

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, JUNE 28

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

### MONDAY, JULY 1

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

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

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

■ **Haines Stampede Rodeo:** Slack starts at 9 a.m.; rodeo will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### THURSDAY, JULY 4

■ **Fourth of July events at Haines:** Cowboy Breakfast, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.; vendors in the park, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; parade, 10 a.m.; rodeo, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; free concert; fireworks, dusk to 10 p.m.

■ **Fourth of July events at Huntington:** Parade at noon; barbecue at the cook shack; wet and wild water park; vendors; fireworks at Farewell Bend.

■ **Fourth of July at Halfway:** 6:30 p.m. concessions open; The Wasteland Kings to perform, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.; pie auction fundraiser, 7:30 p.m.; fireworks begin at dusk.

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

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

The Baker Hotel will be closed permanently, including the ground floor, on Oct. 1, according to a statement issued by A.C. Lighthall. The only way the Baker Hotel would be kept open is if the Baker City Council should reverse its decision and permit the hotel to be used as an apartment complex to house the elderly or if the Apartment Owners Association would buy it.

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

A bighorn sheep was found dead Friday afternoon near Oxbow Dam, the victim of a car accident and the second known man-caused death in the sheep band in less than two months.

### 10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald June 26, 2009

Bruce Klunder, a 1954 Baker High School graduate, pastor and a memorialized participant in the civil rights movement, will be honored during a noon ceremony July 3 at the Baker County Courthouse.

### ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald June 27, 2018

Timber harvest on the three national forests in North-eastern Oregon would need to double to achieve the Forest Service's goals for restoring forests vulnerable to insects, disease and fire, one of the forest's supervisors said Tuesday.

Tom Montoya, supervisor of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, said new management plans for the Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla and Malheur national forests propose such an increase in logging.

The Forest Service will release the new plans for the trio of Blue Mountains national forests Friday, the culmination of almost a decade of work.

Montoya emphasized that the forest plans — which will replace the current documents approved in 1990 — do not guarantee a particular amount of logging.

He describes forest plans as "frameworks" for how the forests, which comprise about 5.5 million acres of public land, will be managed for the next 15 years or so.

"The plans are an umbrella covering what we want to achieve across the national forests," Montoya said.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, June 24

16 — 22 — 23 — 38 — 43 — 44  
Next jackpot: \$5.2 million

### MEGA MILLIONS, June 25

24 — 33 — 45 — 47 — 61 Mega 17  
Next jackpot: \$71 million

### WIN FOR LIFE, June 24

19 — 27 — 52 — 72

### PICK 4, June 25

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

### LUCKY LINES, June 25

3-8-12-14-20-22-27-32  
Next jackpot: \$61,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **THURSDAY:** Boneless chicken breast with cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, pasta salad, cheesecake
- **FRIDAY:** Beef franks on bun, baked beans, chips, potato salad, apple 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.

## CONTACT THE HERALD

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7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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**Baker City Herald**

ISSN-8756-6419

Serving Baker County since 1870  
Published Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays except Christmas Day by the Baker Publishing Co., a part of Western Communications Inc., at 1668 Resort St. (P.O. Box 807), Baker City, OR 97814.

Subscription rates per month are:  
\$10.80; by mail \$12.50.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Baker City Herald, P.O. Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814.

Periodicals Postage Paid  
at Baker City, Oregon 97814

# Pair convicted of making mushrooms

A Baker City couple arrested in January on multiple drug charges have been sentenced by two separate visiting judges to probation terms in Baker County Circuit Court.

Andrew Ferns, 35, of Baker City, and Cheris Alyene Owens, 22, of Baker City, both were placed on three years' supervised probation after pleading guilty to separate charges. Baker County Circuit Court Judge Greg Baxter was recused from both cases.

District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff stated in a press release that the convictions were based on evidence obtained after a search warrant was served at 1604 Fourth St., Apartment 2, on Jan. 30.

Members of the Oregon

State Police Drug Enforcement Section helped with the search of what at the time was thought to be a meth lab.

