

# Local & State

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### MONDAY, DEC. 10

■ **Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Pondosa Station.

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

■ **Lower Powder River Irrigation District Board:** 6 p.m. at Barley Brown's, 2190 Main St.

### FRIDAY, DEC. 14

■ **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.

### SUNDAY, DEC. 16

#### ■ Baker High School Performing Arts Vespers

**Celebration:** 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., at the BHS Auditorium, 2500 E St.; free; donations will be accepted to support the performing arts programs.

### TUESDAY, DEC. 18

■ **Elkhorn Community Preparedness:** 5:30 p.m. supper; 6:30 p.m. meeting; at the Sunridge Inn Restaurant.

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

### THURSDAY, DEC. 20

■ **Baker Rural Fire Protection District Board:** 5:30 p.m. at the Pochontas Fire Station.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald  
December 13, 1968

Baker County gun owners and dealers are awaiting the arrival of Monday with a certain amount of mixed feelings. Monday is the day the new federal gun laws go into effect. Briefly, the laws forbid the selling of hand guns or hand gun ammunition to anyone under 21 years of age.

### 25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald  
December 13, 1993

A malfunction that caused extra chlorine to be added to Baker City's water since Nov. 24 has been fixed.

Jim Adamson, the city's public works director, said the automatic chlorinator has been repaired.

### 10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald  
December 12, 2008

Baker City's population will keep a fifth digit for at least another year.

But we'll have to wait a couple more years to find out if we can officially boast, for the first time, to be a city of 10,000.

### ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald  
December 13, 2017

Along with the shopping and bustle of the Christmas season, holiday bugs have arrived, bringing coughs, fevers and sniffing to Baker City residents.

Baker school children and staff have been especially hard hit with cold and flu-like symptoms this week.

At Brooklyn Primary School about 10 percent of the school's 450 students missed classes on Monday and Tuesday, Principal Phil Anderson said.

Students were kept home with symptoms ranging from fevers, headache and nausea.

The absentee numbers have yet to hamper instruction, with just two or three students missing from most classrooms where class sizes are limited to between 20 and 24 pupils.

Anderson said his school has focused on encouraging regular school attendance and until this week, the numbers were around 95 percent.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, Dec. 10

7 - 12 - 22 - 36 - 43 - 46  
Next jackpot: \$5.4 million

### PICK 4, Dec. 11

• 1 p.m.: 5 - 0 - 0 - 8  
• 4 p.m.: 3 - 9 - 7 - 0  
• 7 p.m.: 6 - 0 - 1 - 3  
• 10 p.m.: 0 - 5 - 7 - 0

### WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 10

3 - 9 - 13 - 69

### LUCKY LINES, Dec. 11

1-5-10-14-17-23-26-29  
Next jackpot: \$13,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **THURSDAY:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, cauliflower, garlic breadsticks, green salad, cake
- **FRIDAY:** Baked cod, cup of clam chowder, mixed vegetables, roll, coleslaw, 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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## Missing snowboarder found at Mt. Ashland Ski Area

ASHLAND(AP) — Authorities say a man who was last seen snowboarding in southern Oregon Sunday has been found by search and rescue teams.

The Mail Tribune reports 27-year-old Eli Kepsel was speaking with rescuers and headed to seek medical attention for hypothermia Tuesday morning.

It wasn't immediately known where Kepsel was found.

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office says Kepsel went to Mt. Ashland Ski Area Sunday morning and that he had been reported missing on Monday.

Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol members had found his vehicle parked at the ski area and witnesses reported seeing Kepsel at the ski area Sunday afternoon.

## Groups ask state to ban new or expanded mega-dairies

SALEM (AP) — A dozen state and national health and environment groups are calling on Oregon leaders and legislators to impose a moratorium

on new or expanded mega-dairies.

The Statesman Journal reports the groups say poor state oversight has allowed large dairies to pollute the state's air and water, and forced family-scale dairies out of business.

