

Community

What's New At The Library

• 2400 Resort St.

FICTION

- "Spy," Danielle Steel
- "Criss Cross," James Patterson
- "The Rise of Magicks," Nora Roberts
- "Beating about the Bush," M. C. Beaton
- "Scarlet Fever," Rita Mae Brown

NONFICTION

- "A Warning," Anonymous
- "With All Due Respect," Nikki Haley
- "Me," Elton John
- "The Way I Heard It," Mike Rowe
- "Three Days At The Brink," Bret Baier

DVDS

- "Angel Has Fallen" (Action)
- "Masterpiece: The Chaperone" (Drama)
- "Official Secrets" (Drama)
- "Papi Chulo" (Comedy)
- "Where'd You Go, Bernadette" (Comedy)

Baker City forestry consultant in new video

A Baker City forestry consultant who helped landowners deal with the aftermath of the 2015 Cornet/Windy Ridge fire, the largest blaze in Baker County history, is featured in a new video produced by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Lane Parry, who won an award in 2017 for his work with private landowners after the 104,000-acre fire, appears in the 7-minute video along with Jana Peterson, stewardship forester at the Forestry Department's Baker City office.



Parry

You can watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CT0qoYmBdK0&t=139s>

The Oregon Board of Forestry named Parry its Eastern Oregon Operator of the Year for 2017 for his work with landowners after the Cornet/Windy Ridge fire.

The video is designed to help property owners get ideas about restoring land burned in a wildfire.

Since 2013, blazes have burned almost 34,000 acres of private, non-industrial timber ground in Oregon, according to the Forestry Department.

"A wildfire can be devastating to landowners both emotionally and economically," said Ryan Gordon, family forestland coordinator for the agency. "When trees burn, beloved forest scenery around a home can turn to charred snags. Typically, those burned trees also

represent a loss of income a landowner was depending on for retirement or to send kids or grandkids to college."

Gordon said the video explains how local ODF stewardship foresters can help landowners find the resources and answers about what to do after a wildfire.

He gives these tips to forest landowners looking to recover after a wildfire.

- Assess damage. Smaller fires, burning only brush and small trees, may not require restoration. More intense fires that consume larger trees and underbrush, and damage soil may require restoring soil, grass, and trees.

- Create a restoration plan. Determine short-term and long-term goals for restoring your property and make plans to achieve them. A local ODF stewardship forester can provide information about salvage harvesting and clean-up, timber production, grazing land, stream health, soil productivity and fish and wildlife habitat.

- Look into assistance grants. Find out if your planned timber salvage is eligible for financial assistance before starting work. Financial assistance is limited and not all salvage operations are eligible. The process is often time consuming, so don't delay.

- Act quickly on your plan. Action right after a fire can help you better achieve your goals. For example, quickly establishing grasses and trees will help prevent unwanted weeds and brush.

LOCAL BRIEFING

Sage grouse recovery discussion set

A discussion about efforts to restore sage grouse populations is set for Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Baker County Library, 2400 Resort St.

The event is part of the Powder Basin Watershed Council's speaker series.

Dallas Hall Defrees, a Baker County native, will talk about the coalition of private landowners and government officials who were awarded \$6 million from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to try to increase sage grouse populations in Baker County and southern Union County.

Merkley opens field office in Baker City

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., has opened an Eastern Oregon field office in Suite 504 at the Baker Tower, 1705 Main St. in Baker City.

The move from Pendleton to the Baker Tower comes after Merkley had a new staffer, Jessica Keys, join his team as Eastern Oregon field representative. The Baker City office will serve as the local point of contact for Oregonians in Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Malheur and Baker counties, according to a press release from Merkley.



Merkley

"It is important to me that every region in our state has a local office to field questions and information, and local staff to be out and available in our communities," Merkley said. "I'm glad we're opening our doors to this new, centrally located office."

The phone number for the senator's new field office is 541-278-1129.

