

Opinion / Local

— EDITORIAL —

Let's repeal Oregon's barbaric abortion law

Thanks to the efforts of Republican signature-gatherers and petition signers from all parties and walks of life, Oregon has a chance to appeal newly passed legislation.

The laws that came from the 2017 legislative session were horrific in large part—from a ridiculous gun grab bill cloaked beneath the illusion of suicide prevention, to a bloated Transportation Package that gave new meaning to the phrase “taxation without representation.”

But perhaps the most barbaric of

all were the changes to Oregon's abortion laws, making Oregon the number one most liberal state in terms of ending the life of a baby *in utero*.

In Oregon if a woman decides at eight and a half months—or even nine months—into her pregnancy that she maybe wanted a boy instead of a girl, she can abort that baby. And if she can't afford it, taxpayers are forced to fund it. If that woman is an illegal trespasser from another nation who lands on the doorstep of an Oregon abortion clinic, taxpayers will be forced to fund her abortion as well.

One petition effort this fall, though, was a success. Another is still in the works. Voters will hopefully see on their ballots in the next election two ways to slay this legal beast. Voters will absolutely have the ability to vote to simply defund it, thanks to petition success. The second petition, which would repeal it entirely, is ongoing ...

—The Baker County Press Editorial Board

Local Soroptimists offer scholarships!

Baker County Soroptimists are pleased to announce two \$1,000 High School Scholarships to a girl continuing her educa-

tion. She must be a current graduate of Baker County (North Powder also), or within the last five years, and must be attending and/

or accepted to a Higher Education School. (College, Trade, etc?) Call Jo Hinrichsen at 541-523-7778 for more.

— OBITUARIES —

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Brandi Lee Jones
La Grande, 1991-2017

Brandi Lee Jones of La Grande, Oregon, passed away peacefully Friday, October 20, 2017, in La Grande, with her mother and stepfather at her side.



Brandi Lee Jones

A Traditional Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Baker City. A dedication of the grave will be held at Eagle Valley Cemetery in Richland, Oregon at 11:45 a.m. Friends are invited to join the family for a reception to be held following the interment at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Baker City.

Brandi was born in Portland, Oregon, January 11, 1991, to Ricky Jones and Stephanie Jones (now Hensley). Brandi later moved to Baker with her family. She attended Baker schools. Brandi began losing her eyesight at about age 8. She refused to let that slow her down (literally), often to the dismay of family members. The blindness progressed and a few years later she was completely blind.

She still was not ready to slow down. She had

several great summer experiences at the School for the Blind in Salem. She participated in a summer hiking trip and campout, swimming, a talent show and fencing. (We were pretty sure the weapons were not “real”.) Brandi was able to go to Space Camp (for the visually impaired) and had a great time. With her mother and siblings, the Make-a-Wish Foundation sent her on a Disney Cruise.

The Church of Jesus Christ in Baker City provided teachers who loved her and helped to teach her the Gospel. The girls in church her age also gave her great support, especially when she attended Girls Camp during the summer. Brandi always wanted to do what the girls her age were doing.

Some of her teen years were in Cornelius, Oregon, where she attended special classes and lived in a group home. At age 18 she had to leave there and then came to La Grande. The family knew little of the home Brandi was going to in La Grande. It didn't take long to find out that there were angels in human form who worked there. Those that cared for her there were greatly appreciated and the family wishes the richest of blessings for them.

Brandi's last few years did slow her down. She first used a wheelchair occasionally, then had to use it all of the time. Because of the effects of her disease, she lost much

of the ability to communicate with speech, but nothing was going to stop her giggles. She always had a sense of humor and the memory of an elephant of things that had at some time made her laugh. Her physical condition continued to deteriorate but her spirit stayed strong as well as her “girlie girl” attitude, pretty hair and pretty nails.

Brandi is survived by her mother and stepfather, Stephanie and Brian Hensley of Haines, her father and stepmother, Rick and Vicki Jones of Orofino, Idaho, brother David Chesterman of La Grande, sisters Rebecca Payton (Shawn), and Jessica Kohler, both of Lewiston, Idaho, grandparents Linda and Dennis Miller of Baker City, Frank and Roseanne Riggs of Richland, and great-grandfather Fred Riggs of Richland, several nieces and nephews and aunts and uncles. She was preceded in death by her grandparents James and Delores (Dodie) Jones.

Brandi had an especially great love for her family and her Heavenly Father. Her sweet spirit will be missed.

For those who would like to make a memorial donation in memory of Brandi, may do so to help defray funeral expenses through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home PO Box 543 Halfway, Oregon 97834. On line condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

— LETTERS TO THE EDITOR —

Guns are not the issue

To the Editor:

Last year, over 52,000 people died from drug overdose. 3,000 babies were murdered yesterday, that's well over a million a year! None of those deaths involved the use of a firearm.

After the great massacre in Las Vegas, which no motive has yet to be established, we mourn the tragic loss of 57 lives (excluding the gunman) as well we should. We should also accept the fact that evil needs no motive.

But we somehow blur our focus on the elephant in the room because it feels beyond our control and too large a problem, it overwhelms us.

