

Letters

Debate Real Answers to Real Problems

To the Editor:

We have been poorly served by a steady stream of right-wing op-eds that have appeared in the *Baker City Herald's* Opinion page. The article by the ultra-conservative Heritage Foundation on May 23rd is an example of their ideological, upside-down views of economic reality and unfounded solutions, while we deserve to debate real answers to real problems.

As usual, the Heritage Foundation calls for severe cuts in government spending (including Medicare and Social Security) to reduce budget deficits, and contends that we have already "squeezed" as much in taxes as we can from the extremely wealthy.

To argue in this same old tired vein is to completely overlook today's reality, where the top one percent now take home about twenty percent of all national income. This includes about ONE TRILLION DOLLARS more per year than what they would receive if stagnant wages weren't yielding undeserved profits. Moreover, instead of paying an effective tax rate of over fifty percent, as they were during the prosperous 1950's and 1960's, they now pay an effective rate of less than twenty percent.

We now face widespread poverty, with two-thirds of American families unable to meet an unexpected

thousand-dollar expense, and middle-age suicide rates increasing. Conservatives ignore this -- merely telling people to work harder at their low-wage jobs -- while automation and off-shoring of good-paying jobs continue to drain vitality from the American Dream.

The Heritage Foundation argues that, "Taxes are what government takes out of the economy." They thus blatantly ignore the fact that taxes on wealth actually stimulate the economy through resultant government spending, while money left in the hands of the wealthy sits idle in hedge funds and foreign banks, and the economy sputters.

This is not a zero-sum game. Money in circulation promotes a virtuous cycle of growing prosperity for everyone.

Let's have op-eds and public debate over a much-needed re-distribution of income from those with extreme wealth to put that money back in the hands of families ready to spend it to sustain themselves and have some savings.

For further information and perspective, I highly recommend the inspirational documentary movie "Inequality for All," featuring the expert economist Prof. Robert Reich. It's available on DVD from our outstanding county library.

Sincerely,

Marshall McComb
Baker City

Merkley Applauds House Passage of Landmark Toxic Chemicals Reform Bill

Oregon's Senator Jeff Merkley released the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives passed a landmark toxic chemicals reform bill that marks the first major reform of chemical safety laws in 40 years. Merkley worked with a bipartisan coalition to help craft the U.S. Senate version of the bill that passed in December 2015, and served as a key negotiator in the House-Senate discussions that produced the bill that passed Tuesday.

"For decades, the most powerful nation in the world has been virtually powerless to protect

its own citizens from toxic chemicals in everyday products. Now, finally, we will have in place a comprehensive system to protect the health of every American. In America, parents should be able to sleep at night knowing that a watchdog is looking out for the safety of chemicals in the products that surround themselves and their children," said Merkley.

"We are incredibly close to getting this over the finish line, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to get this bill to the President's desk as soon as possible," he added.

Community Bank Announces \$1000 Photo Contest

Community Bank is announcing the return of the Traveling HAMilton Photo Contest. The contest involves submitting a photo of HAMilton, the Community Bank pink piggy bank, on an adventure. You do not need to be a customer to enter and you may pick up your own HAMilton piggy bank now from a local Community Bank branch to get started.

The contest, new last year, resulted in worldwide travel for the adventurous piggy bank. HAMilton was seen in nearby places in the Northwest; in many states such as Utah, Iowa, Hawaii, Washington DC, and New York; and in countries such as France, Mexico, Ireland, and Australia. The winning photo was from Eastern Oregon University campus, taken by

Jordann Roberts from Union, Ore.

Entry into the weekly contest begins June 1. The top 5 entries (determined by a bank committee) will face-off in a Facebook voting platform. Each week the entrant with the most votes will receive \$100, distributed as "Hamiltons" (ten dollar bills). Each winner for four weeks will automatically be entered into the Grand Prize voting period occurring from July 6, through July 12. The entry with the most votes will receive \$1000. Entrants must be 13 years old or older. To see complete details and a schedule of the entry and voting periods for this contest, please see the Official Rules online at www.community-banknet.com.

