

Woman accused of trying to hit walker

A Huntington woman is accused of trying to hit a pedestrian with her car Tuesday morning in Huntington.

Susan Audrey Graves, 44, is charged with attempted assault, reckless driving, recklessly endangering and interfering with a police officer in the incident.

She is in the Baker County Jail.

Bystanders watched the incident as it happened about 9:20 a.m. near the intersection of East Second and East Madison streets in Huntington, according to a press release from the Baker County Sheriff's Office.

Witnesses told a sheriff's deputy that the driver of a red car had tried to hit Lacey Kolb, 37, as she walked south on East Second Street. Kolb avoided the car by taking covering behind several abandoned camp trailers and cars, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Deputies found Graves in a nearby parking lot and arrested her there. She was driving a 2005 Pontiac Grand Am, according to police.

Graves was arrested Aug. 11 on charges of attempting to elude, reckless driving and second-degree criminal mischief, and on July 16 for reckless driving, attempting to elude and criminal mischief.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

The top three vote-getters in the Nov. 6 election will serve four-year terms. The fourth-place finisher will be elected to a two-year term.

There will be at least three new councilors elected.

Among other incumbents whose terms end Dec. 31, neither Rosemary Abell nor Adam Nilsson registered as a candidate.

Councilor James C. Thomas, whose term also ends Dec. 31, resigned last week following his guilty plea to driving under the influence of intoxicants.

During their regular meeting Tuesday evening, councilors discussed the vacancy that Thomas' resignation created.

They decided not to fill the position, which means voters will decide Nov. 6 who replaces Thomas.

Nilsson made a motion to appoint someone to replace Thomas, but no one seconded that motion.

A second motion, to leave Thomas' position vacant, passed 4-1, with Nilsson voting no.

Councilor Loran Joseph was absent Tuesday.

During the discussion, councilors noted that if they appointed someone to replace Thomas, that person would serve for only a few months.

Also, had councilors appointed one of the 10 candidates on the Nov. 6 ballot, that person would only be eligible to serve one term as an elected

councilor.

The city charter limits councilors to serving no more than two consecutive terms, no matter how short one of the terms might be.

- Luckini, 54, is a building contractor. The city Planning Commission this summer approved Luckini's subdivision near Sam-O Swim Center. He plans to construct seven buildings, each consisting of four two-story townhouses.
- DeMoss, 43, said he decided to run after learning that both Thomas and Nilsson had been arrested over the past year. Nilsson pleaded guilty last November to criminal mischief after he was arrested in August 2017 at the abandoned lime quarry near Huntington.
- Perry, 71, said she has long had an interest in running for city council. She waited until she retired as advertising director for the Baker City Herald.
- Schiewe, 48, said he wanted to serve on the council because he wants to be involved in what goes on in the city instead of just talking about it. Prior to being appointed as a councilor in late June, he had served on the Unity City Council for two months before it was dissolved in 2007.
- Elbert, 54, said he never intended to run for office, but he decided to do so because he was encouraged by friends and because he loves Baker City.
- Annable, 27, is the director at the Baker Heritage Museum. She says she decided to

run because during the three years she has lived here she has fallen in love with the city. Annable also said Mayor Mike Downing's recent comments in the Herald about millennials were a factor in her decision.

- Gross, 42, does sales and marketing for Oregon Telephone and has no prior experience in politics. He said he chose to run to do his part for the city.
- Rienks, 74, said he decided to run because he believes the city has been having economic problems. He served previously on the planning commission, taught fencing, worked as a blacksmith and wrote an astronomy column for the Herald.

He applied for the vacancy that councilors eventually filled by appointed Schiewe.

- Bruland, 53, works as natural resource coordinator for Baker County as well as sitting on the county's Natural Resource Advisory Committee and Planning Commission. This would still be her first elected office.
- DeCarl is a social worker for the Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage. Like Rienks, she applied for the vacancy filled by Schiewe. In the application she filled out earlier this summer, DeCarl wrote that she wants to serve on the City Council to be a voice for the community who works to make positive changes.

DeCarl could not be reached for comment.

Other business

Also during Tuesday's meeting, councilors approved a \$522,000 contract with Anderson Perry & Associates of La Grande for engineering and other services related to the city's wastewater system project.

The city has an agreement with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality that requires the city to eventually cease disposing of treated wastewater effluent into the Powder River.

Instead, the city will pipe the effluent to a wetlands east of Interstate 84.

Councilors also discussed updating the audio and video software used to record meetings. The council advised City Manager Fred Warner Jr. to look into the options that the city has for updating its software.

Warner Jr. also announced that the city has been awarded a grant of about \$121,000 to install underground electric lines at the city's Elkhorn View Industrial Park at the city's northwest corner east of 17th Street and south of Pocahontas Road. He also announced that the Police Department has sworn in Officer John Parsons, who will start training at the state academy the second week of September.

Public Works Director Michelle Owen said Sam-O Swim Center will be closed starting Sept. 4 for annual maintenance. The reopening date for the pool hasn't been set.

GROCERY

Continued from Page 1A

To complete the project ELS has had a team of up to 65 people at one time working on the building. Recently there have been around 20 workers on the project.

This is Salazar's first time working with Grocery Outlet on a project, but he said ELS has been working with the grocery company for the last year and a half.

