



Kathy Orr / Baker City Herald

Tory Thornton, right, and his wife, Elizabeth started a healthcare office Sept. 6 in Haines.

HAINES

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Anderson then attended Washington State University for veterinary school. He began as a solo vet with a mixed practice, servicing large and small animals. Today, he mainly just does cattle and horses and can make between five and six stops in a day. “It’s a seasonal job for me,” Anderson said.

In the autumn, Anderson helps to wean calves to help them have a successful and healthy weaning period. He consults on and helps with vaccinations and pregnancy testing for heifers.

The winter is slower for him until around the middle of January when ranchers start calving and he is called out to help with pulling calves.

Bull testing begins in February and March and he is kept busy through May. Summer is a slower time for him until July or August when he begins fall work again.

Anderson said the horse side of his job can be busy any time. He has worked with horse lameness issues and breeding.

He met his wife, Kari Anderson, 40, while in college, and they moved to Haines to be near her family.

“It’s a family operation, I couldn’t have done it without my wife,” Anderson said.

He said he owns the Front Street building beginning with his shop and extending to the Post Office. He divided the middle area into



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Chiropractor Willard Bertrand has an office in Josh Anderson’s building on Front Street in Haines.

“My job is to help people realize how cool it is that they’re here.”

— Dr. Willard Bertrand, chiropractor who has an office in Josh Anderson’s building in Haines

office spaces occupied by the Thornton and Bertrand medical offices.

Tory Thornton, 39, is a direct primary healthcare provider who has been in medicine for 20 years and opened his Primary Health

the middle man, creating a direct primary care model.

“We don’t bill any insurance,” Thornton said.

Patients pay a \$50 monthly membership fee that covers all visits. He is able to refer people to specialists that will bill insurance.

“Everything is up-front, you won’t get surprised with any bills or anything like that,” Thornton said.

Bertrand, 64, is a chiropractic physician in general practice. He attended the Texas Chiropractic College and is licensed by Oregon to provide healthcare including home births, minor surgery, proctology, pediatric care, elderly care and other services.

“My job is to help people realize how cool it is that they’re here,” Bertrand said. “And then some people suffer with different maladies or situations and my job is to help them not to have needless and pointless suffering.”

Bertrand offers an initial three-minute “Health Hotline” call for free as well as a video consultation that is billable to most insurance carriers of \$75.

Bertrand moved to Union in 1981 where he worked as the town doctor for over a decade, working in the emergency room, birthing center, and as a chiropractor.

According to his website, he has offered health services in Eastern Oregon for over 35 years and established clinics in Elgin, Richland, Baker City and La Grande.

Heels and Spurs Salon is a different part of the building.

office in Haines on Sept. 6.

Thornton worked as a nurse at St. Luke’s Hospital in downtown Boise and also worked at Idaho Nephrology Associates with dialysis before going into family practice.

According to his wife, Elizabeth Thornton, 36, the couple had a goal to open their own clinic and recreate the relationship between doctors and patients to have a better connection with their family doctors.

Tory Thornton said the primary practice eliminates

Brother of missing man hurt in crash

By Chris Collins
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Tom Dennis, 48, of McMinnville, who was helping searchers look for his missing brother, Andy, over the weekend, was hurt when he crashed his vehicle into East Eagle Creek Saturday.

Tom Dennis’ 1999 Toyota Tacoma

pickup truck landed upside down in the creek about 6:09 p.m. on East Eagle Creek Road, sending rescuers on a mission to remove him from the wreckage.

Baker County Sheriff Travis Ash said the vehicle was on its top in the creek for about 30 minutes. Rescue workers spent about 10 minutes using bolt cutters and

an ax to get the door of Dennis’ vehicle open.

He was flown by Life Flight to St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise. Ash said Dennis checked himself out of the hospital.

Ash said police believe alcohol was a factor in the crash.

TESTS

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That’s the same philosophy behind the Summer Academy classes and other opportunities made available to students throughout the year.

“We do things that keep building enrichment — things that will raise the tide for all kids,” Palmer said.

Haines and Keating elementary students performed well as usual on the tests, although no report was made for Keating because of the small number of students who attend the rural school, Palmer said.

Preschool is offered at Haines, where 10 to 15 students attend yearly, and Keating serves one to five preschool students per year, she said.

