

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

MONDAY, APRIL 13

■ **Baker County Library Board:** Public web conference through GoToMeeting, 6 p.m. Public can join meeting by phone by calling 1-312-757-3121 and entering access code 222-438-445; for information on accessing the meeting by computer, send an email to info@bakerlib.org

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

■ **Baker City Council:** 7 p.m., 1655 First St.; councilors, city staff and six community members allowed to attend; or watch remotely on AVCapture at https://bakercity.com/2173/Council-Videos

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald April 10, 1970

Dick Haynes' idea of lively landscaped displays to show off some of the merchandise at his Farmterials store has brought him and Baker national recognition.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald April 11, 1995

Ellingson Lumber Co. will re-employ at least half of its 125 laid off workers Monday.

Rob Ellingson, president and general manager of the Baker City company, said millwrights, mechanics and maintenance employees will be back at the sawmill and dry kiln. The planer will start up again April 24.

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

There's an air of optimism about cattle prices this spring as Baker County ranchers begin turning their herds out on green grass in the foothills and mountain grazing allotments.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald April 12, 2019

Baker County commissioners met for an executive session as well as a work session on Wednesday.

The executive session, closed to the public as allowed under Oregon law, was to discuss the county's ongoing legal dispute with a property owner about the locked gate the owner installed on a road near Lookout Mountain in eastern Baker County.

Though at this point of the year the road is inaccessible due to snow, the county wants Todd Longgood, the landowner, to remove the gate, which he installed about two years ago.

The county had previously filed a legal claim for relief to get the gate opened, but no official notice has been submitted to Longgood, so the claim has not moved forward.

On Wednesday commissioners didn't take any action on the matter and only discussed possible next steps.

Commissioner Bruce Nichols left the session around 11 a.m. The executive session had started at 10 a.m. and was over before 11:30.

Prior to the executive session the commissioners, meeting in a public work session, discussed updating the county's contract with New Directions Northwest for mental health services.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, April 8

6 — 8 — 13 — 26 — 29 — 30

Next jackpot: \$2.4 million

POWERBALL, April 8

2 — 37 — 39 — 48 — 54 PB 5

Next jackpot: \$20 million

MEGA MILLIONS, April 7

25 — 33 — 43 — 51 — 68 Mega 20

Next jackpot: \$136 million

WIN FOR LIFE, April 8

14 — 21 — 66 — 67

PICK 4, April 9

• 1 p.m.: 7 — 9 — 9 — 3

• 4 p.m.: 8 — 9 — 1 — 9

• 7 p.m.: 8 — 4 — 2 — 6

• 10 p.m.: 6 — 9 — 9 — 2

LUCKY LINES, April 9

4-8-9-13-18-24-27-29

Next jackpot: \$23,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY (April 13):** Chicken cordon bleu with hollandaise, baked potatoes, succotash, biscuits, fruit cup, brownies
- **TUESDAY (April 14):** Cabbage rolls, parsleyed red potatoes, carrots, bread, broccoli-bacon salad, cheesecake
- **WEDNESDAY (April 15):** Breaded chicken strips, potatoes and gravy, Brussels sprouts, roll, fruit ambrosia, cake
- **THURSDAY (April 16):** Pork roast, parsleyed red potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, roll, carrot-raisin salad, bread pudding
- **FRIDAY (April 17):** Spaghetti with beef sauce, cauliflower, garlic breadsticks, green salad, cookies

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. Due to the coronavirus crisis, meals must be picked up; there is no dining on site.

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Chronic offender sent for treatment

By Chris Collins
ccollins@bakercityherald.com

Community agencies worked together Thursday to find help for a Baker City man whose mental health and alcohol addiction issues have led to multiple police responses over the past few weeks.

Jon Kevin Noble, 56, of Baker City, was finally lodged in the Baker County Jail Wednesday despite a cite-and-release order that has been in place for those committing lesser crimes during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure social distancing for prisoners.

Noble was arraigned Thursday in Baker County Circuit Court on the most recent charge of first-degree burglary, for allegedly entering Dick's Bike Shop at 2470 E St. for the second time this week.

District Attorney Greg Baxter said Thursday that he had intended to ask Judge Matt Shirtcliff to hold Noble on \$20,000 bail, but instead, Noble was sent to an inpatient treatment center in Pendleton where he was ordered to remain until he completes treatment, Baxter said.

