

# Local

## BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

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

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

**50 YEARS AGO**  
from the *Democrat-Herald*  
**February 22, 1971**

Pending approval by the state board of health, Sister Peter Canisius, St. Elizabeth's Nursing Home financial manager, today named Dr. Charles A. Grant nursing home administrator. He is scheduled to begin work March 1.

**25 YEARS AGO**  
from the *Baker City Herald*  
**February 22, 1996**

The overwhelming success of a new event at last summer's Baker County Miners Jubilee has prompted event organizers to ask the Baker County Court for help in expanding the event.

Marv Sumner and Ken McPherson, representing the Baker County Fair Board and Baker Elks Bull-a-rama, updated the court Wednesday on last year's event and discussed ways of making it even bigger this year.

"Last year we were able to seat about 1,700 people, and we can see much more potential," Sumner said.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
from the *Baker City Herald*  
**February 23, 2011**

More than 100 people attended U.S. Rep. Greg Walden's town hall meeting on Monday at the Geiser Grand Hotel in Baker City.

Walden, a Republican from Hood River, addressed a couple of topics before taking questions from constituents. He talked first about the need for cutting the federal budget.

**ONE YEAR AGO**  
from the *Baker City Herald*  
**February 22, 2020**

A new "K9 limousine" was delivered to the Baker City Police Department this month that will allow Capa, its highly prized drug-detecting dog, to travel in style.

The shiny black 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV provides more room for the German shepherd/Belgian Malinois cross, who'll turn 6 next month, to stretch out and get comfortable when he's not actively working a case, says his chauffeur and handler for the past four years, Sgt. Wayne Chastain, 44.

Capa's new ride replaced the former K9 patrol vehicle, a 2009 Chevrolet Tahoe.

The new Tahoe matches the department's three newest patrol cars (two of which arrived in January). The Chevy Tahoe and the matching black Dodge Chargers (two 2020 models and one 2019) bear decals designed for the department by Oregon Trail Sign Co. of Baker City.

The vehicles were modified with police equipment by Emergency Respond Systems, a Nampa, Idaho, company, said Police Chief Ray Duman.

The 2019 patrol car was purchased outright for \$32,993, said Jeannie Dexter, the city's finance director. The other two patrol cars were bought on the lease-to-purchase plan at \$10,932.50 per year for four years.

None of the expense of the new K9 vehicle was paid with taxpayer money, a testimony to the region's appreciation for the services of the K9 team, Duman says.

Instead, the lease-to-buy finance plan, payments of \$20,969.82 for three years for the Chevy Tahoe, was funded by money raised during the annual BCPD K9 Drug Prevention Fundraiser, an annual banquet and auction of items donated by area businesses and other sponsors.

## OREGON LOTTERY

**MEGABUCKS, Feb. 20**  
8 - 12 - 17 - 26 - 41 - 42  
Next jackpot: \$2.2 million

**POWERBALL, Feb. 20**  
4 - 8 - 22 - 32 - 58 PB 4  
Next jackpot: \$90 million

**MEGA MILLIONS, Feb. 19**  
27 - 32 - 47 - 50 - 53 Mega 4  
Next jackpot: \$22 million

**WIN FOR LIFE, Feb. 20**  
8 - 55 - 68 - 70  
**PICK 4, Feb. 21**

• 1 p.m.: 7 - 7 - 4 - 8  
• 4 p.m.: 5 - 8 - 1 - 5  
• 7 p.m.: 3 - 9 - 4 - 7

• 10 p.m.: 9 - 3 - 3 - 0  
**LUCKY LINES, Feb. 21**  
3-79-14-18-21-26-29  
Next jackpot: \$21,000

## SENIOR MENUS

- **WEDNESDAY:** Soup and sandwich: cream of broccoli soup and turkey, Swiss, lettuce and tomato sandwich; pea-and-onion salad, birthday cake
- **THURSDAY:** Ham and beans, Brussels sprouts, cornbread, broccoli-bacon salad, cookies.
- **FRIDAY:** Beef pot roast, red potato, mixed vegetables, roll, fruit cup, apple crisp

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.

## CONTACT THE HERALD

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# EOU adding cybersecurity degree

By Dick Mason

The (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University students will have a new degree option in the fall.

The computer science department at EOU has added a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity. Students in the program will be able to earn a degree on campus or online.

Kiel Wadner, a part-time EOU instructor who works full time in the cybersecurity field, helped develop the curriculum. He said classes will focus on hands-on learning.

"There will be a lot of time working on computer skills not just reading about (cybersecurity) in a book," Wadner said.

This will help students develop skills they need to prepare to meet digital security needs of organizations and businesses. These needs are complex but at the same time fundamental.



Eastern Oregon University/Contributed Photo

Eastern Oregon University students in this undated photo participate in a computer science class. EOU is launching a bachelor's degree program in cybersecurity in the fall of 2021.

"In cybersecurity you are protecting the confidentiality, availability and integrity of information. You want to make sure that this information remains private and is not leaked online," Wadner said.

He said students will take an extensive number of core computer science classes in

addition to those focused on cybersecurity. This means students graduating with cybersecurity degrees will have significant flexibility.

"They will be able to work in information technology, not just cybersecurity," Wadner said.

Hospitals are among the

organizations where EOU cybersecurity graduates may find themselves working to fend off cyber attacks and make sure computer systems are up to date. Medical centers have a lot of digital patient records that need protection.

EOU's cybersecurity curriculum will include not only technical classes but also courses addressing the legal and policy side of the field.

"Some people think you have to be a super technical computer person to be in cybersecurity, but the field is broad enough that you don't need to be and still work in cybersecurity," Wadner said.

