

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

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

MONDAY, FEB. 17

■ **National Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Free Day:** In observance of Presidents Day holiday; hours change to 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily on this day; call 541-523-1843 for more information; the Center is 5 miles east of Baker City, just off Highway 86.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

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

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

■ **Baker Rural Fire Protection District Board:** 5:30 p.m. at the Pocatontas Fire Station.

■ **Baker School Board:** 6 p.m., Council chambers at Baker City Hall, 1655 First St.

TUESDAY FEB. 25

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

MONDAY, MARCH 2

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

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald February 13, 1970

Approximately one-third of all boys from the ages of 8 to 18 are in Scouting — either Cubs, Scouts or Explorers. This was one of the statements made by Erv Williams, main speaker at the annual Boy Scout Father Son Banquet Wednesday night.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 13, 1995

OXBOW RESERVOIR — Like a classroom of second-graders who just heard the recess bell, 10 Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep sprint for freedom the instant Dick Humphreys opens the trailer door.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald February 12, 2010

Baker County's farmers and ranchers fared better — statistically speaking, anyway — than the statewide average during a dismal 2009 for Oregon's agriculture industry.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald February 13, 2019

Baker County voters in November overwhelmingly approved an ordinance designed to prevent the enforcement of laws violating the Second Amendment and the ordinance could receive its first test later this year.

At least 12 bills have been introduced in the Oregon Legislature that deal with firearms or ammunition in some way.

Senate Bill 501, which has received the most publicity, is also the most restrictive. It would require gun buyers to acquire a permit, limit people from possessing guns with a capacity of no more than five rounds, limit the amount of ammunition a person can buy to 20 rounds in a 30-day period, require background checks for ammunition purchases and require gun owners to secure firearms with a trigger or cable lock.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Feb. 10

4 — 22 — 26 — 35 — 38 — 39
Next jackpot: \$3.8 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Feb. 11

4 — 6 — 32 — 52 — 64 Mega 6
Next jackpot: \$40 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Feb. 10

20 — 34 — 35 — 73

PICK 4, Feb. 11

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

LUCKY LINES, Feb. 11

• 10 p.m.: 3 — 8 — 0 — 0
1-8-12-13-17-21-26-30

Next jackpot: \$42,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **FRIDAY:** Beef pot roast, scalloped potatoes, green beans, roll, pea-and-onion salad, berry cheesecake
- **MONDAY (Feb. 17):** Closed in observance of Presidents Day.
- **TUESDAY (Feb. 18):** Cabbage rolls, parslied red potatoes, carrots, bread, broccoli-bacon salad, cheese cake
- **WEDNESDAY (Feb. 19):** Spaghetti with beef sauce, broccoli-blend vegetables, garlic bread, green salad, apple crisp
- **THURSDAY (Feb. 20):** Pork filet mignon, potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, roll, carrot-raisin salad, ice cream

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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circ@bakercityherald.com

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Baker City Herald

ISSN-8756-6419
Serving Baker County since 1870
Published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays except Christmas Day by the Baker Publishing Co., a part of EO Media Group, at 1668 Resort St. (P.O. Box 807), Baker City, OR 97814.
Subscription rates per month are: Baker City (97814), \$10.80; all others, \$12.50.
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Baker City Herald, P.O. Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814.

Periodicals Postage Paid
at Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Poster contest winners announced

Three South Baker Intermediate sixth-graders were named as local winners in the Oregon State Elks Association's annual Eye Injury Prevention Poster Contest.

First place went to Chase Roy. Taylor Johnson was awarded second

place, and Cadell Mills created the third-place entry.

All three posters will be sent to the Elks district competition, and if they are chosen at that level the students would compete in the state contest in March, said John Clark, Baker City fire chief.

The poster contest, which started in September 2019, was open to students in grades 4, 5 and 6 at South Baker, Keating and Haines schools.

A total of 110 students submitted posters to the local contest, sponsored by Baker Elks Lodge 338.

