



The Baker County Press

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City: Proposed disorderly property ordinance tabled

• STATE CODE ORDINANCE ALSO TABLED

BY GINA K. SWARTZ
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The Baker City Council met Tuesday night for their regularly scheduled meeting. All Councilors were present except for Mayor Downing. Vice Mayor Rosemary Abell oversaw the meeting. After the meeting was called to

order she lead the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation. Abell then turned to the agenda.

The first matter was the consent agenda, consisting of a liquor license for a new business that plans to open in the old American Legion building at 2129 2nd Street and the BIG DEAL Grant. Councilor Joseph moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Councilor Thomas. A unanimous vote passed the motion. Abell Called for Citizen

Participation, for any issue that was not already on the agenda. With a room full of citizens, the first to step forward was Tom Muller. Muller called for the Council to cut three police positions saving what he estimated to be over \$150,000. His basis for this request was that based on a 2010 Census population in Baker City was 9,809. He personally thought the population had gone down by around 1,000 people. Based on his own

was outrageous to have so many police officers.

Next to speak was Ryc Reinks, He asked all City Councilors if they knew the exact dollar amount in city coffers at that very moment. When none readily answered, Abell commented that Finance Director Jeanie Dexter would need to be contacted for that information.

SEE CITY COUNCIL PAGE 2



Gina K. Swartz / The Baker County Press

About 20 people from around the community came out to speak at Tuesday's Council meeting.

'Sword in the Stone' for kids



Samantha O'Conner / The Baker County Press

Kourtney Smith as Arthur and Jonathan Miles as Merlin performed at the library.

• 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL' SCHEDULED FOR AFTER THANKSGIVING

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNER
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Last Friday morning, the Baker County Public Library had the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company perform "The Sword in the Stone" by T.H White.

The play was put on by two actors—Kourtney Smith and Jonathan Miles who were cast from Portland.

Smith and Miles taught their viewers about past performers, who traveled in wagons to different areas to perform and lit their stages with lanterns.

They explained that the company was named The Traveling Lantern Theatre after the traveling performers.

"It's a symbol of honoring the actors who came before us," explained Smith.

The play was interactive, encouraging kids to participate by helping the characters find things such as a rabbit, remember magic words to help Arthur change back from a bird to a human, and cheer for Arthur at the end.

Two children were invited to participate as squires for arguing knights, helping them with their wood swords, shields, and helmets.

Following the play, Smith and Miles answered questions kids and adults attending had.

They showed the children how they made it seem impossible to pull the sword from the stone and how they made their owl puppet speak and move for the role of Merlin's owl Archimedes.

Smith and Miles had traveled to twenty-five cities this fall, beginning in the Seattle area, to the Bay Area, Southern California, and then will go to Southern Oregon.

They will be performing "The Sword in the Stone" and then will do "A Christmas Carol" after Thanksgiving.

The Company does two shows in the fall, in the spring they do two, and one during the summer. For the upcoming spring of 2018, the company will be doing "Jonny Applesseed" and "The Life of Leonardo da Vinci," and in summer will be "The Life of Mozart."

"All the shows they do pick have these strong themes in them, like things kids need to learn," explained Miles. "Sometimes there's a history lesson or a little bit of, I guess math and engineering lessons if they're doing the architect show."

"And universal morals," Smith added. "There's always something that a kid and an adult can learn about. For this show it's being compassionate, fair, courageous, the idea that 'Might for Right' where if you have power, if you are one of the people in power, it is your responsibility to take care of people who have less than you, have less power than you. So they try and pick shows that are either educational or have a morality lesson, while still allowing for comedy and slap stick humor, a lot of falling."

The Traveling Lantern Company was founded by K.B. Mercer and Doran Elias. According to their website, "Traveling Lantern has been educating and entertaining children all over the country since 1985. Our mission is to bring great stories to children, to draw them into an active theater experience, to excite their minds and to tickle their imaginations. We are deeply committed to providing high quality, low cost arts programming to schools and libraries."

Wolf shot as it attacks hunter

• CONSERVATION GROUPS DOUBT LAW ENFORCEMENT'S ASSESSMENT

BY TODD ARRIOLA
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On Thursday, November 2, 2017, the Oregon State Patrol (OSP) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) issued a press release of the investigation into the shooting of a non-breeding, female gray wolf, on Friday, October 27. Unsatisfied with OSP's investigation, and the subsequent ruling by the Union County District Attorney that the death was in self-defense based on the available evidence, Oregon Wild, along with 15 other organizations, asked Governor Kate Brown to direct OSP to reopen the investigation, on Thursday, November 9.

According to ODFW's press release, "On October 27, at about 11:30 a.m., an OSP Fish and Wildlife Trooper and an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Biologist responded to the report of an elk hunter, who had self-reported shooting a wolf in Union County. The two responded to the hunter's camp in the Starkey Wildlife Management Unit (WMU).

SEE WOLF PAGE 5

Prepping for winter



Submitted Photo.

Superior Towing is celebrating 20 years in business and gearing up for winter.

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNER

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Superior Towing will be celebrating 20 years of serving Baker County this December. Donn Christy, the owner of Superior Towing, explained that they prepare for winter the same way every year; they inspect and prepare their equipment, inventory, and inspect their tire chains.

SEE WINTER PAGE 3

Friday Mostly sunny through high clouds. Highs in the lower 40s. Friday Night: Partly cloudy and seasonable. Lows in the mid 20s.

Saturday Mostly sunny and cooler. Highs near 40. Saturday Night: Partly cloudy and seasonable. Lows in the mid 20s.

Sunday Turning mostly cloudy with scattered rain/snow showers. Highs in lower 40s. Chance of precipitation is 30%. Little to no accumulation expected. Night: Scattered rain/snow showers.

The Fire, Weather & Avalanche Center forecast:

Our forecast made possible by this generous sponsor:

Official weather provider for The Baker County Press.

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