There are over 300 million guns in this country. Most are owned by law-abiding, taxpaying citizens who lawfully possess a firearm. So why are we focusing in on them?

I believe it's due to fear. Democrats fear gun owners because of the power they

possess of retaliation and overthrow of a tyrannical government. Our forefathers saw this reality and possessing great wisdom and having experienced a tyrannical government, they included our 2nd Amendment right to bear arms. Probably to protect our 1st Amendment right as well.

So all that being said, there is always a looming fear of a militia's shadow hovering in the background of anyone or any party becoming to powerful and dictating our freedoms, or rather limiting them.

I think we need to become more God-controlled verses gun-controlled. If we feared, respected and obeyed God's laws and learned to truly love one another, the need for 3,000 innocent lives being taken daily would end. The need for mind-altering drugs would decline and gun control wouldn't even be a topic for conversation. Think of the lives that could be saved.

In my humble opinion.

Tom Wilcoxson
Baker City

— CONTACT US —

The Baker County Press

PO Box 567
Baker City, Ore. 97814

Open Monday-Thursday for calls
9 AM - 4 PM
Open 24/7 for emails

Phone: 541.519.0572

TheBakerCountyPress.com

Kerry McQuisten, Publisher
Editor@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Wendee Morrissey, Advertising and Sales
Wendee@TheBakerCountyPress.com

David Conn, Advertising and Sales
David@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Published weekly every Friday.
Subscription rates per year are \$29.95 all areas, e-mail delivery. \$39.95 print issue, home delivery, Baker City city limits only. \$49.95 print issue, mail delivery, outside Baker City city limits only.
Payment in advance.

A division of
Black Lyon Publishing, LLC

Copyright © 2014 -2017

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

President Donald Trump

202.456.1414
202.456.2461 fax
Whitehouse.gov/contact

US Sen. Jeff Merkley

503.326.3386
503.326.2900 fax
Merkley.Senate.gov

US Sen. Ron Wyden

541.962.7691
Wyden.Senate.gov

US Rep. Greg Walden

541.624.2400
541.624.2402 fax
Walden.House.gov

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown

503.378.3111
Governor.Oregon.gov

State Rep. Cliff Bentz

503.986.1460


State Sen. Ted Ferrioli

541.490.6528

Baker County

Commissioners Bill Harvey;
Mark Bennett; Bruce Nichols

541.523.8200
541.523.8201



Legal Notice

2017 OTEC Unclaimed Capital Credits

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative (OTEC) hereby gives notice of UNCLAIMED PAYMENTS OF CAPITAL CREDITS OWED TO THE NAMED PERSONS ON RECORD. Such unclaimed capital credits have been available to OTEC Members since December 31, 2013.

Pursuant to OTEC bylaws and policy, the names of OTEC Members entitled to capital credit refunds – who have not yet claimed their refunds – can be reviewed on the OTEC website at: www.otecc.com/members/unclaimed-capital-credit.

If you are an OTEC Member and current (or former) consumer of OTEC electric power, please check the OTEC website and list of Members who have failed to claim capital credits owed.

Application for re-issuing funds owed may be made at your local OTEC office or 4005 23rd Street, PO Box 226, Baker City, Oregon 97814. Unless those persons named or their heirs claim payment no later than January 31, 2018, the unclaimed funds will be forfeited to the Cooperative or, where required, forwarded to the Department of State Lands. Historically, the Board of Directors has contributed the amount of the forfeited funds to the Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative Scholarship Fund to benefit those served by the Cooperative.

As required by law, and pursuant to OTEC Bylaws, OTEC will “publish notice of the redemption” [i.e., forfeiture] of unclaimed capital credits in the leading Baker County newspaper of general circulation, for four consecutive months, simultaneously notifying the public to go to the OTEC website (www.otecc.com/members/unclaimed-capital-credit) to see if they, or someone they know, have unclaimed capital credits. If you know someone named on the list, please have them contact their local OTEC office to update their account and apply for their unclaimed capital credits.

Legal Notice Publishing in Baker City, Oregon (Baker City Herald and Baker County Press – July, August, September and October 2017), in Burns, Oregon (Burns Times Herald – July 2017), John Day, Oregon (Blue Mountain Eagle – July 2017), La Grande, Oregon (La Grande Observer – July 2017) and Ruralite magazine – August 2017.

Letter to the Editor Policy: The Baker County Press reserves the right not to publish letters containing factual falsehoods or incoherent narrative. Letters promoting or detracting from specified for-profit businesses will not be published. Word limit is 375 words per letter. Letters are limited to one every other week per author. Letters should be submitted to Editor@TheBakerCountyPress.com.

Advertising and Opinion Page Disclaimer: Opinions submitted as Guest

Opinions or Letters to the Editor express the opinions of their authors, and have not been authored by and are not necessarily the opinions of The Baker County Press, any of our staff, management, independent contractors or affiliates. Advertisements placed by political groups, candidates, businesses, etc., are printed as a paid service, which does not constitute an endorsement of or fulfillment obligation by this newspaper for the products or services advertised.