BARBER

Continued from Page 1A

"It's an art form," Eide said. "It's something you'll never master. There are people that have master barber titles but you really truly can never master this art form. Every single person has a different hair type, hair texture, colors, densities, and things like that. So you're always constantly learning new tricks."

Eide said he might attend a barber convention in Los Angeles to learn more tricks of the trade.

Eide also learned how to make wigs for cancer patients during training at

"It's an art form. It's something you'll never master."

— **Timmy Eide, who recently opened a barbershop in Baker City**

Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He became medically certified in making wigs not only for cancer patients, but also for veterans and others.

Eide said he was motivated to learn wig-making in part due to the loss of his mother to pancreatic cancer a few years ago.

Eide lived in Idaho for seven years and owned a shop in Nampa called the Beard

House that, as its name implies, primarily focused on beard trimming.

But Eide said he had always wanted to return to Baker City. When he saw the wood interior and decor at 2000 Broadway — a location that had been a barbershop for decades — he decided it was perfect.

Wes Dickison owned Dickison's Barber Shop at that location after his uncle, Rod Dickison, turned it over to him in 2005. Rod Dickison died Sept. 10, 2005.

Eide hopes to add a "speakeasy" to his shop some day, saying the name means "communication."

"The barbershop historically has been a place where men would meet up and talk about what's going on in the community, almost like a coffee club in the morning," Eide said.

He also wants to add an area in the basement with a few couches where people can go and play old school Nintendo video games and others.

His ultimate goal is to have a place where cellphones aren't allowed, forcing people to have face-to-face conversations.

"That is pretty much my dream, is to have something like that," Eide said.

TAXES

Continued from Page 1A

At issue is the Baker County lodging tax.

An ordinance requires owners of motels, bed-and-breakfasts and other lodging businesses in most of Baker County, including Baker City, to collect a 7% tax on each room rate and give that money to the county.

A county ordinance requires that 70% of the tax revenue be spent for tourism promotion, 25% for economic development and 5% for administrative expenses the county incurs in collecting the tax.

Lodging tax revenue dropped from \$625,000 in fiscal 2016-17 to \$538,000 in fiscal 2017-18.

The county projected the revenue to dip again, to \$420,000, for the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, 2020.

The Sunridge, the county's largest motel with about 150

rooms, collects the biggest share of the lodging taxes. In the 2014-15 fiscal year, Sunridge guests paid about \$194,000 in lodging taxes — about 42% of the total paid that year, according to county records.

The Super 8 has 72 rooms and Motel 6 has 40 rooms.

The county's lawsuit addresses declining lodging tax collections, reading: "Beginning in 2018 the tax collected by Defendant at its three establishments dropped precipitously as compared to prior time periods."

County officials, citing the lodging tax ordinance's requirement that motels, with 72-hour notice, turn over accounting records related to room rentals, sought records from the Sunridge, Super 8 and Motel 6.

"The purpose of this request for records was to verify the accuracy of the information set out on Transient Lodging tax returns filed by

Defendant," according to the lawsuit. "Despite repeated requests by Plaintiff's representatives Defendant has failed to provide all of the request records."

The lawsuit lists specific records:

- Registration cards for the Super 8 for February and June of 2018

- Monthly reports from Motel 6 showing total revenue, exempt revenue and other room statistics from July 2017 through June 2018, daily reports from February and June of 2018, registration cards from February and June of 2018, and the number of rooms and average percentage rented in each calendar quarter.

- Exempt revenue monthly reports from July 2017 to June 2018 for the Sunridge Inn.

The lawsuit also states that DK Hotel Management has failed to give the county access to software used to track

lodging records for Motel 6, and that company officials claimed reports were not available for the Sunridge Inn from January through March 2018.

Last summer Baker County commissioners said the reason the county ended its contract with economic developer Greg Smith was declining lodging tax revenue, which paid for Smith's \$96,000 annual contract.

County officials attributed the drop in part due to renovations at the Sunridge Inn that temporarily reduced the number of rooms available in that motel.

