

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

■ **First Friday Art Shows:** Baker City art galleries are open late to showcase the month's new artwork; opening times vary between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, Peterson's Gallery and others.

MONDAY, JAN. 6

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

■ **Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC):** 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., at the Community Connection meeting room, 2810 Cedar St.; lunch will be provided.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

■ **Baker School Board:** Work session, 5 p.m., Council Chambers in Baker City Hall, 1655 First St.

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

■ **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; continues most Fridays.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald January 2, 1970

Former Baker City Fire Chief Babe Transue, 68, retired from city employment Wednesday following 29 years of service.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 2, 1995

Sen.-elect Greg Walden, R-Hood River, who has been chosen to represent sprawling District 28 in the Legislature, introduced himself to Baker County constituents Friday.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 1, 2010

Hikers and horseback riders who travel trails through the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest will have reason to rejoice in 2010.

And in 2011.

After the snow melts this spring the Wallowa-Whitman will embark on its most ambitious trail-maintenance campaign in many years.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald January 2, 2019

Luke Gibson will start work Jan. 28 as executive director of the Baker County YMCA.

Gibson, 39, of Sheridan, Wyoming, has been the youth and adult sports director for the YMCA in Sheridan for the past 14 years.

His experience and emphasis on fundraising were part of the reason he was chosen for the Baker County position, said Lindy Petrik, who has served as interim director for the Baker County YMCA since early October.

Petrik replaced Heidi Dalton, who served as CEO for six years.

Petrik will return to her role on the YMCA board of directors when Gibson takes over.

Gibson, who earned a bachelor's degree in business administration, also served as a city councilor in Sheridan, which has a population of about 17,000.

Prior to interviewing for the Baker County YMCA position, Gibson had never visited Baker City. He grew up in Gooding, Idaho, about a four-hour drive from Baker City.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Dec. 30

2 — 11 — 32 — 33 — 35 — 38
Next jackpot: \$8.1 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Dec. 31

30 — 44 — 49 — 53 — 56 Mega 11
Next jackpot: \$60 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 30

17 — 18 — 54 — 73

PICK 4, Dec. 31

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

LUCKY LINES, Dec. 31

1-8-11-16-18-23-25-30

Next jackpot: \$45,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **THURSDAY:** Boneless chicken breast with cream gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, biscuit, cottage cheese with fruit, ice cream

■ **FRIDAY:** Barbecued pork ribs, au gratin potatoes, mixed vegetables, roll, fruit ambrosia

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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SOLAR

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"When you build something from scratch, the first time you take it out things will start breaking," Spaugh said. "It's worth it, a trial by fire."

Creating the car, she said, allows students to put theories learned in classrooms to work on a real-world project.

"The learning happens when you're designing, building, testing," she said.

She learned a lot about how cars work.

"I had a decent idea of how it worked in a gasoline car," she said. "This showed me how it works in an electric car, down to the nitty-gritty."

Heading Down Under

To compete in the race, Spaugh and her teammates took a term off school. She arrived in Australia on Aug. 28 to arrange transportation, food and other logistics of supporting a team through the middle of the continent.

The rest of the team arrived Sept. 4. They spent the remainder of that month testing and tweaking their solar car while camping in the Outback.

Growing up in Eastern Or-

"When you build something from scratch, the first time you take it out things will start breaking. It's worth it, a trial by fire."

— Sarah Spaugh

gon, Spaugh is no stranger to the outdoors. That wasn't the case with some of her teammates.

"You have people who had never camped in their lives," she said.

During testing the Stanford team traveled the race course in reverse, from Adelaide north to Darwin. The route is approximately 3,000 kilometers (1,864 miles).

"It's a big experience being there," Spaugh said. "Getting the car functioning, and fixing it when it breaks down."

During tests the team recorded data to determine how much energy the car uses at various speeds.

The goal, Spaugh said, was "to get the fastest time possible without running out of battery."

On a flat road with no wind, she estimates the Stanford car could go about 250

miles at 55 mph.

The team had five rental vehicles — several to haul supplies and one outfitted with antennae to collect data transmitted from the solar car.

Although they'd struggled with a bug in the electrical system and issues with the motor controller, Spaugh said the car was working great as race day approached.

The Challenge ran from Oct. 13 to Oct. 20. The route started in Darwin in the Northern Territory and traveled the Stuart Highway to Port Augusta, and then Highway 1 to finish in Adelaide in South Australia.

The remote nature of inland Australia requires careful planning for gas stops and food supplies.

"There's a stretch where you go a couple days without a grocery store," Spaugh said.

The battery fire that ended the Stanford team's race is still a bit of a mystery. The students know it was caused by a short circuit, but they will have to wait until the car returns in a few months to investigate.

"Then we use it to teach the next generation of team how to solar car. Or how to

not solar car," Spaugh said with a smile. "A big thing in engineering is learning from your mistakes."

When the 60-pound battery pack caught fire, Spaugh and her teammates pulled it out before the car, which is made of carbon fiber, could ignite.

"It's carbon soaked in glue. It's pretty flammable," she said.

The driver evacuated safely.

"They can get out of the car in 15 seconds," she said.

With the disabled car in a trailer, the team completed the race route.

Spaugh said many teammates had saved money so they could spend more time exploring the region. She and a few others backpacked in New Zealand. She returned to the United States in mid-November.