Sheriff Travis Ash said he agreed to hold Noble because of the multiple repeat offenses, which also included allegations of trespassing and thefts at Albertsons and Safeway.

"He was continuing down that path and there had to be some kind of intervention," Ash said. "This isn't the typical trespass or burglary you typically see."

Ash said he worked with Shari Selander, CEO and executive director of New Directions Northwest, to find a

solution to the problem.

By Thursday, a placement had been found for Noble.

"It all came together through relationships we've developed with New Direction and our partners to get him some help and to keep our community safe," Ash said. "This was a team approach to solve this problem."

Ash said Noble was an example of a person who was better served by inpatient treatment. Sending him to the Pendleton center also helped keep the current jail population to a minimum.

The jail, built in 1991, has a 45-prisoner capacity. There were 18 people in custody Friday afternoon.

That number has been kept low by police taking only those people charged with specific crimes to jail due to the pandemic.

Mandatory arrests include suspects accused of domestic violence crimes, stalking, violating restraining orders, and failure to appear and no-bail warrants. Suspects in all Ballot Measure 11 crimes, such as murder, rape and robbery, also are required to be taken into custody. The Ballot Measure 11 crimes carry mandatory minimum prison terms upon conviction.

Ash said he and his leadership team have added another layer of protection for the jail staff, dispatchers and prisoners in the effort to keep the numbers in the jail low.

That includes erecting a self-contained tent to house Parole and Probation clients who commit minor violations

and are placed on house arrest, but who might have no place to stay.

The Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team set up its large emergency tent at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center in March to use if needed for coronavirus patients.

The emergency house-arrest tent is a second tent that was available. No one was staying in the tent as of Friday afternoon, Ash said. When it is needed, those on house arrest will be allowed to come and go during certain prearranged hours to allow them to apply for work or keep other necessary appointments.

The tent is heated and currently is set up with cots for six people, with two more to be added if necessary.

Activity in the tent can be monitored by jail staff by video.

"We want to set people up for success," Ash said. "We don't want people running amok."

Meals will be provided by the jail's meal program and restrooms are available inside the lobby at the Sheriff's Office, Ash said.

"This is for a probation client who is not making wise decisions," Ash said. "Those folks that are on probation and need an alternate form of custody."

Ash said the unusual conditions imposed by the threat of the coronavirus have led his agency and community partners to come up with new solutions in uncharted territory.

"These are trying times for all of us," he said. "And we're trying to manage our inmates and parole and probation population as effectively as possible."

CLIPS

Continued from Page 1A

The launch pad, as it were, was Facebook.

Schuette said he belongs to a few Facebook groups started by owners of laser engraving businesses. He read a few posts referring to doctors and nurses who complained about ear pain after day-long stints wearing face masks.

There were several designs available for clips that ease the pressure but still hold the masks snugly, Schuette said.

With his regular business slowing considerably since the pandemic started, he figured he could put both laser engraver/cutters to work producing something useful (Schuette has one machine at his home, and Zinn operates the other at his).

"I'd rather have my laser running and doing something," Schuette said.

He also had acrylic sheets on hand, having used the material to produce, among other things, Christmas tree ornaments. He also uses acrylic sheets to make templates for other items, including decals that are attached to hats.

"It's a pretty versatile material," Schuette said.

But rather than rely solely on the clip designs available on Facebook, Schuette decided to enlist an expert as a design consultant.