"The lab reports did not prove they were manufacturing methamphetamine," Shirtcliff said today.

The couple were instead growing psychedelic mushrooms, which are a Schedule I controlled substance, he said.

The apartment house also was evacuated during the investigation.

Police found paraphernalia for growing the mushrooms in the apartment. An area was tarped off and had six containers with soil growing about 500 grams of mushrooms, Shirtcliff said.

The District Attorney's Of-

fice argued for prison terms for both defendants because of the potential for distributing the mushrooms, which can be used to make other psychedelic types of drugs, Shirtcliff said.

Umatilla Circuit Court Judge Chris Brauer heard arguments in Ferns' case and chose to sentence him to probation, with a 21- to 22-month prison term suspended. Ferns served 112 days in jail prior to his release.

He pleaded guilty on May 22 to unlawful possession of methamphetamine, a Class C felony; unlawful manufacturing of psychedelic mushrooms within a 1,000 feet of a school, a Class A felony; and endangering the welfare of a minor, a Class A misdemeanor.

Union County Circuit Court Judge Thomas Powders sentenced Owens on June 3 to the probation term, with a 16- to 18-month suspended prison term, which would be applied should she violate probation terms. Owen served 124 days in jail before her release.

She pleaded guilty to unlawful manufacturing of psychedelic mushrooms within 1,000 feet of a school.

Shirtcliff praised the work of Sgt. Wayne Chastain and detective Shannon Regan of the Baker City Police Department and Lt. Daniel Conner of the Oregon State Police for their efforts investigating the case and executing the search warrant.

## OBITUARY

### Amber Baskett

Formerly of Halfway, 1974-2019

Amber (Spencer) Baskett, 44, formerly of Halfway, died on June 20, 2019, at St. Luke's Hospital in Fruitland, Idaho.

A memorial service and celebration of Amber's life will take place Saturday, June 29 at 11 a.m. at the Pine Valley Grange in Halfway. Friends are invited to join the family for a potluck reception immediately following the service, which will also be at the grange.

Amber Kay was born on Nov. 22, 1974, at Everett, Washington, to Ray and Cathy Spencer. She attended Mare Island Elementary at Mare Island, California, and Vallejo Junior High School, also in California. Amber's father, Ray, was in the U.S. Navy and they moved quite often which also included, Belfair, Washington, El Cajon, California, and Portland. The family eventually moved to Halfway after Ray's retirement in 1989. Amber graduated from Pine-Eagle High School in 1992. She continued her



Amber Baskett

education at Treasure Valley Community College and graduated with a degree as a legal secretary. For several years, she worked at the Argus Observer newspaper in Ontario.

Amber met Tim Baskett in Payette, Idaho, in May of 2000. She married Tim at Halfway at her parent's home on Sept. 29, 2001, and they had two children. They made their first home at Ontario, later moving to Payette. In 2007 Amber went to work with Truckstop.com in Enterprise doing account analytics and billing.

As a family they liked everything outdoors which included fishing and taking trips to McCall, Idaho, to enjoy the lake. The family had just returned home in these last couple of weeks, after taking a trip to the Oregon Coast. They walked on the beach, saved some sand, had fun and made memories. Amber was very interested in marine biology and enjoyed all there was to see.

Amber loved quilting and crocheting, counted cross stitch and had taken up an interest in painting. She took lots of quilting classes and participated in sev-

eral quilt shop hops. Amber made many beautiful things, which will be forever treasured.

Above all, Amber loved being a wife and a mother. Amber was always willing and able to do anything she put her mind to. She always had a smile to share. She will be missed more than words can say.

Amber is survived by her husband, Tim; her children, Savannah and Spencer; her parents, Ray and Cathy Spencer of Halfway; her sister, Candi, and her husband, John Prince, her nephew, Christopher Prince, and her great-nephew, Trevor Prince, all of Baker City.

She was preceded in death by both sets of grandparents, Jack and Bunny English, and Ray and Verele Spencer; and her nephew, Johnathon Prince.

