

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

TUESDAY, JAN. 28

■ **Baker City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 1655 First St.

FRIDAY, JAN. 31

■ **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.

MONDAY, FEB. 3

■ **Haines Fire Protection District Board:** 6 p.m. at the Haines Library.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 7

■ **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, FEB. 10

■ **Baker County Library Board:** 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Riverside meeting room at the library, 2400 Resort St.

■ **Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Pondosa Station.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald January 24, 1970

HUNTINGTON — The Locomotives of Huntington High School further cleared their path to the district play-off by dumping the Harper Hornets 68-56 here Friday night in a Southern "B" League encounter.

The Locomotives are now 2-1 in league play and 9-3 for the season.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 24, 1995

The Baker-Malheur Regional Alliance Board has allocated \$29,500 for four new Round IV Regional Strategies projects and added \$36,000 to five old ones.

Oregon gave the two-county region about \$112,000 more than expected.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 25, 2010

The Baker City Council's nearly eight-month search for a city manager will continue.

The Council's choice for the job, Tim Johnson of Portland, has declined the city's offer.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald January 25, 2019

A Baker County committee had to postpone a decision on whether to give money to ranchers who had cattle killed by wolves last year.

The Baker County Wolf Depredation Compensation Committee did recommend during its Wednesday meeting that the state distribute \$23,500 to four Panhandle ranchers to help them hire range riders — employees who follow cattle herds to help protect them from wolves.

Although Baker County has just \$12,000 available to distribute for range riders, the state sometimes has unused money from other counties.

The Baker County committee recommended the state award \$14,000 to Chad DelCurto, who had the most confirmed cattle losses to wolves during a string of attacks in April 2018. Wolves from the Pine Creek pack killed three of DelCurto's calves and injured four others.

DelCurto did not apply for compensation for the cattle, however.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Jan. 22

2 — 13 — 16 — 28 — 41 — 47
Next jackpot: \$2.2 million

POWERBALL, Jan. 22

11 — 33 — 44 — 59 — 67 PB 8
Next jackpot: \$373 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Jan. 22

1 — 25 — 54 — 68-

PICK 4, Jan. 23

• 1 p.m.: 6 — 3 — 3 — 1
• 4 p.m.: 3 — 8 — 8 — 4

• 7 p.m.: 3 — 1 — 2 — 0

• 10 p.m.: 0 — 9 — 1 — 9

LUCKY LINES, Jan. 23

3-5-12-14-20-24-28-29
Next jackpot: \$23,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **MONDAY:** Pork roast, parslid red potatoes, bread, fruit ambrosia, lemon bars

■ **TUESDAY:** Hot turkey sandwich, potatoes and gravy, broccoli-blend vegetables, onion salad, bread pudding

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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Judy and Gordon Schroeder

50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Schroeders

Gordon and Judy Schroeder of Baker City celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary today.

Due to winter weather, the couple postponed their party until June 13 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Francis Cathedral.



The Schroeders

TRAINS

Continued from Page 1A

There will be a station with information on each crossing at next week's open house, Owen said.

The purpose of the Jan. 30 open house is to gather ideas from the public that the city can incorporate into the notice of intent to apply for a Quiet Zone, she said.

To qualify for a Quiet Zone, cities must make changes to railroad crossings that are more robust than the existing lights and crossing arms and are more effective at preventing vehicles from getting to the tracks when a train is approaching or passing.

These could include barriers that extend for at least 100 feet on either side of the crossing, or four-quadrant gates.

Owen said that although Baker City could potentially qualify for a Quiet Zone,

based on FRA safety standards, by modifying as few as two of the five crossings, the city will not consider applying for the designation unless each of the five crossings has safety upgrades.

Train conductors can still sound warning whistles in Quiet Zones if there is a vehicle or pedestrian on the tracks or in other emergencies, per the conductor's discretion.

An average of about 24 trains per day roll through Baker City. Federal rules require trains to sound their whistle within a quarter mile of crossings.

Owen said she, along with Mayor Loran Joseph and City Manager Fred Warner Jr., planned to drive to La Grande today to see the changes that city made to qualify for a Quiet Zone, which took effect there Dec. 27.

La Grande spent about

\$200,000 to improve five railroad crossings.

Owen said Baker City has not allocated any money for crossing work required to qualify for a Quiet Zone.

In addition to the five street crossings in Baker City, there is a pedestrian crossing of the railroad at Carter Street.

Owen said the city would propose to close that crossing rather than make safety improvements, which she said could cost more than any of the street crossings.

The City Council has discussed the possibility of applying for a Quiet Zone a few times over the past 20 years or so.

But the current citizens group promoting the idea, Neighbors for a Safer, Quieter and Healthier Baker City, has been especially active. The group made a proposal to the City Council in November and presented

a petition signed by more than 230 residents who support a Quiet Zone.

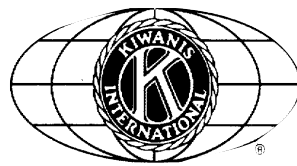
The group contends that whistles interrupt residents' sleep and interfere with students' learning at South Baker Intermediate School, which is near the tracks.

Although critics of the Quiet Zone proposal have argued in social media posts that the city shouldn't compromise public safety just to silence train whistles, an October 2017 report from the Government Accountability Office — the auditor of federal programs — concludes that analyses in 2011 and 2013 by the (FRA) "showed that there was generally no statistically significant difference in the number of accidents that occurred before and after quiet zones were established."

The FRA studied 359 quiet zones in 2011, and 203 more in 2013.

CONGRATULATIONS

to the December & January
Baker High School Kiwanis
Student of the Month



Grady Lay



Kaitlyn Waters



Kaylee Dalke



Laura Illingsworth

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NEWS OF RECORD

FUNERAL PENDING

Betty Rouse: Visitations will be Friday, Jan. 24, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Recitation of the rosary will be Saturday, Jan. 25, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Father Suresh Kumar Telagani will officiate. Interment will be at Mount Hope Cemetery following the service. Friends are invited to return to the church after the interment for a reception in the parish hall. Memorial contributions may be made to the Catholic Church General Fund through Gray's West & Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Betty's memory, go to www.grayswestco.com

Rupert Dykstra: There will be a celebration of his life at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at Harvest Christian Church, 3720 Birch St., in Baker City. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Gary Lair: A celebration of Gary's life and a potluck luncheon (meat to be provided) will take place Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m. at the Baker City Christian Church, 675 Highway 7. The family

suggests memorial contributions to either Heart 'N Home Hospice (Opal Foundation), Rachel Center, or MSTI in Fruitland, Idaho, (Cancer Institute) 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


Alan King: His memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Baker City Church of the Nazarene, 1250 Hughes Lane. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
SECOND-DEGREE DISORDERLY CONDUCT: James Dewayne Reedy, 53 of Baker City, 10:49 p.m. Thursday, in the 2300 block of East Street; jailed.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations
SECOND-DEGREE DISORDERLY CONDUCT: Jesse James Sessions-Blanchard, 22, of Richland, 8:20 p.m. Thursday, on Valley Street in Richland; jailed.



**First Annual
Groundhog Day
Festival**

Saturday, February 1st
Groundhog Day Eve
5-7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
2177 1st Street, Baker City

Homemade biscuits and sausage gravy, hashbrown casserole, applesauce & groundhog sugar cookie

Cost is your cash donation with all proceeds going toward keeping our food pantry stocked and to emergency aid for those in need.

The world famous Episcopossums will be playing music!
Mark your calendars and plan to attend! *Bring some friends!*
Drawing for a fabulous gift basket including a \$50 Barley Brown gift card.