Bill Harvey, chairman of the Baker County Board of Commissioners, said that although he can't comment specifically about the lawsuit, without the records the county is demanding, county officials can't determine whether the three motels have been complying with the lodging tax ordinance.

OBITUARY

Gloria Bailey

Baker City, 1949-2020

Gloria Bailey, 70, of Baker City, died Feb. 8, 2020, at her home, surrounded by family.

A celebration of her life will be scheduled later, with the place and time to be announced.

Gloria Jean Bailey was born on Dec. 10, 1949, at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Baker to Francis and Dorothy Phillips. She was raised and educated in both Baker and Union counties. Gloria was very active in school with the pep club for school

sports. She graduated from La Grande High School in 1968.

Gloria worked as a CNA at St. Elizabeth's in Baker City and at Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande. She also worked at various senior living facilities. Nursing was a passion and caring for the ill and aged made her career fulfilled.

Gloria loved dear sweet Doug Bailey to the depths of

her soul and supported him in all his endeavors. They met at her sister's wedding on Feb. 13, 1969, and were married on June 5, 1971, at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Baker City.

Drag racing was a passion for both Doug and Gloria. They especially loved racing in their '72 Chevy pickup in Walla Walla and the Boise Nightfire event. The togetherness, hand-holding, laughter, sorrow, win, lose — it was always wild while they were together.

Gloria's children made her life complete with much happiness to see the boys grow up, though it was much too fast. They gave her grandchildren that she so very dearly loved and cherished.

Gloria wrote this information to be added to her obituary: "I love you all, remember our picnics, rodeos, water fights and rock surfing at Catherine Creek, we had a lot of fun. Thank you all for making my life.

Get healthy, be happy and wise up (haha-hee-hee)."

Gloria is survived by her sons, Douglas "Mic" and Brent Bailey "BA Babs"; her grandchildren, Gage, Darian, Jasey and Keegan Bailey, and Issac Nordbye; her great-granddaughter, Blakely Guilliams; her sisters, Shirley Rogers and Patty Phillips; and numerous nephews, nieces, greats and great-greats, aunts, uncles and cousins galore.

Gloria was preceded in death by her husband, Doug Bailey; her sister, Marjorie Miller; her brother-in-law, Chuck Rogers; and her cousin, Debra Burris-Bradley.

For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Gloria, the family suggests either Shriners Hospital or Special Olympics through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Ernest 'Ernie' Metcalf:

80, of Baker City, died Feb. 11, 2020, at his home with his family at his side. A memorial service will take place later, with the date and time to be announced. 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
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS:
Dena Rene Turner, 46, of 2810 Seventh St., 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, on Highway 30 near Haines; jailed.

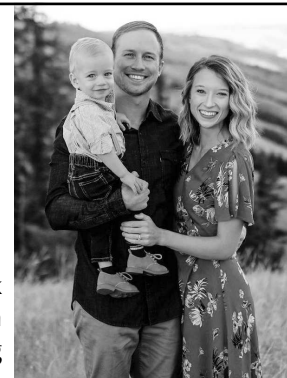
Exciting News! Dr. Derek Blankenship is joining Baker Vision Clinic

Baker Vision Clinic would like to welcome Dr. Derek Blankenship. Dr. Blankenship will start seeing patients March 3, 2020. Derek was born and raised in Baker City. Following high school, he attended George Fox University where he graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science Degree. He then attended Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry where he graduated with a Doctorate of Optometry in 2018. Upon graduation from Optometry school Dr. Blankenship has been practicing in Pendleton, Oregon. Baker Vision Clinic is very excited to welcome him back home!

Dr. Blankenship is warm and engaging. He easily connects with people through his open honest desire to help others. He enjoys the outdoors and cannot wait to show his wife and son all that is special to him about Baker.

Dr. Derek Blankenship is accepting patients now.

Please contact Baker Vision Clinic today at 541-523-5858 to make an appointment.



It's staying lighter longer, but still winter! When kids are out & about, have them wear reflective clothing.



Joe Scott's Premier Auto Body, Inc.
2390 Broadway, Baker City
541-523-5223