For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Amber, the family suggests Creating Memories 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)

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Amanda 'Della' Steele:** 75, of North Powder, died June 24, 2019, surrounded by her 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)

**William 'Bud' Thomason:** 77, of Baker City, died June 24, 2019, at his home. His memorial service will take place Saturday, July 27 at 3 p.m. at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., with Pastor Brad Phillips of the Harvest Church officiating. Memorial contributions can be made to the Hillary Bahn Benevolence Fund through Gray's West & Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Bud, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

### FUNERALS PENDING

**Gene Edward Norris:** Burial

of his urn will take place Friday, June 28, at 2 p.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery, with military honors. A celebration of his life will follow at the Baker Eagles Club, 2935 H St. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To light a candle in Gene's memory, or to offer condolences to his family, go to [www.driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://www.driskillmemorialchapel.com)

**Leah Lewis:** Celebration of life, Saturday, June 29, at 1 p.m. at the Union United Methodist Church, 661 N. Main St.

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police Arrests, citations**  
POST-PRISON SUPERVISION VIOLATION (Wallowa County warrant) and POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE: Crystal L. Charbonneau, 32, of Baker City,

7:37 p.m. Monday in the 1900 block of Main Street; jailed.  
ESCAPE III (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Chad Michael Cox, 38, transient, 12:05 p.m. Tuesday, in the 2700 block of Third Street; cited and released.

PROBATION VIOLATION (Parole and Probation detainer): Melissa Marian Carey, 32, of 2787 Third St., 12:05 p.m. Tuesday, at her home; jailed.

THEFT OF SERVICES: Michael Eric Deroest, 40, of Baker City, 4:59 p.m. Tuesday, at 1 Sunridge Lane; jailed.

### Baker County Sheriff's Office

CRIMINAL TRESPASS I and THEFT III: James Thomas Kissinger, 44, of 2320 18th St., 7:32 p.m. Monday, at the Baker County Jail where he is being held on other charges.

MINOR IN POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL: Nykademus, 18, of 2650 17th St., 10:38 p.m. Mon-

day, in the 4000 block of Best Frontage Road; Tucker Foersterling, 18, of 20479 Highway 86; and Micheal Goyen, 19, of 1543 First St.; Sheriff Travis Ash said the three were cited and released after the Baker Rural and Baker City fire departments responded to a fire that apparently started in the engine compartment of Foersterling's 1985 Ford Bronco. The fire spread to some brush before it was extinguished, Ash said.

There were no injuries. A deputy also responded to the scene and cited the three men.

PROBATION VIOLATION (Baker County Warrant): Garrett Eli Lovell, 22, of 880 Elm St., No. 220, 5:27 p.m. Tuesday, at Haines; jailed.

**Oregon State Police**  
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Cody Joseph Billups, 27, of Baker City, 12:21 a.m. Friday, at Sunridge Lane and Campbell Street; jailed and later released.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Amel Frank Veltri, 42, of La Grande, 9:57 p.m. Friday, on Highway 86; jailed and later released.

DRUG POSSESSION AND OTHER CHARGES: Stuart James Milstead, 27, of Portland; and Kenneth Earl Voyles, 39, of Milwaukie, Oregon, 1:18 p.m. Friday; both were jailed and later released; police said Voyles was stopped after an officer observed traffic infractions. Contact with the driver and passenger resulted in a probable cause search, the press log stated. During the search, the officer seized methamphetamine, heroin, drug paraphernalia, identification cards not belonging to Milstead or Voyles and a license plate from a reportedly stolen vehicle.

Our Cilantro Lime Bowls are filled with cilantro lime rice topped with TacoTime's Salsa Verde, cheddar and pepper jack cheese, black beans, corn, avocado ranch and your choice of grilled all-white chicken or tender pork carnitas.

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## ELTRYM THEATER

JUNE 21-27

## TOY STORY 4

FRI-THURS: (4:20) 7:20, 9:40

## ROCKETMAN R

FRI-THURS: (4:00) 7:00, 9:35

## MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL PG-13

FRI-THURS: (4:10) 7:10, 9:45

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