

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 6

■ **Haines Fire Protection District Board:** 6 p.m. at the Haines Library.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

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

FRIDAY, MAY 10

■ **Live Music by Keith Taylor:** Ragtime piano, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Crossroads, 2020 Auburn Ave.; no charge.

MONDAY, MAY 13

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

TUESDAY, MAY 14

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

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

■ **Gardening Class:** "After the Harvest," 6 p.m., Extension Office, 2600 East St.; Extension agent Robin Maille will give tips on picking and storing produce and deciding whether to dry, freeze, can or eat fresh; \$5; call 541-523-3449, 541-523-6418 or email mastergardener.baker@oregonstate.edu

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald May 6, 1969

By a 93-vote margin voters in Baker School District 5J turned down the district's proposed budget for the school year 1969-70.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 6, 1994

Community Connections will remain where it is for a few years.

The agency signed a three-year contract with the Baker County Fair Board Wednesday to rent the Baker County Extension Building, 2610 Grove St.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 6, 2009

The crowd at Brooklyn Elementary School was a little more restless Tuesday night, owing to the age of about half of the audience, but the message was much the same as the one delivered last week at South Baker Elementary.

Fifty-seven adults and 50 children, mostly from North Baker and South Baker schools, turned out to learn more about next year's programs. Troy Fisher, Brooklyn Principal, said today. Students in Grades 1-3 will be housed at the eastside school when classes resume in the fall.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald May 7, 2018

Sherri and Mat Sand wondered why so many of their fellow churchgoers were gathered on the sidewalk outside the Baker City Nazarene Church, near Hughes Lane and Cedar Street, after the Sunday morning service.

The Baker City couple certainly didn't think a bear was involved.

But it was indeed an adult bruin, galumphing across a field north of the church, that had attracted an audience about 11:30 a.m.

"We saw this bear running across the field toward the (A Frame) RV park," Sherri said Sunday afternoon.

Mat said the bear had apparently traveled from near the Powder River, which flows under Hughes Lane a little less than half a mile west of the church.

The couple decided to drive toward the RV park, less than half a mile north on Cedar Street, to see if they could get a closer look at the black bear.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, May 4
11 - 12 - 13 - 21 - 23 - 46
Next jackpot: \$3.2 million

POWERBALL, May 4
6 - 16 - 23 - 30 - 61 PBx
Next jackpot: \$215 million

MEGA MILLIONS, May 3
8 - 16 - 22 - 66 - 68 Mega 11
Next jackpot: \$273 million

WIN FOR LIFE, May 4

5 - 6 - 12 - 58

PICK 4, May 5

• 1 p.m.: 7 - 9 - 5 - 4

• 4 p.m.: 3 - 5 - 1 - 8

• 7 p.m.: 1 - 8 - 2 - 0

• 10 p.m.: 3 - 6 - 3 - 7

LUCKY LINES, May 5

3-5-10-14-19-22-28-30

Next jackpot: \$10,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **TUESDAY:** Meat lasagna, cauliflower, garlic breadsticks, green salad, ice cream

■ **WEDNESDAY:** Boneless chicken breast, potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, rolls, beet-and-onion salad, peach 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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S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Diver Deborah Marx and Kyle Lent, both maritime archaeologists with SEARCH Inc., move along the length of the Sumpter Dredge hull filming above and below the water line.

DREDGE

Continued from Page 1A

The Dredge was sifting gold from the Powder River's gravels as recently as 1954. That means there are still people around who either worked on the Dredge, or who have relatives who did.

Delgado, who spent much of last week in Sumpter, met several.

"That's one of the best parts of it — talking to people," he said.

As an archaeologist who frequently inspects ships and other items vastly older than the Dredge, Delgado said those personal conversations are rarely an option.

"Usually the people associated with the ships I look at are long gone," he said.

The Titanic, for instance, which Delgado saw in 2000 from inside the Russian Mir-2 submersible, famously went down in the North Atlantic in 1912.