News of Record

May 23 – WARRANT ARREST (Linn County): Patrick Duren, 41, at 11:08 a.m., 3410 K St.; jailed.

May 23 – POST PRISON VIOLATION: Jestin Harding, 33, Parole Detainer; jailed.

May 20 – POST PRISON VIOLATION: Jacob Fischer, 32, Parole Detainer; jailed.

May 25 – POST PRISON VIOLATION: Blaine Stritmatter, 24, Parole Detainer; jailed.

May 24 – PROBATION VIOLATION: James Hensen, 29, Baker County Corrections Detainer; jailed.

May 25 – PROBATION VIOLATION (Baker County Circuit Court Warrant): Amy Marie Hatfield, 38, Transient, at 1:09 a.m., Eleventh and Estes Streets; cited and released.

May 26 – PROBATION VIOLATION (Baker County Parole and Probation Detainer): Jessica Faye Nordbye, 36, of 3610 Baker St., at 2:34 p.m., 1995 Third St.; jailed.

May 26 – STRANGULATION, HARASSMENT, ASSAULT IV and TWO COUNTS of PROBATION VIOLATION (Out of County Warrants): Harold Irvin Wilkerson, 42, of 1322 N. Callahan Ln., Boise, at 7:52 p.m., 1413 Third St.; jailed.

May 26 – PROBATION VIOLATION: Chancy Scott, 30, Baker County Corrections Detainer; jailed.

May 27 – PROBATION VIOLATION (Baker County Parole and Probation Detainer): Larry Dean Edison, 60, of 2027 Seventh St., at 9:53 a.m., at his residence; jailed.

May 27 – CONTEMPT OF COURT: TWO COUNTS (Baker County Warrants): Debra Renee Efird, 41, Transient, at 3:17 p.m., 1995 Third St.; jailed.

May 27 – FAILURE TO PAY FINES (Baker County Justice Court Warrant): Tyler Joseph Sorensen, 23, of 2005 Birch St., at 4:49 p.m., 1995 Third St.; cited and released.

May 27 – VIOLATION OF A RESTRAINING ORDER: Nicholas Cole Crosby, 33, of 47712 Fish Lake Road, Halfway, Ore., at 7:58 p.m., Cornucopia Corner of Halfway VFW; jailed.

May 28 – PROBATION VIOLATION (Linn County Justice Court Warrant): Angel Michelle Patterson, 37, of La Grande, at 2:59 a.m., Dewey Ave. and Fifth St.; jailed.

May 28 – UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE and CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Circuit Court Warrant): Brandon Douglas Culbertson, 28, of Baker City, at 5:13 a.m., Third and B Streets; jailed.

May 28 – THEFT III (Baker County Circuit Court Warrant), PROBATION VIOLATION (Baker County Parole and Probation Detainer), THEFT II and UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE: Adrienna Dione Morris, 18, of 1545 Sixth St., at 5:13 a.m., Third and B Streets; jailed.

May 28 – SEX ABUSE I AND SEX ABUSE III (Baker County Warrant): Alan Wayne Steele, 55, of 47887 Clear Creek Rd., Halfway, at 4:13 p.m., 310 N. Main St., Halfway; jailed.

May 28 – MENACING: Daniel Curtis Hansell, 32, of 2148 Madison St., at 8:00 p.m., at his residence; jailed.

Marriage

May 22 – Bruce Anthony Virgilio to Regina Marie Page, both of Baker City.

