

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 21

■ **Baker School Board:** Work session, 4:30 p.m.; regular meeting, 6 p.m.; via Zoom computer app. For more information about how to join the meeting, call the District Office at 541-524-2260 or visit the District website baker5j.org

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald January 19, 1971

A persistent disagreement was reached in teacher salary consultation last Friday in Pine-Eagle District 61. Under Oregon Revised Statutes, an impasse was declared.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 19, 1996

The Baker County Education Service District Board has no intention of giving up control of the ESD building at Main and Broadway streets when the district is merged with Union County.

The board Thursday night directed Superintendent Arnold Coe to prepare proposals that would keep control and ownership of the building with the 5J school district to use for educational purposes.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 19, 2011

The flood threat eased in Baker City Tuesday, but problems persisted to the north as the ice that clotted the Powder River in town Monday morning continued its tumultuous downstream journey.

The ice dam that formed before dawn Monday at the Hughes Lane bridge, Baker City's northern boundary, caused the river to overflow into the backyards of homes on the west side of Kirkway Drive and into a Ward Farms field.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald January 20, 2020

The Baker City Council is scheduled to meet Tuesday evening to consider Verizon Wireless' appeal of the denial of its application to build a 70-foot cell tower.

The hearing is set for 6 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St. Verizon appealed the city Planning Commission's 5-2 vote on Dec. 4 to deny an application to build a tower near Leo Adler Field in North Baker City.

The original appeal was scheduled for Jan. 7, but it was postponed after an attorney representing Verizon was unable to attend due to an issue with an airline flight.

The city's zoning rules allow a tower of up to 50 feet tall on the property, which is just north of D Street near East Street.

But Verizon officials contend that the company's engineers determined a 70-foot tower is the minimum height needed to meet the company's goals. Verizon has offered to add green "branches" to the single-pole tower, in an attempt to make it look more like a tree and thus reduce its visual effects.

Several residents who testified before the Planning Commission last fall said they believe a 70-foot tower would mar their views.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Jan. 16

6 - 14 - 32 - 34 - 37 - 47
Next jackpot: \$7.2 million

POWERBALL, Jan. 16

14 - 20 - 39 - 65 - 67 PB 2
Next jackpot: \$730 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Jan. 15

3 - 11 - 12 - 38 - 43 Mega 15
Next jackpot: \$850 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Jan. 16

13 - 42 - 56 - 63

PICK 4, Jan. 17

• 1 p.m.: 9 - 5 - 9 - 6

• 4 p.m.: 0 - 4 - 4 - 9

• 7 p.m.: 9 - 9 - 6 - 5

• 10 p.m.: 2 - 9 - 0 - 9

LUCKY LINES, Jan. 17
4-8-10-16-17-24-26-289
Next jackpot: \$17,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, roll, green salad, apple crisp
- **THURSDAY:** Chicken-fried chicken, country gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, beet-and-onion salad, cookies
- **FRIDAY:** Baked cod, clam chowder, capri vegetables, roll, coleslaw, cheesecake
- **MONDAY (Jan. 25):** Chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, peas and carrots, roll, pasta salad, apple crisp
- **TUESDAY (Jan. 26):** Beef Burgundy over fettuccine, corn, roll, coleslaw, 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. Meals must be picked up; no dining on site.

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City plans virtual meeting Jan. 27 to discuss N. Baker transportation plan

By Samantha O'Conner
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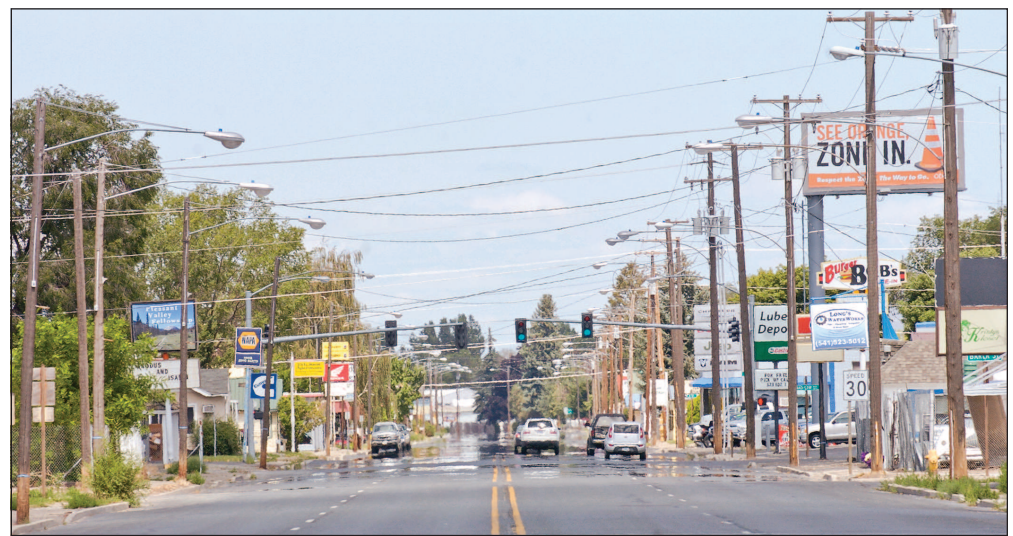
Baker City has scheduled a virtual public meeting for Jan. 27 to discuss possible transportation improvements to sections of 10th Street, Hughes Lane and Cedar Street.

The Northern Baker Transportation Improvement Plan started last fall, and the city's schedule calls for work to be finished by the fall of 2021.

