

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 18

■ **Baker County Red Cross Volunteers:** 6 p.m., in the Red Cross Office at Baker City Hall, 1655 First St.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

■ **Elkhorn Community Preparedness:** 5:30 p.m. supper; 6:30 p.m. meeting; at the Sunridge Inn Restaurant, 1 Sunridge Lane.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.
 ■ **Baker City Tree Board:** 5:30 p.m., Conference Room at City Hall, 1655 First St.
 ■ **“Growing the Food I Want” Gardening Class:** 6 p.m., Ace Hardware, 2200 Resort St.; the topic will be how to optimize soils for food production; classes continue through May 15; cost is \$5 per class or \$20 for the five classes for those registered by March 22; Information: Mindy Sherrieb, 541-523-3449, 541-523-6418 or mastergardener.baker@oregonstate.edu

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

■ **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 March 15, 1969

The middle interchange on the freeway took up considerable time during Monday evening's budget board meeting, which was chaired by John Brown.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 18, 1994

SUMPTER — The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department reaffirmed its commitment to Oregon's newest state park Thursday night in Sumpter.

Kathy Schutt of the state parks department presented the final draft master plan for the Sumpter Valley Dredge State Park — the name is official now — to an audience of about 50 in Sumpter Town Hall.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 18, 2009

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest plans to rebuild the road leading to a Baker County campground that's been closed since a flood damaged the road almost two years ago.

Lake Fork Campground is in the northeast corner of the county about 17 miles northeast of Halfway.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald March 19, 2018

HUNTINGTON — U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon, made a quick trip to Eastern Oregon over the weekend, holding town halls in Jordan Valley and Huntington. He addressed issues ranging from gun control to passenger rail service.

Merkley visits all 36 Oregon counties every year and these were his stops for Malheur and Baker counties. His Huntington town hall took place at the VFW Hall.

Addressing a question about safety for children and senior citizens, Merkley said he would support national background check laws that are now on the books in Oregon, which requires background checks on gun sales at gun shops, gun shows and online gun sales.

The senator also said he would support a ban on the sale of assault rifles, making clear he is not including possession of assault rifles in that.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, March 16

11 — 15 — 23 — 24 — 40 — 48

Next jackpot: \$9.5 million

POWERBALL, March 16

30 — 34 — 39 — 53 — 67 PB 11

Next jackpot: \$550 million

MEGA MILLIONS, March 15

3 — 29 — 56 — 62 — 64 Mega 4

Next jackpot: \$45 million

WIN FOR LIFE, March 16

4 — 17 — 19 — 38

PICK 4, March 17

• 1 p.m.: 2 — 8 — 3 — 9

• 4 p.m.: 8 — 5 — 4 — 5

• 7 p.m.: 5 — 6 — 4 — 6

• 10 p.m.: 1 — 8 — 2 — 8

LUCKY LINES, March 17

3-5-10-15-20-22-25-29

Next jackpot: \$13,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **TUESDAY:** Pot roast, parslid red potatoes, green beans, roll, green salad, cheesecake

■ **WEDNESDAY:** Parmesan chicken, potatoes and gravy, cream corn, gelatin with fruit, pineapple 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.

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Baker City man charged with sex abuse

A Baker City man will be arraigned today in Circuit Court on three charges of sexually abusing a child.

Baker City Police arrested Thomas Nathaniel Baker, 43, of 2704 Ninth St., at 5:59 p.m. Friday at the police department. He was charged in a grand jury indictment

with one count of first-degree sexual abuse, a Class B felony; and two counts of third-degree sexual abuse, Class A misdemeanors, District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff said today.

Baker was jailed and then released Saturday morning after posting \$13,000 (10

percent of the total \$130,000 bail), a corrections deputy at the jail said this morning.

The crimes involved a girl known to Baker. The two counts of third-degree sexual abuse are alleged to have taken place within the last year in Baker City, Shirtcliff said.

The first-degree sexual abuse charge is alleged to have taken place between 2007 and 2009 in Baker City when the girl was younger than 14, Shirtcliff said.

Upon conviction, the first-degree sexual abuse charge carries a mandatory minimum 75-month prison term.

School board schedules special meeting

The Baker School Board has scheduled a special meeting for Tuesday.

The meeting will begin at 4 p.m. at the District Office, 2090 Fourth St., with an executive (closed to the public) session.

The purpose of the closed meeting, as

allowed under Oregon law, will be “to consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open hearing.”

The Board will meet in open session

after the executive session, with that meeting expected to start at about 5 p.m.

The open session will include action in response to the closed meeting discussion. The Board also is scheduled to discuss district policy prior to moving to the action item.

WOLVES

Continued from Page 1A

ODFW officials killed three wolves from the Pine Creek pack last April.

The situation this spring could be complicated by changes in the Pine Creek pack.

Most particularly, a 2-year-old female wolf from the pack joined up around Valentine's Day with a young adult male wolf, and they have been traveling together since, said Brian Ratliff, district wildlife biologist at ODFW's Baker City office.

Ratliff said both the male, designated OR-68, and the female, OR-57, are wearing tracking collars.

ODFW officials tranquilized OR-68 in early December between Richland and Halfway and attached the collar, Ratliff said.

Although the two wolves paired up around the time wolves typically breed, Ratliff said biologists won't know until later this spring whether the female will have a litter of pups.

Generally a pregnant

female will “den up” — find a den in which to have and raise pups — by around the middle of April, Ratliff said.

Biologists can generally tell when a female has entered a den — presuming other members of the pack or, in this case, the breeding male, has a tracking collar — due to what Ratliff called the “wagon wheel effect.”

