

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

TUESDAY, AUG. 25

■ **Baker City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 1655 First St.; this meeting will be in-person and open to the public, however due to COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, and to keep meeting numbers to a minimum, the number of audience members will be limited.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald August 25, 1970

A recent accident at the corner of College and D streets, involving a youngster who was struck by a vehicle, besides numerous accidents at this location prompted the city council last night to replace a four-way stop sign there.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald August 25, 1995

The Baker Ranger District has announced that a timber sale on the shores of Phillips Reservoir is exempt from appeal because of the salvage logging bill President Clinton signed earlier this summer.

The U.S. Forest Service plans to cut about 1 million board feet of mostly ponderosa pine trees from 765 acres in the Bald Eagle Management Area timber sale.

The sale is exempt from appeals because it includes dead and dying trees, said Suzanne Rainville, head of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest's natural resources staff.

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

The Baker City Council approved an employment contract with incoming City Manager Mike Kee on Tuesday evening that includes a starting salary of \$90,000.

Councilors voted unanimously on Aug. 10 to hire Kee, who's worked as the Ontario Police chief since 1998.

Tuesday's vote on the contract was 6-0; Councilor Milo Pope was absent.

Kee will replace Steve Bogart, who announced in late June that he will resign Sept. 23.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald August 26, 2019

The Oregon Department of Transportation plans to build sidewalks and wheelchair-accessible ramps beneath the Interstate 84 overpass at the Campbell Street interchange during the late summer of 2020.

The \$538,000 project, using federal money, will connect to the existing sidewalks near the Baker Truck Corral on the south side of Campbell Street, and near the Sunridge Inn on the north side of the street.

ODOT also plans to restripe Campbell Street in that area to a three-lane configuration, with one travel lane in each direction and a center turn lane, said Michelle Owen, Baker City public works director.

The Baker City Council during its meeting Tuesday evening will consider approving an agreement with the state for the project. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

Although ODOT would build the sidewalks and ramps, the city would be responsible for maintenance.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Aug. 22
2 — 3 — 11 — 22 — 26 — 33
Next jackpot: \$5.7 million

POWERBALL, Aug. 22
19 — 30 — 36 — 42 — 66 PB 14
Next jackpot: \$37 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Aug. 21
11 — 15 — 31 — 42 — 63 Mega 14
Next jackpot: \$49 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Aug. 22
32 — 42 — 57 — 74

PICK 4, Aug. 23
• 1 p.m.: 2 — 6 — 3 — 8
• 4 p.m.: 3 — 1 — 4 — 0
• 7 p.m.: 1 — 7 — 3 — 7
• 10 p.m.: 7 — 6 — 9 — 3

LUCKY LINES, Aug. 23
4-5-11-15-20-23-27-29
Next jackpot: \$48,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Pork roast, potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, gelatin with fruit, birthday cake
 - **THURSDAY:** Baked cod, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, ice cream
 - **FRIDAY:** Hot turkey sandwich, stuffing with gravy, carrots, broccoli-bacon salad, apple crisp
 - **MONDAY (Aug. 31):** Chicken broccoli Alfredo over fettuccine, mixed vegetables, biscuits, carrot-raisin salad, brownies
 - **TUESDAY (Sept. 1):** Barbecued meatballs, rice pilaf, broccoli-blend vegetables, bread, green 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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SMOKE

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Smoke is more dense — and the air quality comparatively worse — in many areas south and west of Baker County.
The air quality index Monday afternoon in both Burns and Lakeview, for instance, was 152. That's in the "unhealthy" category. The index in Klamath Falls was 156, also in the "unhealthy" category.
Air quality is rated on a six-level numerical scale:
• 50 or below — "good"
• 51 to 100 — "moderate"
• 101 to 150 — "unhealthy for sensitive groups" (people suffering from asthma, for instance)
• 151 to 200 — "unhealthy"
• 201 to 300 — "very unhealthy"
• 300 and above — "hazardous"
After staying at 30 or below for most of Saturday, the air



Kent Nishimura / Los AngelesTimes-TNS

A building burns Sunday in Boulder Creek, California.

quality index in Baker City crept into the "moderate" category — at 52 — at 5 p.m. on Sunday. The index was at 80 at 2 p.m. on Monday.
The culprit — besides the wildfires, of course — is a persistent pattern of upper level winds from the southwest, according to the National Weather Service.
That directs smoke from California into Eastern

