

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 30

■ **Baker School Board:** noon; Zoom video meeting; for more information, call the District Office, 541-524-2260.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO
from the Democrat-Herald
July 28, 1970

“We built the new mill because we are getting more and more small logs,” said John Brown, vice president of Ellingson Timber Company.

Ellingson Timber Company recently built a new sawmill next to the larger bandsaw mill in Baker and equipped it with a two-saw scrag and a Klamath-Ward double arbor edger.

25 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
July 28, 1995

Paintings of a large shade tree and a skateboard rider decorate the skateboard park at Sam-O Swim Center.

That artwork was not deemed offensive by city crews who were called back to the cement runway this week to paint over other less desirable trim.

City workers have painted over graffiti at the park three times and a community service work crew assigned by the Baker County Juvenile Department has painted it once this summer.

10 YEARS AGO
from the Baker City Herald
July 28, 2010

The Baker County Commissioners voted 3-0 this morning to take control of the Ski Anthony Lakes resort.

What’s not yet certain is whether the county will operate the ski area this winter, or a yet-to-be-formed nonprofit will take the reigns.

“I think this is a really good scenario and I think we should do it,” said Fred Warner Jr., commission chairman, who was en route to Washington, D.C.

ONE YEAR AGO
from the Baker City Herald
July 29, 2019

A payroll tax approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2017 is helping Community Connection of Baker County make its trolley service more affordable for riders with mobility issues, and expand its weekly bus shuttles.

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund collects 1/10th of 1 percent from payrolls statewide. This “transit tax” is the sole revenue source for projects across Oregon.

Community Connection of Baker County is planning projects totaling \$517,400 as a result of the program.

“It really is providing a pretty big shot in the arm to our transportation budget,” said Community Connection Manager Joe Hayes.

The first project is to reduce the trolley fair for people with mobility issues from \$2 to \$1.

Individuals looking to participate can apply for eligibility at Community Connection, 2810 Cedar St.

In addition, Hayes said, the organization is expanding its weekly bus service to shuttle people from neighboring towns to Baker City, similar to the current Halfway shuttle, which costs \$7. The scheduled rides will require a reservation made at least one day in advance.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, July 25

1 — 8 — 19 — 27 — 36 — 45
Next jackpot: \$4.5 million

POWERBALL, July 25

5 — 21 — 36 — 61 — 62 PB 18
Next jackpot: \$126 million

MEGA MILLIONS, July 24

8 — 33 — 39 — 54 — 58 Mega 17
Next jackpot: \$20 million

WIN FOR LIFE, July 25

21 — 29 — 42 — 58

PICK 4, July 26

• 1 p.m.: 1 — 9 — 3 — 3

• 4 p.m.: 7 — 1 — 9 — 5

• 7 p.m.: 6 — 2 — 4 — 3

• 10 p.m.: 1 — 5 — 8 — 6

LUCKY LINES, July 26

1-6-11-14-20-24-28-31
Next jackpot: \$20,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Spaghetti with beef sauce, green beans, garlic bread, green salad, birthday cake
- **THURSDAY:** Reuben casserole, peas, fruit ambrosia, bread pudding
- **FRIDAY:** Chicken-fried steak, potatoes and gravy, carrots, roll, coleslaw, cookies
- **MONDAY (Aug. 3):** Beef tips over mashed potatoes, carrots, biscuit, fruit cup, lemon bars
- **TUESDAY (Aug. 4):** Chicken cordon bleu with hollandaise sauce, baked potato, mixed vegetables, roll, broccoli-bacon salad, apple crisp

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, under 60. Meals must be picked up; there is no dining on site.

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City will bill house owner for cleanup

By Chris Collins
ccollins@bakercityherald.com

An abatement order signed in May by Justice of the Peace Brent Kerns was executed Monday at 2339 East St. in Baker City.

The property is known by police not only as a nuisance for its accumulation of garbage, discarded vehicles and graffiti, but for its reputation as a “high crime activity home” that welcomes transients, many of whom have been involved in criminal activity.

In a June operation conducted on the property by the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team, 13 individuals were detained and identified at the property. Three men were cited on warrants, one was taken to jail for a post-prison violation charge out of Josephine County and a fifth was wanted in Idaho, but Idaho would not extradite him. As recently as Saturday police arrested a Baker City man at the house charged with violating a restraining order against him.

Justice of the Peace Kerns found during a May 6 hearing brought by the City of Baker City against James Jay Coe, the former homeowner, that the property, which at the time was in foreclosure, was “a nuisance and is unsafe.”

