

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### 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 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 Pondosa Station.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 12

- **Baker City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 1655 First St.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald February 1, 1969

Calvary Baptist Church of Baker will host a series of special Bible lectures this coming week at the church located on the corner of Third and Broadway. The speaker for the special occasion will be Dr. John Houser of Corvallis.

Dr. Houser is the successful and well-liked pastor of the First Baptist Church of Corvallis.

### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 1, 1994

It's been just a year since the first cries of "drought's over."

Now, with winter almost half over and snow-free patches conspicuous — even in the mountains — there are murmurs of "drought's back."

The continued lack of precipitation translates into a shallow snowpack.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 2, 2009

Karl Ritch wasn't planning on becoming a hero when he took his family on a steelhead fishing trip Jan. 17 at one of his favorite spots along the Snake River, at Oxbow Pond.

The pond, located at the base of the Oxbow Dam spillway about 70 miles east of Baker City, is frequented by steelhead fishermen from Oregon and Idaho.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald February 2, 2018

Three years after a Baker County wildfire interfered with Oregon's biggest bicycle ride, Cycle Oregon will return.

Cycle Oregon's 30th week-long tour will start on Saturday, Sept. 8, in Baker City.

A week later, on Sept. 15, the 2,200 or so cyclists will finish their trip in Baker City.

During the week the riders will overnight in Halfway, Wallowa Lake, Elgin, two nights in Pendleton, and one in La Grande.

"We love Eastern Oregon," said Steve Schulz, Cycle Oregon's executive director.

The event, which brings a few hundred support staff in addition to the cyclists, is "a huge opportunity for Baker County," said Shelly Cutler, executive director of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, Jan. 30

2 - 12 - 25 - 28 - 45 - 47

Next jackpot: \$76 million

### POWERBALL, Jan. 30

2 - 12 - 16 - 29 - 54 PB 6

Next jackpot: \$191 million

### WIN FOR LIFE, Jan. 30

30 - 47 - 53 - 55

### PICK 4, Jan. 31

• 1 p.m.: 3 - 1 - 7 - 1

• 4 p.m.: 5 - 8 - 7 - 9

• 7 p.m.: 9 - 8 - 1 - 2

• 10 p.m.: 3 - 6 - 1 - 1

### LUCKY LINES, Jan. 31

1-7-9-14-17-23-28-29

Next jackpot: \$34,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY:** Chicken-fried chicken, potatoes and gravy, broccoli-blend vegetables, biscuits, fruit ambrosia
- **TUESDAY:** Ham and cheese croissants, cup of soup, chips, macaroni salad, cake

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.

## CONTACT THE HERALD

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Open Monday through Friday  
7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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# Failure of printing press motor shifts printing of the Herald to Pendleton

By Cherise Kaechele  
The (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — After announcing its parent company had filed for bankruptcy last week, The Observer in La Grande suffered another hit Monday when its 1966 Goss Community printing press motor broke down, leading to the layoff of six employees.

The Baker City Herald was also printed at the La Grande site.

On Jan. 22, Western Communications, The Observer and Baker City Herald's parent company, announced it had filed for bankruptcy protection

through Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy code. Through the bankruptcy, the company is required to follow strict guidelines as far as expenses are concerned.

As a result, Western Communications has decided not to explore expensive repair options for the printing press in La Grande.

To avoid a lapse in production, the East Oregonian in Pendleton will be printing the La Grande and Baker City papers. Without a functioning press, and due to dramatic funding cuts associated with the bankruptcy, The Observer's

pressroom and mailroom departments were laid off.

Subscribers will not see a difference in the newspapers, except for some temporary delivery delays as the staffs at the East Oregonian, The Observer and Baker City Herald formulate a printing schedule.

Shifting the printing does not otherwise affect the production of the two newspapers. The Herald will continue to be produced in Baker City, and The Observer in La Grande.

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## FLAG

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At the time, she worked as a custodian at both Brooklyn and Baker Middle School. Prior to deploying, the Brooklyn staff and students gave her a going-away party.

Many students wrote to her while she was away.

"I still have all the letters to this day," she said.

Curry wanted to thank her Brooklyn family, somehow.

"I didn't know what else to do, so I had this flag flown," she said.

The flag was displayed on two combat missions inside a Chinook helicopter flying

the American flag, she said, was a way for soldiers to stay connected.

"To fly the flag where you're at is a taste of home," she said. "They'd fly at least three flags on a mission. A lot of the pilots would have a flag folded in their flight vest, close to their heart."

At the ceremony on

Wednesday, Curry shared the flag's story with the 440 students gathered in the gymnasium.

"For him to do this is remarkable," Curry said of Griff after the assembly.

Curry served another stint, this time in Iraq, from 2008-2009. She is now a custodian at Baker High School.

## VETERANS

Continued from Page 1A

"A lot of our veterans, they're just not able to, even if they wanted to they are not able to work because physically they can't," said Gloria, who is himself a veteran. He served 22 years on active duty in the Oregon National Guard.

In Baker City, rentals can range from \$500 to \$700 a month while in Portland apartments can cost as much as \$3,000, according to Apartments.com.

"I'm a one-person department in the county and you know what, it's perfect because I know exactly what's going on with every file, with every veteran," Gloria said.

Baker County has approximately 2,000 veterans with the Baker Veteran Services Department serving 1,080. In some of those 1,080 cases the benefits go to the

spouse of a veteran who has died. Gloria says there are likely even more than 2,000 veterans living in the county but he can't track those who have not signed up for benefits with the federal Veterans Affairs Department. To help reach out to some of those veterans he has been running radio ads recently.