As she looks ahead at her master's degree, Spaugh talks a lot about math and physics — concepts that don't necessarily come easily to her.

But she's not discouraged by the difficulty.

"You have to go into math and physics with the idea of 'I am capable of understanding this. I can do this.'"

APPEAL

Continued from Page 1A

Blair said he's skeptical about Connors' claim that it's "virtually impossible" for Verizon to build a tower anywhere other than on the parcel the company proposed.

But in any case that issue is not within the Planning Commission's jurisdiction, Blair said.

"It's not our responsibility to find them a suitable location for their tower," he said.

Connors also cites court decisions as precedent giving wireless companies "a considerable amount of discretion" in determining whether a gap in cell coverage justifies the construction of a tower.

In the appeal, Connors pointed out that the proposed site for the tower, a 2.12-acre property owned by Carney and Deborah Lansford, is in the general industrial zone.

"The (city's development code) specifically required Verizon to consider industrial zoned properties first before considering other sites for the telecommunications tower, which it did in this

"It's not our responsibility to find them a suitable location for their tower."

— Alan Blair, former longtime member of the Baker City Planning Commission who was among 5 commissioners who voted to deny a conditional use permit to Verizon Wireless to build a 70-foot cell tower

case," Connors wrote.

The development code allows Verizon to build a cell tower of up to 50 feet tall on the industrial property without a conditional use permit.

The property is just north of D Street between East and Clark streets, near Leo Adler Field and the Baker County Fairgrounds.

Several people who either testified to the Planning Commission or submitted written comments noted that there are also homes in the area.

Blair, who was a longtime chairman of the Planning Commission, said he believes the city should have changed the zoning of that parcel years ago because of its proximity to residential neighbor-

hoods.

"To me that's part of the problem — there's no buffer (between the industrial and residential zones)," Blair said.

In terms of views, Connors writes that the city's zoning code "doesn't preclude a conditional use merely because it is visible. Rather, (the code) requires that the visual impacts be minimized. Verizon sited and designed the tower in a way to minimize the view impacts to the greatest extent possible."

Connors also reiterated a point that Verizon made in other documents — that 70 feet "is the minimum height necessary to satisfy the coverage and capacity objectives and therefore minimizes the visual impacts to the extent practicable."

Verizon has also proposed to add green "branches" to the tower to simulate the appearance of a tree, something Connors contends in the appeal "will further minimize the visual impacts of the facility on the broader landscape."

Connors writes that the camouflaged tower design is "considerably more expensive" than the unadorned version, and that the city's zoning code doesn't require such additions to cell towers.

OBITUARY

Betty McClinton

Baker City, 1930-2019

Betty Lou Dick McClinton, 89, died Dec. 15, 2019, at Baker City.

Cremation was through Gray's West for The Neptune Society.

Born to a sweet couple from Iowa, Betty Lou Dick McClinton was born in Burns, Wyoming, on March 7, 1930.

Spending much of her early childhood in Missouri, the family moved West in 1941, settling at Riverside, California. Living close to March Air Force Base,



Betty McClinton

Betty witnessed thousands of planes heading out to fight World War II, as well as hearing the sonic boom created by test pilot Chuck Yeager breaking the sound barrier.

In 1950 she married David McClinton and moved to China Lake in the Mohave Desert. She had a unique view of nuclear testing while working at the Naval Air Weapons Base.

Over the next 14 years, Betty had three daughters, raising them in Southern California and the Bay Area of California. Always craving the excitement of moving, Betty also lived along the Central Coast of California, then

Central and Eastern Oregon.

During her life, she worked as a book-keeper, tax preparer, librarian, police records clerk, and dispatcher in addition to volunteering for the PTA, Girl Scouts, and many grade school functions.

Betty lived her life to the fullest and had no fear of trying something new. Among her many accomplishments, she was a voracious reader, made the best potato salad, sang beautiful lullabies, and loved riding roller coasters.

She will be missed by her three daughters, son-in-law, two granddaughters, grandson, three great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Mary Louise Clark: 87, of Sandy, and formerly of Baker City, died Dec. 29, 2019, at her home. Arrangements are under the direction of Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel. To light a candle in memory of Mary Lou, or to leave a condolence for her family, go to www.grayswestco.com

FUNERAL PENDING

Wayne Wilson: Memorial service will take place Saturday, Jan. 18, at 2 p.m. at the Pine Baptist Church in Halfway. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations INTERFERING WITH A POLICE OFFICER and UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY INTO A MOTOR VEHICLE (Warrant): Tattiana Gabriel McKenzie, 26, of 2707 Third St.; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: River Henry Colnot, 21, Richland, 2:07 a.m. today on Pine Creek Lane; jailed.

UNION COUNTY WARRANT: Brandi Marie Kasinger, 30, 2627 12th St., 8:49 p.m. Tuesday at the Sheriff's Office; cited and released.

Best Friends of Baker Saturday Market

Open EVERY Saturday 8 AM - 2 PM
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE SALE

2950 Church St, Baker City (first left after Broadway turns into 10th)

We accept debit, credit, cash & checks!

Donations accepted Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 9-1
(All proceeds benefit the animals of Baker County)



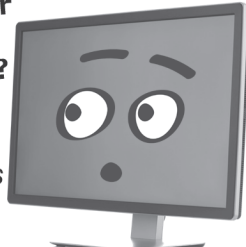
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