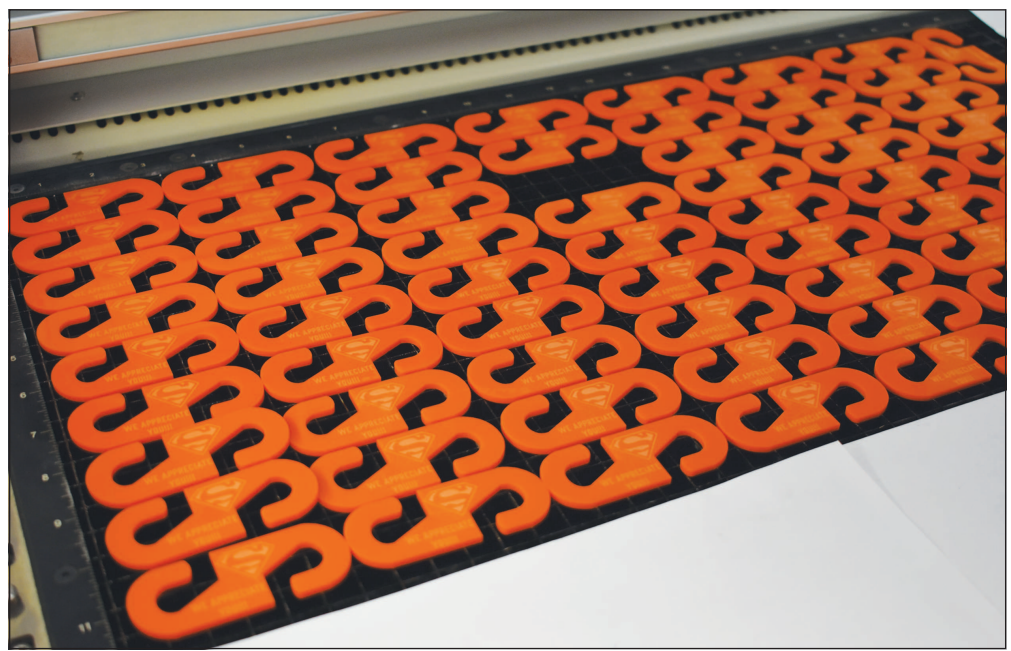
And he only had to look next door.

His good friend and neighbor, Neil Carroll, is a Baker City physician.

"I didn't want to make something that's not useful, and what better way than to have a doctor come over and tell me what he needs," Schuette said. "We want to try to make their job more comfortable at least."

He was interested not only in Carroll's suggestions about the clips, but also about a plastic face shield that Schuette read about on the Facebook groups.

He can produce masks as well.



Lisa Britton/For the Baker City Herald

A 12-inch-by-24-inch sheet of acrylic yields 67 face mask clips.

"I don't want to make something that's not useful, and what better way than to have a doctor come over and tell me what he needs."

— Tim Schuette, co-owner,
T2 Custom Laser Engraving

Schuette said Carroll told him that there's no shortage of shields, but that the clips might be welcome.

Schuette made a handful of clips and gave them to Carroll early this week.

"The next day he said, 'can we get some more?'"

T2 Custom Laser Engraving's two machines have been running regularly ever since.

Schuette created the clip design on his computer. Although it takes about twice as long for the laser to first etch, then cut, the design, he decorated the clip with the "S" Superman logo and the motto "We Appreciate You!!!"

Each 12-inch-by-24-inch sheet of acrylic yields 67

clips.

The laser unit, which looks like nothing so much as one of the oversize crayons designed for a toddler's chubby but somewhat clumsy fingers, hovers over the sheet.

Schuette taps a key on his computer to send a command to the machine, and the laser begins to sweep back and forth across the acrylic.

(He said that at full speed it generates a force of 5 Gs when it switches directions.)

Engraving the design takes about 12 minutes and 57 seconds.

During the cutting, which takes 11 minutes and 50 seconds, the laser's bright orange pinprick moves in the seemingly random yet precise motion peculiar to computer-controlled machines.

"As many times as I've sat here watching it I still don't get bored," Schuette said with a smile.

The laser's precision is exquisite. Schuette said he designs to the 1000th of an inch.

He said he plans to continue donating the clips,

which cost about 14 cents each to produce.

However, if the demand continues to grow, Schuette said he and Zinn might at least accept donations to help them buy materials.

The bigger expense is shipping the clips, Schuette said.

Thus far Schuette hasn't had to adjust his work schedule to accommodate this unexpected task — he's on vacation.

"I'm supposed to be in Vegas for my 40th birthday, but Vegas told us not to come," he said with a chuckle.

Schuette, who turns 40 on Sunday, had been slated to fly to Nevada on Thursday morning with his wife, Becky, but those plans were made before the coronavirus restrictions started.

Instead of the flashing lights of casinos, Schuette will be watching the laser slide across sheets of acrylic.

Part of the time, anyway. "You're not cutting clips all weekend," Becky said from across her husband's workshop.

"It's your birthday."

"You'll love the work we do. I guarantee it." - JR

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