Property Sales

March Sales

March 1 - Robert J. Eiden sold 1190 G St. to Thomas Lance Woodward et al for \$254,000.
 March 1 - Kurtis Creger et al sold 3249 River Park Dr. to James and Kathleen Davis for \$95,000.
 March 3 - Michael J. and Cynthia S. Morgan sold 3900 Kirkway Dr. to Michael J. and Cynthia S. Morgan for \$255,000.
 March 8 - Perry L. Shelton sold 2295 Birch St. to Perry L. Shelton for \$165,000.
 March 9 - Harold T. Milner Jr. sold 2005 Virginia Ave. to Harold T. Milner Jr. for \$18,000.
 March 10 - David and Faith Plummer sold 1149 Church St. to David and Faith Plummer for \$60,000.
 March 11 - Todd D. and Amy Roseborough sold 14529 Hunt Mountain Ln. to Daniel R. Koopman for \$244,900.
 March 15 - Gordon and Nicola C. Krook sold 2175 Estes St. to Thomas T. and Donna K. Bunch for \$96,000.
 March 15 - Wells Fargo Financial Oregon sold 2219 8th St. to Salem Christian Djembe for \$32,000.
 March 15 - Kenny Davis sold 810 Wilcox St. to Jeremy Welk for \$25,000.
 March 16 - Kristy A. Watson sold 3105 E. St. to Darren M. Dolby for \$82,000.
 March 16 - Joshua P. White sold 1190 Grove St. to Evelynnn Suzanne Spivey for \$116,000.
 March 17 - Northwest Trustee Services sold 344 Spring Garden Ave. to Pingora Loan Servicing, LLC for \$61,600.
 March 18 - Kevin T. and Aundrea G. Rasmussen sold 29004 Sparta Ln. to Burleigh R. and Peggy L. Allen for \$300,000.
 March 18 - American Eagle Mortgage #1, LLC sold 2028 Colorado Ave. to Derek L. and Patricia S. Schuman for \$32,000.
 March 21 - Bradley and Larena Van Gaasbeck sold 2255 15th St. to Wells Fargo Financial Oregon for \$70,322.
 March 21 - Leslie E. and Patricia J. Pointer sold 1183 H St. to Juanell S. and Baxter S. Moore Jr. for \$115,000.
 March 22 - Nathaniel G. and Kristin N. Neff sold 2032 8th St. to Kay Clark for \$60,000.
 March 22 - David A. and Beth A. Richards sold 3698 8th Dr. to Jeff M. and Jessica Anderson for \$273,000.
 March 23 - Heather A. Rudolph sold 409 Spring Garden Ave. to David D. Davis for \$97,900.
 March 23 - Dorothy T. Wooters sold 1761 Broadway St. to Dale J. and Correen L. Bogardus for \$239,500.
 March 23 - R. D. Lazott et al sold 600 Foothill Dr. to Bowdrie Boston for \$120,000.
 March 24 - Scott D. Hutton et al sold 314 Hillcrest Pl. to Masoud Aria for \$102,500.
 March 28 - Alan J. Schmeits sold 46132 Slaughterhouse Rd. to Daniel J. Pollock for \$152,000.
 March 30 - Cheryl D. McQuisten to Daniel M. and Elizabeth C. Burton for \$0.
 March 31 - Ted E. and Kathleen Dockweiler sold 1514 Oak St. to Joelene Griffin for \$170,000.
 March 31 - Harley Spriet et al sold 1355 15th St. to Daney Z. Barfuss et al for \$125,000.

See **PROPERTY SALES** on page 5



Are you looking for a perky and loving little girl to add to your family? Well, I'm Millie and you need look no further. I was rescued by a very nice lady who had her own little dog. This kind lady cared for me for several months and now is the time for me to find my forever family. Once I know you I am very affectionate and loving. I am an energetic and I love and adore stuffed animals. I have an affinity for balls of all sizes. I am vaccinated and will soon be spayed. I am mostly housebroken and expect to perfect that task very soon. I know what "down" and "no" mean as well as "ouch" (which means "let go"). As best I can determine, my heritage is Chihuahua, Shitzu and Doxie and that's a lot for one little dog.

So here I am, little Silly Millie, just waiting to meet my new family. To find out more about me or to meet me please call: Best Friends of Baker 541 519 7387

Call Best Friends of Baker, Inc.
541-519-7387

Adopt a Friend!