Salazar, who specializes in overseeing the construction of multi-level buildings and malls, said he has worked on a couple of Men's Wearhouse stores in the Salem area. He said he usually doesn't travel outside Texas but he took on the Baker City job because the company was shorthanded.

"I love this little town, everybody is so friendly and curious," he said of Baker City.

According to Grocery Outlet's website, the Baker City store's owner is Cody Miller.

The store's new Facebook page had a post Tuesday stating that it will have a hiring fair on Tuesday, Sept. 4, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Riverside Room at the Baker County Library, 2400 Resort St., where potential applicants can meet Miller.

The store will be open every day from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

THEFTS

Continued from Page 3A

"These items are irreplaceable and an important part of living history programs provided for the general public at the Blue Mountain Crossing Trail Interpretive Park," the press release stated.

In addition to the thefts, people have damaged perimeter fences, allowing cattle to move into the area.

Anyone with information regarding these incidents or stolen items should call the La Grande Ranger District at 541-963-7186.

TRAIL

Continued from Page 3A

Baker said Idaho Power intends to do more to address the concerns about B2Hs proximity to the Oregon Trail. "We plan to continue working with the community, landowners and trail group representatives to identify other potential mitigation ideas; such as public education and outreach by constructing and installing interpretive signs about the trail and its history."

Carbiener said the Oregon-California Trails Association is taking steps to protect the Oregon Trail, such as attempting to get all portions of the historical trail along the B2H route put on the National Register of Historic Places. The Oregon-California Trails Association is now preparing an application for this. Carbiener hopes this will help sway PacifiCorp, the Bonneville Power Administration and Idaho Power to alter the proposed B2H route so the Oregon Trail is not impacted.

"It may not legally keep them from following the B2H route now proposed," Carbiener said, "but it may discourage them."

Bend City Council candidate jailed, again

By Garrett Andrews
WesCom News Service

Persistent Bend political gadfly and current candidate for Bend City Council Ronald "Rondo" Boozell was arrested Friday and will likely be in jail on Election Day.

Boozell, 57, was arrested outside City Hall on a warrant for contempt of court. He'd been ordered by a judge to serve a 90-day sentence for nonpayment of child support.

During his arrest, Bend Police allege, Boozell interfered with officer Zachary Childers and attempted to ride away on a bicycle because he knew a jail sentence would keep him from campaigning.

On Monday, Boozell was scheduled to make his initial court appearance on one count of interfering with a police officer, but that hearing was postponed due to paperwork.

Boozell has been a colorful presence around Bend City Hall for years, speaking in public comment portions of meetings, often advocating for Bend's homeless population.

In 2016, he held a marijuana "smokeout" in a public area of downtown to protest city policy. In the process, he got into a heated confrontation with a downtown business owner.

He was sentenced to 90 days in jail in March 2017 for refusing to pay a child support judgment from 2004. He professed to jail personnel he was on a hunger strike and was a political prisoner.

BIKES

Continued from Page 1A

The event, which is Oregon's largest week-long bicycle tour, returns to Baker County after a two-year hiatus.

Cycle Oregon was scheduled to start and finish in Baker City in 2015, but the Dry Gulch fire near Halfway forced officials to cancel the event two days after it started.

"Cycle Oregon chose us again because they had so much fun three years ago," Cutler said. "They and the riders love Eastern Oregon."

Cutler said the riders' return will benefit Baker County's economy.

"The Chamber looks at it as a boost for the whole county," she said.

Riders' support staff and people traveling with the cyclists will provide additional revenue for the city when they stay in hotels, shop around town and enjoy entertainment.

Once the riders leave

Baker City the morning of Sept. 8, they will stop for lunch in Richland and finish their first day in Halfway where they will eat dinner and spend the night. Halfway also has contract funds from Cycle Oregon.

The Chamber will set up a finish line the morning of Sept. 15, when the riders complete their week long ride.

"The community's welcome to come and cheer with us," Cutler said.

While she acknowledges

that some residents are bothered by bicyclists clogging streets and highways, "I tell the community they're on the road for such a short amount of time."

Cycle Oregon will set up its main camping area at the Baker Sports Complex.

Community Connection will supply a shuttle service from the Sports Complex to downtown for those who wish to leave their cars parked once they arrive but still want to enjoy "what

Baker has to offer," Cutler said.

Cycle Oregon also offers grants to government organizations across the state, and Cutler said the Chamber intends to apply for grants this year, as it has before.

Baker County has received funding in the past for things like "a bike repair and fabrication program" and \$15,000 to repair sections of the Leo Adler Memorial Parkway.

"I can't speak highly enough of them," Cutler said.

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MOVIE TIMES AUGUST 24-30

CRAZY RICH ASIANS

PG-13
This contemporary romantic comedy, based on a global bestseller, follows native New Yorker Rachel Chu to Singapore to meet her boyfriend's family.

FRI-THURS: (4:00) 7:00, 9:35

THE SPY WHO DUMPED ME

R
Two best friends unwittingly become entangled in an international conspiracy when one of them discovers the boyfriend who dumped her was actually a spy.

FRI-THURS: (4:05) 7:05, 9:40

THE MEG

PG-13
After escaping an attack by what he claims was a 70-foot shark, Jonas Taylor must confront his fears to save those trapped in a sunken submarine.

FRI-THURS: (4:10) 7:10, 9:45

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