The groups cite the Lost Valley Farm, permitted to confine 30,000 cows, as an example. Since it was approved in April 2017, the dairy, near Boardman, has been cited for more than 200 environmental violations, and fined nearly \$200,000.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture regulates air and water pollution from dairies. It has been trying to shut the dairy down for almost a year, through a civil lawsuit and by moving to revoke the dairy's wastewater permit, but has been unsuccessful.

State officials didn't immediately comment on the groups' letter.

## Dungeness crab season delayed at least until Dec. 31

ASTORIA (AP) — Oregon's Dungeness crab fishery will not open until at

least Dec. 31 after testing by state fishery managers revealed crabs are still too low in meat yield in some areas of the coast.

The Daily Astorian reports the valuable commercial fishery traditionally opens on Dec. 1. In November, fishery managers announced the season would be delayed until mid-December because crabs were not plump enough.

The most recent delay is not a big surprise, said Tim Novotny, the spokesman for the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission, which advocates for the industry.

The commercial Dungeness crab fishery is managed under a tri-state agreement between Washington state, Oregon and California. In early December, multiple areas within the region still did not meet the criteria for an opening, according to Oregon fishery managers.

The state will continue testing crab to determine if the season should open Dec. 31 in Oregon or be delayed further.

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

Mayor Mike Downing said councilors decided to wait until 2019 to choose someone to replace Annable. That will allow the two newly elected councilors, Perry and Gross, to participate in the decision. They will be sworn in during the Jan. 8 meeting.

Downing said the Council could appoint Annable's replacement during that meeting, or wait until the Jan. 22 meeting.

Five people who spoke during Tuesday's meeting urged councilors to offer the vacancy to the fifth-place candidate, who is Bruland.

## Chronic nuisance properties

Councilors also discussed the city's ongoing issue with a resident who has been cited multiple times for allowing trash to accumulate on the property at 1975 Birch St. in east Baker City, at the corner

of Birch Street and Washington Avenue.

About a dozen residents attended the meeting to urge councilors to address the problem.

In a report to councilors, Mark Powell, the police department's code enforcement officer, included a list of contacts the city has had with Lucas Gwin, who lives on the property that his late father owned.

The city started a case for property maintenance violations on May 21, 2015, when Gwin was given 30 days to comply. The city cited him on Aug. 4, 2015, for failing to clean up the property.

A relative later cleaned up the property in December 2015, according to Powell's report.

The city cited Gwin again, for the same violation, on Oct. 15, 2016.

In June 2017 the city paid a contractor \$2,000 to clean up the property. The city also placed a lien on the property

for the amount of the clean up.

The most recent issue started in December 2017, when the city cited Gwin for violating the property maintenance ordinance. The city received a court order on Oct. 29, 2018, allowing to again hire a contractor to clean up the property. The city has a bid for the work for \$5,600.

The city budgets about \$6,000 per year to clean up properties that are chronic problems.

Joel Richardson, who has lived near the Birch Street property since 1992, said he's concerned that the recurring problems are reducing the values of other properties in the neighborhood.

He urged councilors to take action.

Council Loran Joseph asked whether the home could be deemed unsafe to occupy.

Powell said that he believes the city should adopt a stricter ordinance similar

to one that was proposed last year.

That ordinance would have allowed the city to seek court orders blocking all access, including by the owner, to residential properties with repeated criminal or property maintenance issues happening within six months.

The Council tabled that proposed ordinance.

There was also discussion Tuesday about another nuisance property on Ninth Drive. Eight households signed a letter complaining about another resident's hobby mechanic work they said occurs at all hours and is very loud.

Police Chief Dustin Newman outlined a possible new way to buy police cars. It's a type of lease purchase in which the city would pay for vehicles over three or four years.

Councilors decided they will resume their discussion of Newman's proposal during a work session next year.

## OBITUARY

### Jack Corning

Eagle Valley resident, 1929-2018

Jack M. Corning, 89, Eagle Valley native, died on November 24, 2018 at his home.

Jack had heart disease, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and had gone blind from macular degeneration. However, Jack worked the ranch right up to the day of his death.

There will be a celebration of Jack's life in April, at the annual branding party 2019.

