

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

■ **Baker City Tree Board:** Regular meeting, 5:30 p.m., Conference Room at City Hall, 1655 First St.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

■ **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.

■ **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, Broderick Gallery, Royal Artisan and others.

MONDAY, FEB. 4

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

TUESDAY FEB. 5

■ **Baker City Council Goal-Setting Session:** 6 p.m., City Hall.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

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

MONDAY, FEB. 11

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

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald January 31, 1969

The Buddy Werner junior skiing team sponsored by Ellingson Lumber Co. came in first with a combined team time of 391 seconds last Sunday at Anthony Lakes.

The Boise Cascade team was second with a combined time of 564.7 and Ellingson Lumber Co. sponsored junior skiers were third with 728.1 seconds.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 31, 1994

The number of Wallowa-Whitman National Forest employees with reason to be nervous about losing their jobs has been cut almost in half since last week.

The Wallowa-Whitman has cut the number of employees on its surplus list from 48 to 27.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 30, 2009

Even during a recession, striving to retain good employees is a smart investment for businesses and agencies due to the high turnover costs and the shortage of qualified workers, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The cost of replacing workers varies depending on the level of training and skill the job requires.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald January 31, 2018

Baker County Weed Board members voted unanimously Tuesday to recommend the county remain a member of a regional noxious weed control agency.

Last fall the Baker County Board of Commissioners voted to give a 90-day notice to withdraw from the Tri-County Cooperative Weed Management Area (Tri-County), which includes Union and Wallowa counties.

Thursday is the deadline for Baker County to decide whether to leave the agency.

Tri-County, formerly based in Baker City but now with its office in La Grande, was formed more than 20 years ago to garner state and federal grants to deal with noxious weeds on private and public lands in the region.

The Board of Commissioners will withdraw from Tri-County after raising several issues over the previous several months, including a request to have an employee stationed in Baker County.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Jan. 28

5 - 7 - 16 - 19 - 26 - 48
Next jackpot: \$75 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Jan. 29

10 - 33 - 53 - 54 - 62 Mega 22
Next jackpot: \$125 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Jan. 28

4 - 29 - 38 - 70

PICK 4, Jan. 29

• 1 p.m.: 0 - 8 - 4 - 2
• 4 p.m.: 3 - 9 - 5 - 2
• 7 p.m.: 9 - 5 - 1 - 3
• 10 p.m.: 6 - 8 - 3 - 5

LUCKY LINES, Jan. 29

4-6-12-16-20-22-26-31
Next jackpot: \$32,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **THURSDAY:** Boneless chicken breast with cream gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, roll, fruit ambrosia, pudding
- **FRIDAY:** Pork filet mignon, baked potatoes, mixed vegetables, broccoli-bacon salad, rolls

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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GRADUATION

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Assistant Superintendent Betty Palmer pointed to programs in place at Baker High School aimed at improving the graduation rate. Principal Greg Mitchell and his staff have developed a student-led Jostens Renaissance program to improve school climate, developed a trauma-informed approach to help students experiencing difficulties in their lives and personalized learning plans to help students navigate toward graduation.

"They are spending time with kids and being more aware of how to approach kids who are not being successful," Palmer said.

Chelsea Hurliman, assistant BHS principal, also works to track student attendance and academic success, she added.

Palmer pointed to other gains throughout the District in this year's report. Baker Web Academy, Baker Early College and Eagle Cap Innovative High School all showed on-time graduation rates above the state average as well.

The four-year graduation rate at Baker Early College has increased from 87.9 percent in 2015-16, to 92.6 percent in 2016-17 and to 95.6 percent in 2017-18. Baker Web Academy's four-year graduation rate jumped 10 percentage points in each of the past three years, from 43 percent in 15-16 to 53 percent in 16-17 and then to 63 percent this year, Palmer pointed out.

Baker Web Academy Principal Roland Hobson has boosted the program with several strategies, she said.

"He is proud of this movement — and he should be proud," Palmer said.

She noted that the Oregon Depart-

"They are spending time with kids and being more aware of how to approach kids who are not being successful."

— **Betty Palmer, assistant superintendent, Baker School District**

ment of Education admits that it has not provided much support to charter schools over the years.

"It has been a 10-year experiment that has grown on its own," she said. "We've put a lot of pieces in place to develop a high-quality program to serve online learners."

Likewise, Eagle Cap Innovative High School has shown steady increases over the past three years, from 50 percent of the four-year cohort graduating on time in 2015-16, to 70 percent in 16-17 and 85 percent in 2017-18. Tracie Smith oversees the program and works with students and their parents to ensure progress is being made toward graduation, Palmer said.

She noted that the District is topping state averages in almost every area detailed in the report.

The statewide five-year cohort trends show an 80 percent completion rate in 2017-18, up from 78.9 percent a year earlier.

At Baker High School, the five-year cohort completion rate was at 87.5 percent in 2017-18, up just slightly from the 87.2 percent in 2016-17.

Baker Early College showed a five-year completion rate of 94.7 percent in 2017-18, up from 90.1 percent a year earlier.

At Baker Web Academy, the percentage again jumped 10 percent, from 51 percent in 2016-17 to 61 percent in 2017-18.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

One main change councilors discussed to the proposed ordinance Tuesday was adding a criterion by which a property could be declared a chronic neighborhood nuisance by the Baker County Justice Court.

