

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

- **National Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Free Fee Day:** In honor of the supportive community and visitors; hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily; call 541-523-1843 for more information; the Center is 5 miles east of Baker City, just off Highway 86.
- **Live Music by Keith Taylor:** Ragtime piano, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Crossroads, 2020 Auburn Ave.; no charge.
- **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, MARCH 9

- **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 Ponds Station.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

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

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald March 6, 1970

It is not absolute yet what lies in store for Campbell Street west of Main Street. The section of street is to become the main access into Baker from I-80N, the new freeway.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 6, 1995

Building identification plaques, the final phase of Historic Baker City Inc.'s "Destination Downtown" project, have gone up all over the historic district in downtown Baker City.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 5, 2010

A state investigation into irregularities during last fall's recall campaign against two Baker City Council members has ended, and no one will face sanctions, according to a state Elections Division investigator.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald March 6, 2019

Baker City's general fund expenses will surpass revenues in three years if the public safety fee the city imposed in 2017 expires as scheduled on June 30, 2020. That was one of the messages that Jeanie Dexter, the city's finance director, had for the city's budget board when it met Tuesday evening at City Hall. Although the board, which consists of the seven City Council members and seven other city residents, didn't have a detailed discussion about the general fund Tuesday, budget board member Randy Daugherty said he believes the city, if it wants to continue the public safety fee beyond 2020, should first put the matter to city voters. The fee, which is \$3 per month per residence and \$6 per month per business, raises about \$180,000 per year for the general fund, which includes the police and fire departments.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, March 2

4 — 23 — 26 — 45 — 46 — 47
Next jackpot: \$5.5 million

MEGA MILLIONS, March 3

8 — 12 — 33 — 56 — 64 Mega 2
Next jackpot: \$70 million

WIN FOR LIFE, March 2

2 — 23 — 38 — 46

PICK 4, March 3

• 1 p.m.: 3 — 5 — 5 — 0
• 4 p.m.: 2 — 2 — 2 — 5
• 7 p.m.: 2 — 6 — 9 — 0

LUCKY LINES, March 3

4-5-11-13-17-21-26-29
Next jackpot: \$63,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **FRIDAY:** Taco salad (beef, lettuce, tomato, onion and cheese), chips, salsa and sour cream, fruit cup, cookie
- **MONDAY (March 9):** Barbecued pork ribs, au gratin potatoes, green beans, roll, coleslaw, cake
- **TUESDAY (March 10):** Hearty beef stew, mixed vegetables, cornbread, fruit ambrosia, sherbet
- **WEDNESDAY (March 11):** Hot turkey sandwich, stuffing with gravy, peas, beet-and-onion salad, tapioca
- **THURSDAY (March 12):** Boneless chicken breast with cream gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, roll, gelatin with fruit, cheesecake

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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Portland blues guitarist to play Halfway

Portland guitar virtuoso Terry Robb will perform a free concert Saturday, March 7, at the Pine Eagle School gym, 375 N. Main St. in Halfway.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with the concert at 7 p.m. The performance is presented by the

Cornucopia Arts Council.

Robb, who was born in Vancouver, Washington, won the Muddy Award for Best Acoustic Guitar so many times that the Cascade Blues Association attached his name to the trophy permanently. Robb, who is a member of the Oregon

Music Hall of Fame, has been praised by multiple magazines, including Rolling Stone, Acoustic Guitar and Guitar Player.

He's toured with performers including Buddy Guy and Steve Miller, and appeared on Late Night With Conan O'Brien.

BOARDWALK

Continued from Page 1A

The boardwalk was closed Feb. 24. Stokes said he hopes to have the boardwalk reopened this month, although the target date is before Easter, April 12. There's a lot of traffic on the boardwalk

then due to the egg hunt in Geiser-Pollman Park, just across the river.

The new boardwalk will cost \$9,100.

The money is from the library district's general fund, Stokes said.

"We're lucky to be able to have the funds and the personnel to get that done," he said.

Adamson is using Trex boards, a product made from recycling plastics and wood pieces.

On its website — trex.com — Trex has opportunities for people to donate plastic materials. Communities and schools can enroll in the program and be eligible for prizes.

Brown seeks federal money to help Oregon deal with effects of virus

By Jake Thomas
Oregon Capital Bureau

Oregon could face a shortage of equipment used to protect health care providers from the coronavirus and rural hospitals could find themselves short-staffed as the state confronts the outbreak, Gov. Kate Brown warned Tuesday.

She also said the state will need millions of dollars in financial support from the federal government to handle the impacts of COVID-19 across the state.

The governor cited the concerns in a March 3 letter to Vice President Mike Pence, who is leading the federal response to the outbreak of the virus.

The letter was sent following a briefing Pence gave to governors on the response to the outbreak that has caused nine deaths in the U.S. and sickened thousands globally. While the Democratic govern-

nor struck a diplomatic tone in her letter, she did raise areas of concern.

In Oregon, state health authorities have identified three people presumed to be infected with COVID-19 and are monitoring 101 people who show no symptoms but may have been exposed.

The governor set up a task force of key state agencies and a command center was opened in Portland.