"I have had a lot of people call because they heard that and were not aware that they could get those benefits ... there's some veterans who have never signed up," Gloria said.

Despite the size of the county's veteran population, the closest VA Medical Center is 42 miles away in La Grande and the closest full service VA Medical Center is in Boise, 120 miles away.

The La Grande center offers general care but doesn't have a primary care physician on staff.

Veterans who need specialist care are referred to the VA Hospital in Boise.

Local veterans have the option of receiving a free ride to either of the VA centers.

Baker County veterans also can use any medical care facility through Tri-West Health Care Alliance, an insurance company that local veterans can use because of the 40-mile rule. The rule states that veterans who live more than 40 miles from the nearest VA medical facility with a full-time primary care physician can receive free care through a community provider.

Gloria says that he is not aware of any medical care providers locally who don't take Tri-West insurance.

"I'm here to take care of our veterans and families and we are getting results, to me this is my dream job," he said.

## SOLAR

Continued from Page 1A

Enerparc also plans to start construction in April on a 15-megawatt solar farm near Sutton Creek about six miles southeast of Baker City, south of Interstate 84.

Enerparc will sell the power from both projects to

Idaho Power Company, which has substations and transmission lines near each site, said Peter Davis, Enerparc's associate director of project development.

Enerparc also has two solar projects in Malheur County and one in development, Davis said. The company also already has two solar arrays

in Oregon built, with one near Willamina and one near Klamath Falls.

Davis said Eastern Oregon is a natural site for solar farms because of the relative abundance of sunshine in the region, which lies in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains.

Average annual rainfall

in parts of Baker County is around 10 inches.

"We chose Oregon because of the renewable portfolio standards the state has," Davis said.

Oregon's standards require that by 2040 half of the state's electricity must come from renewable resources such as solar.

## OBITUARY

### Carol Smith

Baker City, 1935-2019

Carol M. Smith, 83, of Baker City, died Jan. 23, 2019, at her residence at Settler's Park Assisted Living Community.

Carol Marie Smith was born on April 23, 1935, at Plains, Montana, to Vance and Marie James. She attended school in La Grande and graduated with the LHS Class of 1953.

She was married to Dick Hadden and they had two children, Julie and Wade. They later divorced and she married Donnie Smith.

She was a secretary for more than 30 years, working for the U.S. Forest Service, Oregon State Extension Service,

Boise Cascade and Head Start. She took great pride in that work and could type 120 words a minute on a manual typewriter.

She loved fishing, hunting by horseback into the Minam, reading, cooking and very long drives on any back road to anywhere with her grandkids.

She was well-known for making the best potato salad, apple pie, and "soft" popcorn balls ever.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Julie and Wayne Paxton of Baker City; her son and daughter-in-law, Wade and Kathryn Hadden of Longview, Washington; her grandchildren, Chelsea Paxton Hurliman and her husband,

Chad, of Baker City, Heath and Shannon Paxton of Cove, Harleigh Hadden of Longview and Hannah Hadden of Eugene; her brother, Donald James and his wife, Marlene, of La Grande; his stepdaughters, Debbie Wilson and her husband, Gene, Terri Skillings and her husband, Rick; her stepgrandchildren, Jessica, Adrienne, Zach, Wade and Mad-die; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vance and Marie James; her sister, Betty "Bea" Spears; and her stepson, Kelly Smith.

To light a candle in memory of Carol, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Carol Tone:** 76, a longtime Baker City resident, died Jan. 31, 2019, with her children at her side. 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)

**Robert 'Bobby' Buxton:** 67, of Baker City, died Jan. 31, 2019, surrounded by his family. 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)

**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.

### FUNERALS PENDING

**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 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)

**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 after 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 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)

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police Arrests, citations POSTPRISON SUPERVISION VIOLATION:** Alexander Allen Adams, 22, of 1370 Ninth St., 4:52 p.m. Thursday, at 13th and Carter streets; jailed.

## Best Friends of Baker, Inc. Saturday Market!

Great Merchandise at Low, Low Prices!  
ALL Proceeds Benefit the animals rescued by the volunteers at Best Friends of Baker, Inc.

Located at 2950 Church Street  
(Broadway to 10th. Go right and then take your first left.)  
Open Every Saturday 8 AM to 2 PM  
You can't buy love, but your contributions can help rescue it!  
Best Friends of Baker, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3)

## LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE

Every Monday for 3 weeks  
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
Community Connections  
2810 Cedar St  
Call 541-523-5222

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**GREEN BOOK PG-13**  
A working-class African-American bluesman becomes the driver of an African-American classical pianist on a tour of venues through the 1960s American South.  
FRI & SAT: (3:45) 6:45, 9:30  
SUN: (3:45) 6:45 MON-TH: 6:45

**THE KID WHO WOULD BE KING PG**  
A band of kids embark on an epic quest to thwart a medieval menace.  
FRI & SAT: (4:00) 7:00, 9:35  
SUN: (4:00) 7:00 MON-TH: 7:00

**SERENITY R**  
Ane Hathaway & Matthew McConaughey. A fishing boat captain's past comes back to haunt him.  
FRI & SAT: (4:05) 7:05, 9:40  
SUN: (4:05) 7:05 MON-TH: 7:05

1 | Began Matinee  
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