That happens to be one year after the Sumpter Valley Dredge No. 1 was built. It and the No. 2 Dredge were cannibalized in 1935, with many of their parts used to create

the last in the series, the No. 3 Dredge that today is the centerpiece of the Sumpter Valley Dredge State Park.

The park was started 26 years ago. And although the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars since then to stabilize, preserve and renovate parts of the Dredge, the job for which Delgado and two of his co-workers traveled across the country from Jacksonville, Florida, is one that had never been done.

Their task was to examine the Dredge's hull, something that would be considerably simpler if the vessel wasn't sitting in a 10-foot-deep pond of water that hovers around the freezing mark.

"We don't have park personnel that can dive, much less take underwater video," said Brian McBeth, historic architecture project manager for the state Parks Department. "That's a missing skill set."

So last summer, just after McBeth joined the Parks De-

partment, he started looking around for a contractor with the necessary expertise.

A colleague at the National Parks Service recommended SEARCH Inc., based in Jacksonville.

Delgado, who had his first paid archaeology job at age 14, is senior vice president of the company, which specializes in a variety of archaeology disciplines, including maritime.

He traveled to Sumpter with two of SEARCH's other maritime archaeologists, Deborah Marx and Kyle Lent.

"We brought in some of the best marine archaeologists in the country," McBeth said. "They know what they're looking at, and what it means."

On Thursday morning Marx donned a dry suit and flippers and slipped into the icy pond. She was holding an apparatus that included a pair of flexible arms tipped with lights, and a holder for a GoPro camera. As she swam along the Dredge, Marx examined the hull, taking video as she went.

Lent, meanwhile, paddled a kayak, staying close to Marx to offer assistance if needed.

That's a standard safety protocol for what Lent called "in-water operations."

Because the Dredge's 9-foot-deep hull is a complex and potentially confusing menagerie of beams and bulkheads and steel tie-rods, it's too dangerous to have a diver try to examine some sections, Delgado said.

In some places there's only 1 foot of clearance. And although the pond water is usually crystalline, movement tends to stir up silt and a rust from steel parts, creating an impenetrable cloud.

"Not a place to put a person," Delgado said.

But perfectly suitable for the remote-controlled submersible, with on-board camera and lights, that the SEARCH team brought.

Delgado and his colleagues, on their return to Florida, will sift through the data they collected and write a report — "with lots of illustrations," Delgado said — for the Parks Department.



Marx



McBeth



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Maritime archaeologists from SEARCH Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida, survey the hull of the Sumpter Valley Dredge for possible damage on Thursday. Kyle Lent is in the kayak, keeping watch over diver Deborah Marx. Team leader Jim Delgado stands on the Dredge deck.

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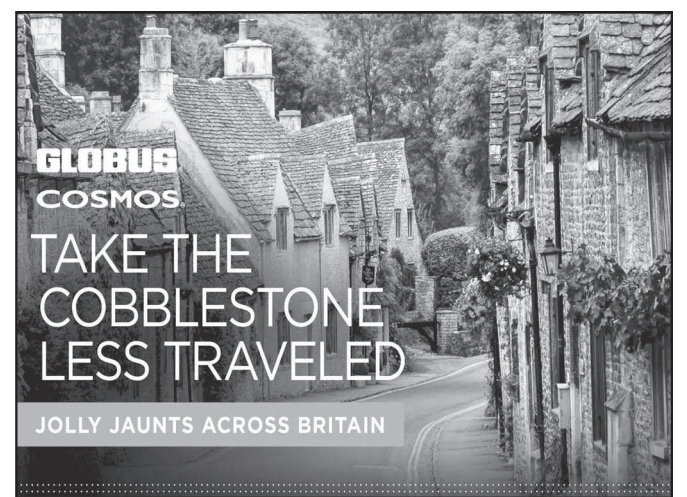
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