"Cybersecurity has a very human side and a very technical side."

Wadner foresees an increasing need for cybersecurity experts in this region. He said communities in Eastern Oregon face cybersecurity issues just like anywhere else.

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

Tonight's meeting starts at 7 o'clock at City Hall, 1655 First St.

Were the City Council to sever that deal, the city would become responsible for spending lodging taxes collected within the city limits.

In the 2018-19 fiscal year, guests at lodging establishments within the city paid about \$244,000 in the tax, which is 7% of the room rate.

In the 2017-18 fiscal year the tax generated \$349,000 within the city limits.

Under the current agreement between the city and county, which dates to July 1, 2006, the county oversees the tax collection both in Baker City and elsewhere in the county where the tax is collected.

Based on a county ordinance, the largest share of the revenue — 70% — must be spent for tourism promotion. Another 25% goes to economic development, and the county keeps 5% for administrative expenses.

A seven-member Lodging Tax Committee recommends how to spend the 70% of the tax revenue for tourism

promotion; county commissioners have the final say.

The county's budget for the current fiscal year, which ends July 1, allocates \$45,000 for economic development in Baker City, and \$30,000 for economic development elsewhere in the county.

McQuisten said the issue of how the city might spend lodging tax money paid within the city, should councilors decide to cancel the agreement with the county, is "getting the cart before the horse."

"This agenda item addresses whether to terminate this (agreement) and take management back into the city, leave it with the county, or ask for more information," McQuisten said.

If councilors chose to cancel the agreement with the county, the city would need to approve a new lodging tax ordinance and appoint a new committee, she said.

"The details inside those two steps would help set the direction of the funds," McQuisten said.

In other business Tuesday, councilors will revisit an issue raised during their Feb. 9 meeting — whether the entire Council, or the mayor alone, appoints volunteers to boards and commissions.

McQuisten on Feb. 9 appointed two

members to the Golf Board, one member to the Tree Board and one member to the Historic District Design Review Commission, rather than having the entire seven-member Council vote on the appointments as in the past.

McQuisten cited a section in the city charter that states "the mayor shall appoint the various committees provided for under the rules of the council or otherwise."

In a written opinion sent to City Manager Jonathan Cannon, the city's legal counsel, Dan Van Thiel, wrote that in his opinion, based on a review of the city charter, the City Council appoints members to boards and commissions authorized by a city ordinance, while the mayor appoints members to committees "that are provided for under the rules of the Council or otherwise."

Because the Tree Board, Golf Board and Design Review Commission were authorized by ordinance, their members should be appointed by the Council, not by the mayor alone, based on Van Thiel's analysis.

Appointments to those boards are included on the Council's agenda for tonight's meeting.

## PRINCIPALS

Continued from Page 1A

Flanagan, Mitchell and Thew all stated in a press release that they look forward to their new positions with the District.

"It can be difficult to make adjustments like this," Witty stated in the press release. "And we acknowledge there can be an element of disappointment as positions shift."

"But I'm excited about the opportunity to maximize the strengths and experiences of each leader and I appreciate and respect the sacrifices our leaders are willing to make to better serve the needs of the district," Witty said.

Thew, 43, who came to the administrative job with the District last year after spending more than a decade as a K-12 principal at Prescott, Washington, said she looks forward to again having direct contact with students.

"I've missed the opportunity to work closely with kids and

staff," Thew stated in the press release. "I enjoy interacting with kids every day, being in classrooms, helping solve issues that come up — it keeps you on your toes."

For his part, Mitchell said he is eager to take the next step in his administrative career.

The 55-year-old Mitchell came to Baker High School in 2016 from Central High School where he also worked as principal in the Central School District 13J, which serves the communities of Independence and Monmouth in western Oregon.

"It's a natural progression for me after working on several district-wide programs," Mitchell stated in the press release.

"But I'm also proud of what we've accomplished at Baker High School during the past few years," he said.

Mitchell listed starting the Futures Program, which helps students plan for their next steps after completing high school; creating the grad coach position, which helps keep stu-

dents on track to graduate on time; and leading the school's team through the accreditation process.

"On top of that, I'm proud of the staff for all the hard work they've put in to accommodate the changes required by COVID-19," Mitchell said. "Our students are making gains despite this difficult time."

Flanagan, 45, served as principal at Haines and Keating for two years before moving to the middle school in that role in 2017.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed my years at Baker Middle School," Flanagan stated in the press release. "But it's a great opportunity for me to move into

the high school arena.

"I'm looking forward to collaborating with the staff to provide a great experience for students," he said.

Flanagan and Thew will work a 220-day contract.

Based on their placement on the District's administrative salary schedule, Flanagan will earn \$102,497 per year in his new role. Thew will earn \$113,165.

Mitchell, who will work a 260-day contract, will be paid \$123,149 per year in his new position.



Flanagan



Mitchell



Thew

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

Donald 'Donny' Thomas, 37, of Caldwell, Idaho, died on Feb. 20, 2021, at Halfway. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

### FUNERAL PENDING

**Thor Edvalson:** A celebration of Thor's life and memorial service will take place Friday, Feb. 26, at 11 a.m. at the Harvest Church, 3720 Birch St. in Baker City. His family suggests memorial contributions to the Cancer Support Group through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at www.

tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police**  
VIOLATING A RESTRAINING ORDER: Darci Lynn Wilson, 22, of Baker City, 12:10 p.m. Sunday, in the 1000 block of Tamar Street; jailed.

SECOND-DEGREE DISORDERLY CONDUCT: Alexandra Joyce Potter, 26, of Baker City, 2:06 p.m. Saturday, in the 1700 block of Valley Avenue; cited and released.

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