The criterion is if the person occupying the property has

been convicted of three or more property maintenance ordinance violations in the past 12 months, the Court could declare the property as a chronic nuisance.

The proposed ordinance would allow the city to ban access to such properties, including by the owner, until the issues are resolved.

The revised version of the

proposed ordinance was more broad, allowing a property to be deemed a chronic nuisance if it had been the subject of any property maintenance ordinance violation.

Another change to the proposed ordinance is a clause allowing the city to negotiate with a property owner to avoid banning access to the property if the owner is willing to work

with the city on a schedule to correct the issues that led to a citation.

City Manager Fred Warner Jr. said that during his time as city manager — he was hired in May 2016 — the city has never taken a property owner through the current ordinance's abatement process if the owner was willing to work with the city to clean up the property.

OBITUARY

Christy Andrews

Baker City, 1953-2019

Christy Anne Andrews, 66, of Baker City, died peacefully on Jan. 25, 2019, at Vale.

A celebration of her life and potluck will take place Saturday, Feb. 2 at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the Baker City Church of the Nazarene, 1250 Hughes Lane.

Born on Jan. 23, 1953, Christy grew up amongst some of the finest beauty Southern California had to offer. Whether it be on the beach sunbathing beside the churning Pacific Ocean, riding a Harley Davidson up and down the Pacific

Coast Highway, or camping under the stars in Death Valley, she led an adventurous life.

In 1993 she relocated to Baker City, where she raised sheep, gardened, hiked, and camped at every opportunity. Christy never became accustomed to the harsh Eastern Oregon winters, but once spring emerged, she could be found on the banks of Olive Lake almost every weekend, taking in the peace and solitude of the mountains until the snow forced her back indoors to "hibernate."

Christy always said her crowning achievement in life was her three daughters, taking great pride in their respective accomplishments, and above all, the gift of her grandchildren. She

refused to slow down until illness overtook her body, and even then, she never lost her sense of humor or her desire to watch a Seahawks game.

Christy is survived by her daughters, Jessie (Brian) Dennen of Charlotte, North Carolina, Anne Phillips of Derby, Kansas, and Dusty Wendt of North Powder; her sister, Saralee (Charles) Caldwell of Florence; her cousin, Cathryn (Norman) Smyers of Missoula, Montana; her six grandchildren, Morgan, Rylie, Brayden, Khyla, Lucy and Tavi; her brother of 25 years, John Gabiola of Baker City; and her beloved Jack Russell terrier, Scout.

Christy was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Luella Murma; and her son-in-law, Casey Wendt.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

■ **Donald Eugene Phelps:** 78, of Unity, died Jan. 24, 2019, at his home. Coles Tribute Center is in charge of arrangements.

FUNERALS PENDING

■ **Edward L. Dove:** Recitation of the Rosary will be Thursday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Mass of Christian burial will be Friday, Feb. 1 at 10 a.m. at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, First and Church streets. Interment will be at Mount Hope Cemetery, with a reception following at the St. Francis de Sales Cathedral Parish Hall. Memorial contributions may be made to Bethlehem House of Bread through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Ed, go to www.grayswestco.com

■ **Steven Valentine:** Celebration of his life, Saturday, Feb.

2, at 1 p.m. at the Baker City VFW Hall, 2005 Valley Ave. In the spring, a graveside military service will take place, the date and time to be announced later. The family suggests memorial contributions to Best Friends of Baker through Tam's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

■ **Virginia Anderson:** Traditional funeral service and celebration of her life, Friday, Feb. 8 at 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Halfway. Interment and dedication of the grave will follow at Pine Haven Cemetery. Friends are invited to join the family following the interment for a reception at the church. For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Ginnie, the family suggests either the LDS Charities or the Pine Eagle Education Foundation through

Tam's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

POLICE LOG

■ **Baker City Police Arrests, citations**
FUGITIVE (out-of-state warrant): Sydne Presten Baltzell, 20, 1725 Ash St., 1:43 p.m. Tuesday at Campbell and 14th streets; jailed.

PROBATION VIOLATION, PAROLE VIOLATION, THIRD-DEGREE RAPE (warrant arrest): Travis Anthony Whiting-Good, 23, 3975 Campbell St., 12:21 a.m. Tuesday in the 2300 block of Main Street; jailed.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

ARRESTS, CITATIONS
ASSAULT IV IN THE PRESENCE OF MINORS: Everett

Christopher Gottardi, 43, of Huntington, 3:45 p.m. Monday, at his home; jailed.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Malheur County warrant): Alan William Wolfe, 31, of Ontario, 8:26 a.m. Monday at the Baker County Jail where he is being held on another charge.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Accident reports
At about 4:03 a.m. Saturday in the westbound lanes of Interstate 84, about 5 miles north of Baker City, a Ford F350 pickup truck driven by Rich Wayne Carroll, 48, of Baker City, left the roadway and rolled in the median. Carroll told police he had fallen asleep. He was taken by ambulance to St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City. No other information about his condition was available in time for this report.

The Northeast Oregon Compassion Center invites you to its annual potluck

Please join us...
February 2nd at 5:30 PM
at the Nazarene Church, Family Life Center
1250 Hughes Lane, Baker City

Silent & Live Auctions
FREE Tri-Tip Dinner

Questions? Call 541-403-2232

Betty's Books is taking a winter break starting Thursday, January 31st! We will reopen February 16th at 9:30 a.m. Phone messages can be left at 541-523-7551

To our loyal customers, we apologize for any inconvenience.