

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JULY 27

■ **Live Music by Keith Taylor:** Ragtime piano, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn Ave.; no charge; continues most Fridays.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.
■ **Baker City Farmers Market:** 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Fairgrounds, 2600 East St.

FRIDAY, AUG. 3

■ **First Friday Art Shows:** Baker City art galleries are open late to showcase the month's new artwork; opening times vary between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, Peterson's Gallery, Short Term Gallery and others.

MONDAY, AUG. 6

■ **Haines Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Haines Library.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8

■ **Baker City Farmers Market:** 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Fairgrounds, 2600 East St.
■ **Lower Powder River Irrigation District Board:** 6 p.m. at Barley Brown's, 2190 Main St.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO
from the Democrat-Herald
July 27, 1968

Baker's United States Post Office has been under orders not to extend delivery service to any new areas since July, Postmaster G. Lowell Fuller said Friday. This means that any new subdivision that is built in Baker or the immediate area around Baker and in the Baker Post Office's jurisdiction will not have mail service until the order is lifted.

25 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
July 27, 1993

HELP Inc. will move out of the Baker County Extension Building unless the county Fair Board withdraws its request for an additional \$350 per month in rent.
The county wants the senior service agency to pay \$1,600 a month to use the building at 2610 Grove St. HELP now pays \$1,250.

10 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
July 28, 2008

The Baker School Board has approved three-year contracts for Superintendent Don Ulrey and Ed Hayhurst, the district's business manager.

The contracts are effective July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2011, but will be re-opened each year for salary, benefits and "any language area agreed upon by both parties."

Under the new contracts, Ulrey will earn \$102,537 in 2008-09; Hayhurst will earn \$79,260.

ONE YEAR AGO
from the Baker City Herald
July 28, 2017

Work starts Monday on a remodeling project at St. Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City.

The construction is confined to the north wing, which currently houses rehabilitation and Drs. Eric Sandefur, Christopher Liby and Leslie Jackson.

When finished, the area will feature exam rooms and office space for all of St. Alphonsus-Baker City providers, including those previously located at Baker Clinic and Valley Medical.

"The vision all along was to bring them together," said Rob Gaslin, director of finance and clinics.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, July 25
4 — 20 — 22 — 31 — 34 — 43
Next jackpot: \$4.4 million
POWERBALL, July 25
2 — 18 — 41 — 44 — 64 PB 26
Next jackpot: \$168 million
WIN FOR LIFE, July 25
35 — 50 — 59 — 74

PICK 4, July 26
• 1 p.m.: 0 — 2 — 6 — 0
• 4 p.m.: 7 — 3 — 9 — 2
• 7 p.m.: 2 — 3 — 4 — 9
• 10 p.m.: 2 — 3 — 9 — 6

LUCKY LINES, July 26
16-12-14-19-23-25-30
Next jackpot: \$25,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Chicken ala king over biscuit, green beans, fruit cup, cheesecake
- **TUESDAY:** Salisbury steak, potatoes and gray, broccoli-blend vegetables, beet-and-onion salad, roll, apple crisp

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$4.50 donation (60 and older), \$6.75 for those under 60.

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COWBOY

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Larkins remembered occasions when he recognized customers and he jumped out from behind a display to scare them.

In his off time he said he plans to take his wife of 53 years, Leisa, fishing and camping.

"Hunting season's coming up," he said. "My wife's been asking to go fishing."

He also hopes to continue one of his passions of spreading his faith after growing up a Jehovah's Witness.

He also said it's been a dream of his, since his school days, to write a novel.

Larkins also took his entertainment talents to TV when he created commercials for his business that were often in black and white and featured clips of Roy Rogers and Gene Autry. He also made radio commercials for the carpet store.

He reflected on the ways Baker has changed since he first moved here in 1966 from Richland. The increase in traffic from Richland, population 175, and Baker City, with almost 10,000 residents, was significant, he said.

Larkins also noted higher traffic volumes on Broadway Street in front of his store.

"I'm happy I could be a part of Baker City's growth and supply them with services," he said.

Larkins noted, however, that the construction of Interstate 84, which supplanted Highway 30 as the main route through the county, led to major changes in businesses. Broadway between 10th and Main streets is part of Highway 30.

He spoke of the car dealerships that used to line Broadway and other locally owned



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Cowboy Jimmy Larkins says goodbye, but he still has a few flooring jobs to fulfill before hanging up his hat at the Carpet Express.

"You can have a business but it takes a community to make it for you."

— Cowboy Jimmy Larkins

businesses he's watched open and close their doors from the windows of his shop, including some competitors.

"I've seen a lot of carpet stores come and go," he said.

It was the way he treated his customers that he believes kept him in business despite the economic challenges.

"We look at them as a friend, not a customer," he said. "It was just another friend coming through that door."