Oregon, and in particular the southern half of the region.
This stagnant situation is forecast to change this weekend when a storm pushes into the Pacific Northwest from the Pacific Ocean.
The strongest part of the storm will likely stay north of Baker County, but the storm should shift winds to the west and northwest and potentially bring rain showers that would

further help to clear out the smoke, according to the National Weather Service.
The storm will also bring cooler air, with high temperatures dipping into the 70s by Sunday.
Local fires are no longer contributing much to the smoke supply.
The area's biggest blaze, the Indian Creek fire in Malheur County about 70 miles south of Baker City, was holding Monday at about 49,000 acres. The fire's last major growth, of about 23,000 acres, was on Friday.
Forest Service fire crews quickly doused a blaze reported Sunday afternoon about a mile northeast of Anthony Lake. The fire burned about one-third of an acre. Crews were aided by a forest-thinning project in the past couple of years, said Travis Mason-Bushman, a spokesman for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

CITY COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A
In an interview Monday, Lee said the new ambulance from Braun Northwest would have a different Ford diesel engine than the one in the current Baker City ambulance.
The older engine has been prone to problems, Lee said.
Although the loaned ambulance from Halfway/Oxbow has that same engine, Lee said it has proved reliable so far, and the department uses it only when its other vehicles are already on a call.
"We don't drive it much," Lee said.
In his written report to councilors, Lee noted that in addition to the ambulance,

the city will need to buy a new gurney to be used with the ambulance, as the current gurney used with the existing ambulance is worn out.
He recommends the city buy a Stryker Performance load gurney for \$19,749.
With the cost of radios, painting of logos and miscellaneous expenses, Lee said the total cost of ambulance and gurney would be about \$9,000 over the \$180,000 the city budgeted for the purchase.
If councilors don't want to exceed that amount, Lee wrote, another option is to buy a new Ford F-450 chassis and mount the ambulance box from the existing ambulance. That would cost an estimated \$126,000, he wrote.
In other business Tuesday, councilors

will consider awarding a bid for a project later this year to install a sealer inside sewer pipes to prevent leaks.
The city has hired a contractor each year for almost a decade to treat sections of sewer pipe with a process known as "cured in place pipe" rehabilitation.
The public works department recommends the city hire Planned and Engineer Construction of Helena, Montana, which bid \$125,000 to install the sealer in about 1,800 feet of sewer pipes along sections of Tracy, Seventh and Eighth streets, as well as one alley. That was the lowest of four bids the city received.
The city has hired the company for eight previous projects of the same type.

OBITUARY

Shirley Schurman

Baker City, 1938-2020

Shirley A. Schurman, 82, of Baker City, died peacefully on Aug. 16, 2020, at Meadowbrook Place.
There will not be a service. Shirley just said, "remember me kindly."

Shirley was born on April 12, 1938, to Roy and Mildred Mellecker. She grew up in Bothell, Washington.
Shirley married her first husband in



Shirley Schurman

1954; they had met while attending church. Then in 1987, she married Robert Schurman, and they were together 29 years.
Shirley had a career at Boeing in Everett, Washington. She loved spring, working in her garden,

crossword puzzles, and taking care of her cats. She had many friends and neighbors she also enjoyed visiting. She loved life and lived it; she especially enjoyed "making memories."
When asking Shirley about memorable dates or times in her life, she answered "1942 until now." She will truly be missed and will live on in our hearts.
Shirley is survived by her daughter, Chris Frizzell; her son, Rick (Jaimie) Burtis; her sisters, Linda Andrews and Nancy Oppegard; and her nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her sons, Michael Burtis and Brian Burtis; her parents, Roy and Mildred Mellecker; her brother, John Mellecker; and her sister, Mary Monson.
Those who would like to make a donation in memory of Shirley may do so to either the American Heart Association or Best Friends of Baker (animal shelter and rescue) 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



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SEEKING VOLUNTEERS



New Hope for Eastern Oregon Animals is seeking volunteers to assist with its Baker City feral cat Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program. Working in partnership with the City Police Department for a number of years, the TNR Program is a humane alternative to limiting the proliferation of litters of feral kittens, as well as keeping overall populations in check. TNR does this by trapping kittens and adult cats in a specific area of the City, spaying or neutering them, and then returning them to occupy that same site, which reduces the likelihood of other cats moving in as the territory is occupied. This has led to a desired decrease in complaints concerning feral and stray cat numbers for the City. This year has been marked with an above average number of litters observed or reported thus far, making it important to all within our means to "keep the lid on" populations. Volunteers make this program work. Along with funding the veterinary aspect of spay and neuter surgery. Retirement of our seasoned volunteers over the past 2 years has reduced our ability to carry out this work effectively.

New Hope is seeking volunteers to assist with trapping, fostering litters too small to undergo surgery, and feeding. No experience is necessary. Compassion and patience are good traits in a volunteer. Those interested in volunteering should call New Hope at 541-403-2710 or 541-403-0724.

 **New Hope for Eastern Oregon Animals** 

Animals and People Living in Harmony