After the female enters the den she generally stays close by, forming the hub of the wheel. Meanwhile other wolves, or just the male in the case of a pair, travels away from the den and then returns regularly, bringing food to the female and pups, each out-and-back trip constituting a “spoke” on the wagon wheel.

The movement pattern is distinctive, and strong evidence that a female has birthed pups, Ratliff said.

“Typically you can say with pretty good certainty when a female has denned up,” he said.

As for the Pine Creek pack, its breeding female, designated OR-36, was tranquilized early

this year and fitted with a new tracking collar.

Ratliff said OR-36 had seven pups born in mid April of 2018. At the start of 2019 biologists believed the pack consisted of 12 wolves.

Since then, Ratliff said, OR-57 left the pack and paired up with OR-68.

During a recent airplane flight Ratliff said two other wolves from the pack, probably 2-year-olds, weren't seen. He expects they have also dispersed from the pack, but as neither is collared it's not possible to know where they are.

ODFW has not confirmed any attacks on livestock from the Pine Creek pack or the OR-57/OR-68 pair this winter, Ratliff said.

Biologists did investigate the deaths of two newborn calves during February, and one calf in early March.

Although wolves had scavenged at least two of the calves, there was no evidence to indicate that wolves had killed any of the calves, according to reports from ODFW.

Two of the cases were described as not related to wolves.

Ratliff said the OR-57/OR-68 pair had been in the area where the calf carcass was found in early March, and ODFW provided to a rancher in that area an alarm that will blare if the collar on OR-68 comes close.

The two wolves later moved out of that area, but Ratliff said the alarm system is available if needed.

He said he also alerts ranchers to the movements of both that pair and the collared wolves from the Pine Creek pack.

“We're constantly in contact,” Ratliff said. “They call me, I call them. We try to keep that open line of communication.”

Rollins said he appreciates Ratliff's efforts, which will help Baker County ranchers as they try to prevent wolves from attacking their herds.

“Brian has been really good about calling landowners,” Rollins said.

CONTEST

Continued from Page 1A

Baker City has maintained a considerable lead during most of the contest, which started Feb. 20.

If Baker City receives the grant, the city will use the money to buy equipment for an all-abilities playground at Geiser-Pollman Park. The city would need to raise more money for surfacing.

Karla Macy of Baker City has been a leader of the

campaign. Her son, Gus, has spina bifida.

Macy said this morning that she's feeling “pretty confident” that Baker City will maintain its lead and win the Moda Assist grant.

Macy said that although she attended several events early in the contest to urge people to vote daily, local businesses and groups took up the challenge in a big way.

“I honestly was expecting to have to work a lot harder at it,” Macy said. “But once

all the businesses and bigger partners stepped up to the plate it just took off and I was able to sit back and watch the (voting) numbers go crazy.”

Celebration planned

On Wednesday, Churchill School will host a concert by Apollo Ghosts from Vancouver, B.C., along with special guest Thunder Pumper, to celebrate the community-wide voting effort to win an all-abilities playground for Baker City.

OBITUARY

Terry Crow

Formerly of Halfway, 1952-2019

Terry Crow, 67, formerly of Halfway, died Jan. 5, 2019, at Salem Health Hospital in Salem.

A celebration of Terry's life and potluck will take place April 27 at 11 a.m. at the Halfway Lions Hall.

Terry Ilene Rankin was born on Dec. 30, 1952, at Baker City. Her early years were spent in Durkee. She later moved and attended both grade school and high school in Eugene.

When Terry was younger she worked various jobs including construction and tending to plants at a nursery. She worked in the restaurant and lounge industry for most of her life, always making it entertaining.

In 1970 Terry married Larry Nicolas. They lived in Eugene and together had two children, Joe and Angela. They later divorced. Terry moved to Halfway

in 1976 where her parents owned the Stockmen's Restaurant. It was there that she met Dick Crow. Her mom told her, “Out of all these men you can only date Dick.” In 1979 Terry married Dick and together they had children, Katie and Logan. They later divorced, but remained good friends over the years.

Terry cherished family time and always cooked enough for an army. She loved crafts, building birdhouses, sewing, making pillows, puzzles, woodworking and refurbishing chairs. She especially adored teaching her grandkids crafts and cooking with them.

She enjoyed playing cards and video poker and always dreamed of winning the lottery and living in Las Vegas. Her catch phrase was, “never hit on a 12!” She loved old school rock and roll music, Elvis, succulent plants and a good kamikaze shot. Her life philosophy was “have fun, who cares what someone thinks!”

Terry will be remembered for having the hugest heart, and for always giving away her crafts or helping with projects,

and her pizza boats. She had an ability to make everyone feel comfortable and welcome and she was always the life of the party. Terry is truly loved and missed.

Terry is survived by her sons, Joe and his wife, Brandy Nicolas, and Logan and his wife, Brooke Crow; her daughters, Kimber Smith, Angela Solesbee, and Katie and her husband, Tim George; her brothers, Ted Rankin and his wife, Caroline, Ray Rankin, Jim Scott and his wife, Jeanette; her sisters Sheila Farwell and her husband, Denny, and Patti Zachary and her husband, Gene; 9 grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Rankin and Herberta Cassidy; and her stepdad, Donald Scott.

For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Terry, the family suggests the Pine Eagle Education Foundation (PEEF) through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at twww.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Sail into Spring!

Baker Valley Travel 541-523-9353

GHOST PEPPER COCONUT SHRIMP BURRITO

Our Ghost Pepper Coconut Shrimp Burrito is filled with crispy coconut shrimp, cabbage, green onions, homemade pineapple salsa fresca, and a spicy ghost pepper sauce all wrapped in a warm flour tortilla.

TacoTime

915 Campbell St, Baker City 541-523-6657