Baker is looking at expanding a similar program to city schools at the former North Baker School building. It

currently is home to Baker Web Academy, Baker Early College, Eagle Cap Innovative High School, and a new alternative school program, in addition to other early childhood programs.

Student Success Act funding approved by the 2019 Legislature will be used to pay for the expansion, she said.

While preschoolers are not necessarily beginning to learn letters and numbers, what they do receive is instruction in how to get along with others, Palmer said.

“The biggest component is social interaction, working in a group and following directions,” she said.

Those who don’t learn those early skills have difficulty catching up as they progress through school, she said.

“It keeps them behind the curve for learning and interrupts the learning of

those around them,” Palmer said. “A large percentage can significantly impact what the growth is toward reading, math and writing across the board.”

A group of District administrators, agency partners and other interested community members traveled to early learning centers throughout the state to glean ideas about how to implement such a center in the Baker School District.

The center would include services such as early intervention for young children with special needs, special education for ages 2 to 5 and prekindergarten.

Adequate child care is another need in the community and the District is considering at a minimum making that service available to its own staff to start with, Palmer said.

“A lot of dominoes would have to fall into place,” she

said.

After providing child care for staff, the District next would look at providing relief child care for families in emergency situations or special circumstances, such as those working varied shifts

at area companies.

The District is helping sponsor a free screening of the film “No Small Matter” about the need for high-quality early care and education for children. The film will be shown on Nov. 7 at the

Churchill School Theater, 3451 Broadway St. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the film will be shown at 6 p.m.

To sign up for free child care, call 541-523-2696. Tacos will be sold at the event.

City Council to consider Warner’s retirement plan

The Baker City Council on Tuesday will consider a proposal to rehire City Manager Fred Warner Jr. on a one-year contract after he retires from the state’s pension system Dec. 31.

The Council will meet at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

Warner, who has worked as city manager since May 2016, made the proposal last month.

Changes to the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) allow employees to retire and begin drawing their pension, but continue to work for a public agency with no limitation on the number of hours they work.

By rehiring Warner after he retires from PERS the city would save about \$6,000 per year, money that the city now pays into his retirement account.

The proposed contract councilors will consider Tuesday would run from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2020.

Warner said earlier that if councilors agree with his proposal, he probably would continue as city manager for a year or a year and a half.

The proposed contract would continue Warner’s current annual salary of \$101,959.

The city would also pay 90% of the premiums for health insurance and establish a health savings account for him.

As for severance pay, Warner would not receive any if he were fired for cause or if he resigned.

If Warner were fired without cause during the first six months of his contract he would not receive severance pay. If he were fired without cause during the second half of the year he would receive a cash payment equal to two months’ salary.

In other business Tuesday, councilors will:

- Consider revising the city’s truancy ordinance to allow the Baker County Justice Court to impose a fine on juveniles cited for truancy. The existing ordinance only allows potential fines for a parent or guardian of a juvenile who is cited for truancy.

The proposed revision to the ordinance calls for fines of up to \$100 for the first conviction, \$250 for the second and \$500 for third and subsequent convictions.

The Justice Court and Baker County Juvenile Department requested the City Council change the ordinance.

- Consider a resolution authorizing the police department to conduct criminal background checks for prospective city employees, taxi drivers and certain volunteer positions. An audit done in July found that the city lacked an official resolution for such checks, as required by state law.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Charles ‘Casey’ Ingalls:

54, formerly of Baker City, died Oct. 5, 2019, at his home in Boise. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami’s Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

FUNERAL PENDING

Evan Simonski-Davis:

25, of Baker City, died Sept. 25, 2019, near Baker City. His memorial service will take place Saturday, Oct. 12, at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1995 Fourth St., with a reception following the service. Memorial contributions can be made to the YMCA through Gray’s West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Evan, or to leave a condolence for his family, go to www.grayswestco.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS and DRIVING WHILE OPERATOR’S LICENSE SUSPENDED: William Francis Simpson IV, 49, of 3307 Place St., 10:11 p.m. Saturday, in the 1700 block of Main Street; jailed.
CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant) and UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE: John Clyde Martine, 61, no fixed address, 3:04 p.m. Friday, at Church and Second Street; jailed.

Baker County Sheriff’s Office Arrests, citations
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: David James Crabtree, 27, of Haines, 1:09 a.m. Sunday, on Highway 30, about 5 miles north of Baker City; jailed and later released on bail.

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