He said when he moved to Baker City he was overwhelmed by the size of the city after living not only in Richland but first in the even

smaller town of Robinette, which was flooded after Brownlee Dam was built in 1958.

"I grew up in small communities," he said. "Baker scared me."

Larkins has been "Cowboy Jimmy" ever since his mother started calling him "her little cowboy" when he was a boy.

"I think she wanted to put it on my birth certificate," he said. "Everywhere I go I hear people yell 'Cowboy Jimmy.'"

Although his choice of career may not have been so obvious growing up, Larkins said he's been a business owner since, at age 8, he opened a shoe shine box to ca-

ter to the workers constructing Brownlee Dam. He made about \$5 to \$7 a day, good money at the time.

Larkins said his wife suggested he think about retiring.

Carpet One Floor & Home of La Grande made Larkins an offer to close his doors, making Leisa's dream of retirement come true.

The pair met in school growing up and eventually she asked him on a double date with friends.

"She's the only one I've ever courted," he said.

The couple have two sons, Jimmy Jr., 52, and Chris, 49.

Another member of Larkins' family, his dog Bandit, spent his days in the store keeping Larkins company for almost eight years.

"He's been in here since he was 7 weeks old," he said. "He went everywhere with me."

Larkins remembered times when Bandit would growl from his place by his owner's desk when someone came into the store with bad intentions. Larkins said Bandit warned him once about a man who he believes planned to try to rob the store.

Larkins had to put Bandit down in March, at the age of 8 years and 4 months.

Larkins has two goats and a horse at home that he will look after now.

Although Carpet One threw him a retirement party June 30, Larkins said he still has orders through the end of July and August he has to see to before turning over his keys.

"You can have a business but it takes a community to make it for you," he said.

He credits his parents, wife, friends, family and his creator for "the wonderful life I have."

CYCLES

Continued from Page 1A

Ott, who has lived in Portland since 1996, belongs to the Victory Motorcycle Club, a name that refers not to members' racing wins but rather to the brand of two-wheeler they share an affinity for.

Victory Motorcycles was a subsidiary of Polaris Industries, a Minnesota company best known for its snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles. The firm built motorcycles from 1998 until 2017.

Ott said Polaris ceased

production of Victory motorcycles after the parent company also acquired the rights to make Indian motorcycles and decided to focus on that brand, which dates to 1901.

To people who aren't steeped in motorcycle lore, Victory models most closely resemble the products of another American company — Harley-Davidson.

Victory motorcycles feature two-cylinder "V-Twin" engines and come in various cruiser configurations, said Ott, who has been riding Victorys since 2010.

His current ride is a 2012

Cross Country.

Ott is a member of the Shanghai Victory Riders chapter, which is the host for this year's Northwest Region gathering.

He expects about 70 Victory motorcycles, and about 120 people, to congregate at The Sunridge Inn this weekend.

They will have group rides on Friday and Saturday.

The best opportunity for spectators to see the motorcycles and potentially chat

with owners will be Saturday starting around 5 p.m., when the club is scheduled to have a "motorcycle rodeo" in one of the parking lots at The Sunridge, Ott said.

There will also be a live auction, with some of the proceeds going to a La Grande charity that benefits firefighters and first responders.

LifeFlight will also have a booth selling memberships as well as raffling a one-year membership, Ott said.

Mountain bike fest Aug. 4

Anthony Lake Mountain Resort's 5th-annual Mountain Bike Festival is set for Saturday, Aug. 4.

Guided rides for all levels will begin at 11 a.m. Other events include a kids park, scenic chair rides, live music by the Powder Rhythm Band from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., a barbecue, beverages and more.

The day also brings the grand opening of the Broadway Flow Trail, 2.5 miles of flowing mountain bike trail down the existing Broadway ski run. It is open and available to all levels of riders.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Douglas Lee Smurthwaite:

87, of Baker City, died July 25, 2018, at his home. A visitation will be Saturday, Aug. 4 at 1 p.m. in the Relief Society Room at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2625 Hughes Lane. His funeral will be Aug. 4 at 2 p.m. at the church. Follow-

ing the funeral, a procession will lead family and friends to Mount Hope Cemetery for Air Force honors and the vault interment. A reception will take place afterward in the multi-purpose room at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or the charity of one's choice through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in honor of Doug, go to www.colestributecenter.com

FUNERAL PENDING

Myldred R. Perrine: Saturday, Aug. 11 at 10 a.m. at the McEwen Bible Fellowship, 15403 Highway 7. Interment will follow the service at the Sumpter Cemetery, where Myldred will be laid to rest next to her husband, Clyde. Memorial contributions may be sent to McEwen Bible Fellowship through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle for Myldred or to leave a condolence for her family, go to www.grayswestco.com

POLICE LOG

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations
PROBATION VIOLATION:
Lacey Dawn Kolb, 37, Huntington, 9:27 p.m. Wednesday in Huntington; jailed.

