

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### TUESDAY, MAY 28

- **Baker School District Budget Committee:** 5 p.m., District Office, 2090 Fourth St.
- **Baker City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 1655 First St.

### FRIDAY, MAY 31

- **Eagle Cap Innovative High School Graduation:** 6 p.m., Baker County Event Center, 2600 East St.
- **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.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 2

- **Baker High School Graduation:** 2 p.m., Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

### MONDAY, JUNE 3

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

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

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

### FRIDAY, JUNE 7

- **First Friday Art Shows:** Baker City art galleries are open late to showcase the month's new artwork.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald May 27, 1969

Three of the four school districts in Baker County were told Friday that they would receive less Basic School support from the state than they had been told to expect.

### 25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 27, 1994

A 15-minute downpour in Hells Canyon resulted in mudslides that closed the Homestead Road north of Oxbow for about three hours Wednesday night.

Three vehicles transporting people fishing and boating on the Snake River were stranded when mud and debris blocked the road.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 27, 2009

The City Council gave a South Baker City man an extra 60 days to rid his property of junked vehicles and camp trailers in a case that sets the stage for the Council to consider a new property maintenance ordinance.

Councilors voted 4-2 on Tuesday in favor of the extension for Ronald Calder of 1249 Fifth St.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald May 28, 2018

Eli Smith sold everything he owned and set off on a three-year solo trek across America because he wanted people to know about his Army buddies, men who sacrificed something for which no value can be calculated.

Their lives. It was only after Smith's friends completed suicide that he came to understand how prevalent post-traumatic stress disorder is among veterans.

"Too many people don't know that we're losing an average of 20 veterans to suicide every day," Smith said. "That's too many."

Smith, 38, who served as a tank gunner in South Korea before his discharge in 2002, decided he could remain silent no longer about the epidemic claiming so many of the men and women who protected America.

"I wanted to do something, I just didn't know what," he said Sunday evening while dining on glazed chicken and white rice, his meal donated by the Golden Crown restaurant in Baker City.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, May 25

6 - 9 - 29 - 42 - 43 - 45  
Next jackpot: \$2.6 million

### POWERBALL, May 25

1 - 2 - 39 - 43 - 66 PB 2  
Next jackpot: \$325 million

### WIN FOR LIFE, May 25

10 - 63 - 64 - 73

### PICK 4, May 26

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

### LUCKY LINES, May 26

1-5-12-15-20-23-25-29  
Next jackpot: \$31,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **TUESDAY:** Pork filet mignon, potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, biscuit, cottage cheese with fruit, cheesecake
- **WEDNESDAY:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, garlic breadsticks, green salad, birthday 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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S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Photographs at Meadowbrook Place reveal those who served to protect American freedoms. Twenty-two of the residents at the assisted living facility in Baker City are veterans.

## MEMORIES

Continued from Page 1A

Boot camp was at Camp Farragut on the shore of Lake Pend Oreille in Idaho.

"It was the middle of winter and snow up to your hip pockets," he said.

From there, he went to San Diego for radar school. After training, Lampkins was assigned as a radar operator on a ship bound for the South Pacific.

"I spent the next 2½ years on the ship. I was in 11 major engagements," he said.

The first was 13 days after reaching the South Pacific. His fleet was Task Force 58 with 1,500 ships.

"People don't realize what it takes to keep 1,500 ships afloat — fuel, ammunition, supplies," Lampkins said.

The U.S. mission, he said, was to secure islands. This meant the ships spent several days bombarding an island before going ashore.

"Most of the islands were occupied by Japanese military," he said.

Lampkins' destroyer supported the landing crafts. His ship, the USS Bradford, was outfitted with five 5-inch guns, four to five banks of 40 mm anti-aircraft guns, six 20 mm guns, and two banks of torpedoes.

"And a bunch of depth charges. They are quite fortified," he said.

Iwo Jima is one place he especially remembers.

"We spent a week bombarding that island before invasion," he said. "We thought we had it beat down. But 7,000 of our people were killed on the shore. The Japanese had tunnels."

As a radar operator, Lampkins spent his shift inside a small room located midship.

"I couldn't see anything but what was on the radar screen," he said.

For four hours straight he watched that screen and the beam of light sweeping in a circle.

"When you see something,



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Japanese kamikaze pilots wreaked havoc on naval ships. Lampkins' ship, U.S.S. Bradford, somehow escaped any hits by Japanese or loss of crew throughout the war.



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Vietnam veteran Michael Kennedy lived and worked at Halfway before moving to Meadowbrook Place at Baker City.

it's just a little blip of light," he said. Airplanes showed up 100 miles away; ships at 20 miles. U.S. aircraft carried a special

signal. "You could identify friendly aircraft from an enemy aircraft," he said.

When an enemy airplane

"We spent a week bombarding that island before invasion. We thought we had it beat down. But 7,000 of our people were killed on the shore."

— Jim Lampkins, a Navy veteran, describing the American assault on the island of Iwo Jima

appeared, Lampkins reported the direction and distance. He tracked it until it was one mile from his ship.

"Then you lose him," he said. "About that time all hell breaks loose."

During his tour, his ship shot down 15 Japanese airplanes, and sank a Japanese cruiser and several smaller ships.

As for his ship, all 260 sailors survived.

"We didn't have any casualties aboard ship. That was unusual," he said.

During his years at sea, Lampkins wrote letters — quite a few to his girlfriend, Virginia.

"We'd get mail about once a month," he said.

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## Thatcher's ACE Hardware & La Grande ACE Hardware

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Limit 2 at this price.

Miracle-Gro® Garden Soil or Whitney Farms® Organic Raised Bed Mix, 1-1/2 Cu. Ft. 7438286, 7438336, 7505977  
Limit 60 at this price.

Miracle-Gro® Garden Soil for Flowers, 2 Cu. Ft. 7505977  
Limit 2 at this price.

SALE ENDS MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> 2019

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La Grande ACE Hardware  
2212 Island Ave, La Grande • 541-605-0152

Monday-Friday 7-6 • Saturday 8-6 • Sunday 9-5

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integrative physical therapy  
baker city float center

## Grand Opening!

at  
1928 Court Avenue, Baker City

Please join us during our open house from 11 am to 7 pm. Come see our newly remodeled physical therapy space, and NE Oregon's First Float Cabin.

## May 31, 2019

Come down to enter for your chance to win a FREE 90 minute float. We will be giving away one float every hour!