Ladies Golf & Bridge Christmas party set

The Baker Ladies Golf and Bridge Association will have its annual Christmas Party on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at Quail Ridge Golf Course, 2801 Indiana Avenue. The party will start at 11:30 a.m., and there might be bridge games afterward.

This will be a potluck, so please bring a salad or dessert. There will also be a gift exchange, so please bring a gift worth less than \$15. More information is available by calling Nancy at 541-519-6774.

TRAIN

Continued from Page 1A

The potato trailer collided with the pickup, and the two became entangled, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Richardson, the potato truck driver, didn't realize this had happened and continued driving across the railroad tracks, which are just west of Highway 30.

At that point the pickup dislodged from the trailer on the tracks, but the pickup couldn't move.

Furtney said they initially saw the lights from the oncoming train, and

later heard its horn. They jumped from the pickup what he estimated was 10 to 15 seconds before the train hit the pickup.

Baker County Sheriff's deputies investigated the incident. No citations have been issued.

The Sheriff's Office was assisted by Oregon State Police, Baker City Fire Department, Haines Fire Protection District, Baker Rural Fire Protection District, and Oregon Department of Transportation.

No one on the train crew was injured, said Tim McMahan, a spokesman for Union Pacific.

City Council might ask voters to end councilors' \$10 per meeting salary

Baker City Council members might give up their paltry paychecks.

But only if city voters agree to do away with councilors' pay.

Councilors will discuss during their regular meeting Tuesday whether to ask voters, in the May 2020 election, to delete a section of the city charter that pays councilors \$10 for every meeting they attend, to a yearly maximum of \$150.

That charter clause dates to the 1950s.

Tuesday's meeting starts at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

Councilors will discuss asking voters to make another change to the charter — deleting the requirement that the

city get voter approval before selling any city property with a market value of more than \$10,000.

That section of the charter would be revised to read that the city, with a majority vote of the Council, could sell any surplus equipment, regardless of value, with the proceeds going to the city's equipment replacement fund.

The city has a surplus backhoe it wants to sell, and officials believe its value exceeds \$10,000.

In case voters rejected the proposal to eliminate the \$10,000 threshold, the May 2020 ballot could also include a separate item asking voters to authorize the sale of the backhoe.

In other business Tuesday the Council will:

- Consider approving a new three-year contract with Grass Master Inc. for maintenance of city parks, Mount Hope Cemetery and the landscaping at Sam-O Swim Center, City Hall and Crossroads Carnegie Art Center.

The Baker City company was the only one to respond to a request for proposals for the work.

Grass Master Inc., which has had the contract for almost nine years, is proposing a contract of \$171,210 per year, an increase of 8.48% over the current contract.

- Consider approving a contract with the Oregon Department of Transporta-

tion (ODOT) to have vinyl art wraps placed on a traffic signal control cabinet, owned by ODOT, at Main Street and Washington Avenue.

The city has set aside money for the public art project, which will cost an estimated \$600.

The city's Public Arts Commission has been working on the vinyl art wrap concept for the past four years.

- Consider the final reading of an ordinance allowing the Baker County Justice Court judge to issue a monetary fine to a juvenile cited for violating the city's curfew/truancy ordinance.

The current ordinance only allows for fines to be imposed on a juvenile's parent or guardian.

Slowdowns planned Wednesday on I-84 west of La Grande

MEACHAM — The Oregon Department of Transportation will stage rolling slowdowns for eastbound and westbound traffic on Interstate 84 near Meacham on Wednesday to accommodate the removal of hazard trees near milepost 242, 20 miles west of La Grande, plus two or three nearby locations.

Up to three separate slowdowns operations are scheduled to take place Wednesday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. that will affect traffic for about 15 minutes in each case.

Slowdowns begin at milepost 256 near Perry for westbound traffic and milepost 224 near Poverty Flats for eastbound traffic, with pilot cars slowing motorists to about 35 mph. Once traffic has passed the work site the pilot cars will exit the freeway and drivers can return to posted speeds. Please plan extra travel time in this area at this time.

