALERT
AWAKE
BLANKET
BODYSUIT
BOOSTER SEAT
BOTTLE
BOWL
CAR SEAT
CARRIER
COLIC
CREAM
CRIB
CRYING
DADDY
DIAPER
DROOL
FEED
FORMULA
GIGGLE
GRIN
HIGHCHAIR
HOODIE
INFANT
INNOCENT
JUMPER
LAUGH
LULLABY
MILK
MOBILE
MOMMY
MONITOR
NURSERY
ONESIE
PACIFIER
PARENTS
PLAY
POWDER
RASH
RATTLE
RUBBER DUCK
SIPPY CUP
SKIN CARE
SLEEP
SMALL
SMILE
SPOON
STROLLER
SWING
TEDDY BEAR
TEETHER
TIRED
WIPES

The Littles' crossword puzzle

Across

1- Deep unconscious state;
5- Type of pilot;
9- Examine account books;
14- Graceful horse;
15- Effort;
16- Monster;
17- Supercool;
19- Slippery as ___;
20- Trader;
21- Dirties;
23- Georgia neighbor;
25- Sgt., for one;
26- Poetic pugilist;
29- Caustic chemical;
30- Spontaneous generation;
33- 1985 Kate Nelligan film;
34- Annul;
35- Ultimate;
38- Pampering, briefly;
40- French 101 infinitive;
41- Lets up;
44- Emulate Romeo and Juliet;
47- Dislike of humankind;
49- Predating;
52- "The X-Files" extras;
53- O sole ___;
54- City in W central Israel;
56- Hindu social class;
58- Period of immaturity;
59- Philbin of TV;
62- Dinosaur;
64- Meanies;
65- Don't look at me!;
66- Sun. speeches;
67- Snare;
68- Growl;
69- Sinclair rival;

Down

1- Taillike;
2- Cantankerous;
3- Title for a woman;
4- White-barked poplar tree;
5- Assign;
6- ___-Aztecan languages;
7- Town near Santa Fe;
8- Stretched figure;
9- Ornamental shell;
10- Coffee servers;
11- Deserved;
12- Mineral suffix;
13- Business card no.;
18- Pertaining to the kidneys;
22- Cake finisher;
24- Isn't wrong?;
26- I'd hate to break up ___;
27- Person who is liable to tell untruths;
28- Land in water;
31- Fuel transport;
32- Piece of fencing?;
33- Bluesy James;
35- Unconvincing;
36- Somewhat;
37- Disrespectful back talk;
39- Thicken;
42- As a group;
43- Show signs of life;
45- Uncovered;
46- Support tower;
48- Sharpening;
49- Dodges;
50- Hardships;
51- Be that as it may;
55- Win by ___;
56- Competes;
57- Dramatic conflict;
59- Wood of the Rolling Stones;
60- Sense of self;
61- Miracle-___ (plant food);
63- Tony winner Hagen;