Brown wrote that Oregon doesn't have an adequate supply of personal protective equipment, which includes respirators and other gear that prevent health care workers from contracting the virus. She said that while federal authorities have made more respirators available, she asked that more equipment be released from the national stockpile. She mentioned gowns, gloves, Tyvek suits, ventilators and others items.

She wrote that Oregon faces challenges with its large rural areas in responding to the outbreak.

"(We) have heard significant concerns from our small rural hospitals and health practices about potential workforce shortages and their ability to maintain appropriate staffing levels should this virus spread further," she wrote. "Those concerns are echoed by our local public health departments."

Brown also identified other "emerging issues," such as how to provides services for unsheltered Oregonians, those living in congregate care and those who rely on home health care workers. Additionally, Brown said that her staff plans to quarantine people who have no place to isolate themselves if they are suspected of being infected.

Responding to the out-

break will be expensive. Brown estimated that Oregon will need between \$7 million and \$10 million per month for additional resources, plus reimbursements for earlier costs.

State Rep. Paul Evans, a Monmouth Democrat who chairs the House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness, told the Oregon Capital Bureau that he also had concerns about the supply of protective equipment.

"When you try to ration that equipment, you have a situation you don't want to have," he said.

The Legislature is currently in session and scheduled to adjourn on Sunday. However, a Republican boycott of the session has prevented any legislation from moving.

Evans said he was not aware of any legislation proposed related to coronavirus outbreak.

OBITUARY

Sandra Vassar

Baker City, 1951-2020

Sandra Vassar, 68, of Baker City, died of cancer on Feb. 27, 2020, at her home.

A graveside service will take place Friday, March 6, at 10 a.m. PST at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Caldwell, Idaho. A memorial service will follow later that day at 4 p.m. at the McEwen Bible Fellowship, 15403 Sumpter Stage Highway. Wes Waggoner will officiate the graveside service at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, and Dan Martin

will officiate the memorial service. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Sandra's life.

She was born on Dec. 17, 1951, at Nampa, Idaho, to Marcus and Dalpha Miller. She graduated from Kuna High School in 1970, celebrating by going to Disneyland and Mexico.

No matter where she was, her laugh and smile are what everyone remembers. She had worked ever since she graduated, including at Meridian Wood, Carnation for over 10 years, and McDonald's. At McDonald's in Baker City, she worked as a manager and general man-

ager for 17 years, retiring in 2006. She loved her employees and missed working with each one of them. Living in Baker City for over 30 years, she volunteered at the Baker Co-op and participated in annual bake fundraisers.

Sandra Vassar was a caring wife, mother and grandmother. On March 13, 1971, she married Everett Vassar, the love of her life. The couple had two children: daughter, Charissa (Vassar) Hixenbaugh of Reedsport, and a son, Paul Vassar of Nampa, Idaho.

Spiritually, she had always been a Christian, being a member of the Church of the Brethren and McEwen Bible Fellowship. She enjoyed baking cookies for everyone — over 500 in one day — watching her children's and grandchildren's activities, watching Disney and other animated movies, collecting pig-themed merchandise, and vacationing with family. Her family and friends will remember her hard work and the desire to help others.

Sandra Vassar is survived by her husband, Everett

Vassar of Baker City; her daughter and son-in-law, Charissa and James Hixenbaugh of Reedsport, and their children, James Hixenbaugh of Baker City, Joseph Hixenbaugh of Lebanon and Kaylynn Hixenbaugh of Reedsport; her son and daughter-in-law, Paul and Amy Vassar of Nampa, Idaho, and their children: Austin Vassar of Boise, and Aylie Vassar, Axel Vassar and Aria Vassar of Nampa; her siblings, Lucille Lanier of Fruitland, Idaho, Mardell Jones of Nampa, Jack Miller of Sandpoint, Idaho, Linda McConnell of Caldwell, Idaho, Iona Hanson of Milwaukee, Oregon, and Walter Miller of Hilo, Hawaii.

The family would like to thank all of the friends and family for the support during this difficult time. Flowers and memorial contributions to Ronald McDonald House may be sent to Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Sandra, or to leave a condolence for her family, go to www.grayswestco.com

WE ARE NOW IN BAKER CITY!
Accepting most Dental Insurances including OHP ODS Plus
Call 541-742-6012 for an appointment
Drs. Hillary Berry & LaVonne Hammelman

The Baker County Veteran Service will be closed on Friday, March 6th and open for business on Monday, March 9th.

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DEATHS

Darlene Ewing: 62, of Baker City, died March 1, 2020, at home surrounded by her family. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Hazel Esther Hansen: 86, formerly of Baker City, died March 3, 2020, at her residence at Pacifica Senior Living Portland. Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel is in charge of arrangements. To light a candle in memory of Hazel, or to leave a condolence for the family, go to www.grayswestco.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT and HARASSMENT: Joseph Attilio Guardia, 43, of Baker City, 10:33 a.m. Tuesday, in the 1600 block of Oak Street; jailed and later released on bail; police said in the course of a domestic violence crime, Guardia pulled a woman's hair, jerking her backward; during the incident, an 8-month-old baby reportedly fell off a bed and was injured.