Jack was born on June 24, 1929, at Baker to Emma and Roy Corning. He was an Oregon native and was very proud of it. He was raised in Eagle Valley and attended school there. Jack

married Caroline Erickson in the front yard of their home in 1988.

Most all of his life, Jack lived and loved working the Corning Ranch in Eagle Valley. He enjoyed moving cows, hunting, fishing and working with his loyal cow dogs. Jack's work ethic was none other than "working hard."

His favorite phrase to share was "I don't know what the big guy's got in store for me, but he doesn't want me to hear it or see it!"

Jack was self-taught in the ways of the ranch, machinery and all that went with it.

He was proud of the valley and it meant so much to him to live here. He was not a big fan of change, but he was always willing to listen.

Jack was also known for his ease of giving nicknames to family members.

Yes, they all had a nickname.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Rodney and Les; grandson, Jacob Corning; brother, Bob Cress; sister, Eva Linton; and stepdaughter, Glenda.

Survivors include his wife, Caroline, of 30 years; daughter, Elaine Loftis; son, Marty Corning; daughter-in-law, Sherril Corning; sister, Elenor Turner; stepdaughters, Melissa, Ronda and Andrea; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Abby Graven Fund through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Lloyd Ritch:** 83, of Baker City, died Dec. 9, 2018. Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel is in charge of arrangements. To light a candle for Lloyd or to leave a condolence for the family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

**Charles M. Swinyer:** 81, of Baker City, died Dec. 10, 2018, at his home. His memorial service will be Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. at Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St. Memorial contributions may be made to the Baker Eagles Lodge. To light a candle in memory of Charles, go to [www.colestributecenter.com](http://www.colestributecenter.com)

**Derwin 'Andy' Anderson:** 77, of Baker City, died Dec. 10, 2018, at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

### FUNERAL PENDING

**Mardell McCauley:** Friends are invited to join the family for

a Celebration of Life luncheon starting at noon on Sunday, Dec. 16, at the VFW Hall, 2005 Valley Ave. The family invites friends to stop by to share a bite to eat, a story and a laugh. The family suggests memorial contributions to Creating Memories through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543 Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com)

**Russel Alec Hunt:** There will be a celebration of his life with military honors at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at the Baker City Christian Church, 675 Highway 7. Memorial contributions may be made to the Blue Yesterdays (a local Big Band Russ played with), the Navy Musicians Association, or to the Cove Christian Camp through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle for Russ or to leave a condolence for his family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

### POLICE LOG

#### Correction

A report in the Herald's Nov. 28 News of Record listed incorrect charges against Ashley Anne Chase, 31, of 1523 Madison St. Chase was taken into custody at the Sheriff's Office on a charge of violating terms of her post-prison supervision agreement.

#### Baker City Police

##### Arrests, citations

ASSAULT IV DOMESTIC, HARASSMENT and UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE: Gerald Wayne Melton Jr., 51, of 2380 18th St., 10:38 a.m. Monday, at his home; jailed and later released on bail; police were called to Melton's home on a report of a possible violation of his release agreement at 2:41 p.m. Tuesday and arrested him on the drug charge. Police seized about 2 grams of methamphetamine in a search of the residence.

DRIVING WHILE OPERATOR'S LICENSE SUSPENDED: Brandon

Allen Chase, 29, of 3510 Ninth St., 4:54 p.m. Tuesday, in the 2800 block of Campbell Street; jailed.

#### Baker County Sheriff's Office

##### Arrests, citations

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Clatsop County warrant): Max Allen Anderson, 22, of Warrenton, 7:56 a.m. Monday, at the Sheriff's Office; granted a conditional release with a date to appear in court in Clatsop County.

##### PROBATION VIOLATION

(Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Kenneth Charlie Follett, 22, of 3170 Grove St., 9:21 a.m. Monday, at the Sheriff's Office; cited and released.

#### Oregon State Police

##### Arrests, citations

DRIVING WHILE OPERATOR'S LICENSE SUSPENDED: Alisha Nichole Rogers, 29, of Portland, 2:15 p.m. Monday, on Interstate 84, about five miles north of Baker City; jailed and later released.