Kerns allowed the city to take any measures necessary to bring the property into



Chris Collins/Baker City Herald

Members of the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team detained 13 people at this home on East Street in June. Police said people involved in criminal activity congregate at the home. On Monday the city hired a contractor to clean up debris from the property, after receiving an abatement order from a Justice of the Peace.

compliance with City code.

Upon signing the order of abatement on May 18, Kerns wrote that “The City of Baker has gone well beyond what is required to give defendant reasonable time to bring the property into compliance with the respective Ordinances with which the property has not complied. The nuisance has not been fully abated.”

Police Chief Ray Duman said the City typically tries to work with the property owner to fix the problem rather than going through the abatement process. For one thing, the City has a budget of just \$6,000 for property abatement for the year.

Monday’s cleanup of the property at 2339 East St. cost about \$1,000. The work was done by Dewey Jacobs and B&K Salvage, Duman said.

B&K removed metal, including car parts and frames, from the yard for little profit. “They’re not making a whole lot of money,” he said of the cleanup workers. “They’re doing it as a community service.”

A bill will be sent to the current owner, US Bank, which bought the property on March 15, 2020, for \$15,201, according to Baker County Assessor’s Office records. Coe has continued to live at the address.

Sale of the property to

another buyer is reportedly pending, Duman said.

“We’ve been trying to get some of these places cleaned up — especially that one,” he said.

Coe did work to remove some of the offensive material from the property, but not enough of it, Duman said. He acknowledged that many times property owners don’t have the money to complete the work that needs to be done.

“The police department’s position is trying to work with the homeowners to get these properties cleaned up,” Duman said. “We’ve brought in dumpsters, civic groups, churches. It takes a whole community to do these things.”

OBITUARY

Dennis Elder

Formerly of Baker City, 1945-2020

Dennis Elder, 74, a former Baker City resident, died July 25, 2020, at Prineville.

A memorial celebration will be announced later.

Dennis was born on Oct. 20, 1945, at Newport to Thomas Craig Elder and Savil Jean (Iler). The family

moved to Lebanon, Oregon, when Dennis was an infant. His sister, Mary Lou, joined the family shortly thereafter.

Dennis graduated from Lebanon Union High School in 1963 and went



Dennis Elder

on to study at Oregon State University. He married Jeannie McPherson on June 10, 1964. They had two children, Machel and Wes.

After college, Dennis went to work at Champion International (U.S. Plywood) in Lebanon. Later he became the human resources manager for Champion International Western Division in Missoula, Montana. After 29 years with Champion International, Dennis went on to a second career with Marvin Windows in Baker City, where he spent 17 years as their human resources manager. After retirement, Dennis and Jeannie moved to Prineville where he lived at the time of his passing.

Dennis was an avid fly fisherman and storyteller.

He especially loved spending time camping, fishing and traveling with friends and family.

Dennis was actively involved in the community and was very fond of the time he spent with Rotary International.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Jeannie; his sister, Mary Lou Cisar (John) of Shenandoah Junction, West Virginia; his daughter, Machel Davis (Jon) of Sedona, Arizona; his son, Wes Elder (April) of Lebanon; his grandchildren, Megan Kimsey (Allen) of Tualatin, and Hayden Davis (Olivia) of Lebanon; and his great-granddaughter, Kennedy Kimsey.

Donations in Dennis’ memory can be made to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

William ‘Bill’ Duyn: 87, of Huntington and formerly of Granite, died July 25, 2020, at Settler’s Park Assisted Living Community in Baker City. At his request, there will be no services. To leave a condolence for his family, go to www.grayswestco.com

Sally Farmer: 88, a long-time Baker City resident, died July 25, 2020, at her home. Services are under the direction of Coles Tribute Center. To light a candle in memory of Sally, go to www.colestributecenter.com

FUNERAL PENDING

Annie Tomat: Interment of her cremains, Aug. 1 at 4 p.m. at the Eagle Valley Cemetery in Richland.

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING: Derek Dean Hudson, 27, transient, 9:35 a.m. Saturday, on Campbell Street; police responded

to multiple reports of a suspicious person; cited and released.

RESTRAINING ORDER VIOLATION: David Samuel Cutshall, 38, of 1345 Elm St., 3:13 p.m. Saturday, at 2339 East St.; jailed.

UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY INTO A MOTOR VEHICLE and ATTEMPTED UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE: Troy Eldon Baker, 34, of 2395 Clark St.; and Kyle Andrew Waldron, 35, of Bend, 6:37 p.m. Saturday, in the 1200 block of Campbell Street; both men were cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff’s Office

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Ty Darrius Helfrich, 21, of Huntington, 9:29 p.m. Sunday, on Highway 30; cited and released.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Isaac Jeremiah Kolb, 19, no fixed address, 8:12 p.m. Friday at Huntington; cited and released.



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