Freeway onramps in the slowdown zones will also be temporarily closed during the operations until the pilot cars and traffic have passed. Travelers will be able to exit the freeway at affected interchanges, but they might experience delays in getting on the freeway towards the direction of the work zones.

The rolling slowdown will create a window of time when no vehicles will be at the work sites for approximately 10 minutes. This will allow workers to safely fell the hazard trees without traffic in the area.

If weather conditions are not favorable on December 11, we will postpone the operation till the following Wednesday, said Randy Randolph of ODOT.

Library adds digital news archive

Patrons of the Baker County Library District can now peruse digital versions of several newspapers, including the Baker City Herald, as well as magazines.

Titled America's News, digital collection is updated daily. America's News provides online access to the text of current and archived issues of more than 2,800 sources including 48 national magazines, and 42 full-text Oregon newspapers, including:

- (Ontario) Argus Observer (1998 – current)
 - Army Times (1999 – current)
 - Baker City Herald (2001 – current)
 - Bend Bulletin (2005 – current)
 - Blue Mountain Eagle (John Day) (2002 – current)
 - Christian Science Monitor (1980 – current)
 - Dalles Chronicle (2005 – current)
 - East Oregonian (Pendleton) (2002 – current)
 - Oregonian (1987 – current)
 - USA Today (1987 – current)
 - Wallowa County Chieftain (2002 – current)
- Patrons can access the collection by logging in at www.bakerlib.org/online-library.
- For more information contact the Baker County Library District by calling 541-523-6419 or emailing info@bakerlib.org

FIRE

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The property is owned by Michelle D. Segerdahl, according to Baker County Assessor's Office records.

Segerdahl, who died in September 2018, is still listed as the official owner.

The Baker City Fire Department received mutual aid from Baker Rural, Haines and Bowen Valley fire protection districts. Officers from the Baker City Police Department, the Baker County Sheriff's Office, the Baker County Dispatch Center and Baker City Public Works

employees also assisted.

No other details were available in time for this report.

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Weekly Specials December 9-15

Monday	Meatloaf.....	\$8.95
Tuesday	All You Can Eat Spaghetti.....	\$8.95
Wednesday	Liver & Onions.....	\$8.95
Thursday	Chicken Fried Steak.....	\$9.95
Friday	All You Can Eat Mini Shrimp.....	\$9.95
	Steak & Shrimp.....	\$10.95
	Pan Fried Oysters.....	\$10.50
Saturday	Prime Rib.....	\$14.95 / NY Steak.....\$13.95
Sunday	Stuffed Pork Loin.....	\$10.50 sr/\$10.95

OREGON TRAIL RESTAURANT
221 Bridge Street • 541-523-5844
Open Daily 6 AM - 8 PM

BUFFETS
Monday - Friday 11 AM - 2 PM
Lunch includes Salad Bar, Entree, Grilled Bread, Baked Bean & Vegetable
Sunday 8 AM - 11 AM
Sunday Buffet includes Chocolate Fountain

Join
Baker Community Choir
and the
*Baker Valley Children's Choir

as they
Celebrate
Love's Pure Light

Three Performances
Friday, December 13, 7:00P.M.
Saturday, December 14, 7:00P.M.
Sunday, December 15, 3:00P.M.

Baker Heritage Museum
(Campbell & Grove)
Donations Accepted at the Door

*Children's Choir performs Friday & Saturday only

DEC 6-12
ELTRYM HISTORIC THEATER
1809 1st Street, Baker City
www.eltrym.com

FORD V FERRARI PG-13
FRI: (3:50) 7:00
SAT & SUN: (12:45) (3:50) 7:00
MON-THURS: 7:00

KNIVES OUT PG-13
FRI: (4:10) 7:10
SAT & SUN: (1:10) (4:10) 7:10
MON-THURS: 7:10

FROZEN 2 PG
FRI: (4:20) 7:20
SAT & SUN: (1:20) (4:20) 7:20
MON-THURS: 7:20

() **Bargain Matinee**
Show Times: 541-523-2522
Office: 541-523-5439