The virtual meeting will run from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the online link opening at 5:45 p.m. To join the meeting, use the link on the city's website, www.bakercity.com/2289/NBTIP

City officials are looking at potential improvements designed to improve driving, walking and biking on sections of four streets:

- 10th Street from Hughes



S. John Collins/Baker City Herald File Photo

Baker City officials are inviting residents to attend a virtual public meeting Jan. 27 to discuss possible transportation improvements to 10th Street.

Lane to Broadway Street
• Cedar Street from Hughes Lane to Campbell Street
• Hughes Lane from 10th Street to Cedar Street
• Pochontas Road from

10th Street to 17th Street/Chico Street

"This area has seen an increase in people walking and biking, and the plan will seek to improve facilities,

safety and connections for these users. The plan will also address traffic safety and flow and freight mobility," according to a project overview from the city.

Baker School Board to talk about bond

By Chris Collins
ccollins@bakercityherald.com

The Baker School Board will continue studying the issue of whether to seek voter approval in May of a \$4 million bond measure when it meets Thursday night.

The regular meeting, which is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., will be preceded by a work session set to start at 4:30 p.m. Both meetings will be via Zoom computer app. More information is available by calling the District Office at 541-524-2260 or by visiting the District's website at bakercity.org

The work session will include an audit report presented by Royce Townsend and Kirtan Shah of the Eide Bailly accounting firm.

Bryan Tweit, Baker County Economic Development director, will present an economic forecast and directors will review results of a survey of staff and community residents designed to help gauge support for the bond measure.

Cassie Hibbert, project coordinator with the Wenaha Group, which has an office in Pendleton, will provide an update on the cost of bond items and

bond rates and opportunity cost comparisons will be considered.

During the regular meeting, Superintendent Mark Witty is expected to provide an update on plans for the second semester of classes, beginning Jan. 25.

The District will work closely with the state Department of Education and the Baker County Health Department as it plans to extend in-person instruction to students in Grades 7-12 to two days a week in the new semester.

Younger students in preschool through sixth-grade all returned to in-person classes on Oct. 14. That was possible because children that age spend most of their day in one classroom.

The older students, who have been held to a 50-person class group attending school on site one day a week since Nov. 9 by state guidelines, rotate through different classes during the day.

Under revised guidelines, the District would be able to expand the middle school and high school cohorts to groups of 100 people and send them to in-person classes twice a week, Witty told the Herald earlier this month.

The superintendent also is scheduled to present updates on these topics:

- Information from the Baker County Health Department and the public health officer, Dr. Eric Lamb.

- The child care collaborative being established at the Baker Early Learning Center.

- The Eastern Oregon Education Summit 2021 that took place Jan. 7.

- The upcoming budget process.

- Plans for a work session to update the District's vision and goals.

- Superintendent evaluation.

- Reflections on the District's K-6 program.

- The team designated to negotiate staff contracts.

- Driver education.

Also during the regular meeting, the Board will recognize Lance Downing of Haines Elementary School as a Promise Student of the Month along with Antonio Washington of Baker Middle School. The Baker County Health Department will be recognized as an outstanding community partner.

District staff also will recognize school board members for their contribution to the schools and the community.

January is designated as School Board Recognition Month in Oregon.

OBITUARY

Kathy Edmondson

Formerly of Halfway, 1952-2021

Kathy Edmondson, 68, formerly of Halfway, died on Jan. 6, 2021, at her home in Ontario with her family at her side.

Kathy Jean was born on July 22, 1952, in Portland, Oregon. She was raised in Newport, Oregon, and attended Toledo High School. The family moved to Yellow Pine, Idaho, in 1969 where she enjoyed learning what real life was like living without everyday conveniences like phone, TV, radio and electric heat. There she met her husband, Terry G. Edmondson, in the spring of 1970. They married on Feb. 6,



Kathy Edmondson

1971, at Halfway where they lived along with their three children.

Kathy worked in several fields of employment throughout her life. She worked as a cook at Stockman's Café, a retail supervisor at Walmart in Ontario, she was in accounting, and also ran a home day care for six years.

She loved to go hunting and camping with her family. In the summer she enjoyed fishing and boating, crafting and making her homes, flower gardens, and yards beautiful.

One of her favorite things was camping with the day care kids and their families. She hoped they would all remember her and Terry Sr. joking about feeding them monkey or alligator meat while they ate venison with our family. What she will be

most remembered for was always wanting everyone she loved to be happy and to have what they needed.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Terry Sr.; her daughter, Belinda Faye Edmondson Gyer of Boise; her son, Christopher Michael Edmondson of Ontario; her brother, Frank Umberger Jr.; 11 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death

by both of her parents; her sister, Nancy; her brother, Richard; and her son, Terry Jr.

For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Kathy, the family suggests Community Connection 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

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police
CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Todd Post, 57, of Baker City, 1:45 a.m. Saturday, at Spring Garden Avenue near East Street; cited and released.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Charles Gosuk Forbes, 41, of Baker City, 7:37 p.m. Saturday, at Grove and Campbell streets; cited and released.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrants): Michael Steven Myers-Gabiola, 29, of Baker City, 10:15 p.m. Friday, at Myrtle and Elm streets; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

POST-PRISON SUPERVISION VIOLATION (Oregon State Parole Board): Martha Rodriguez, 22, of Umatilla County, 1:30 p.m. Friday, at the Sheriff's Office; booked and released.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant):

Ian Dillon Hammond, 18, of Baker City, 2:03 p.m. Friday, at the Sheriff's Office; cited and released.

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