

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** Work session at 9 a.m. at the Courthouse, 1995 Third St., to discuss the request for proposals for operating a visitors center. Citizens are encouraged to join using the Zoom link at www.bakercounty.org/online/meetings.html.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald May 8, 1971

Fred Warner was sworn in as the 1971-72 president Baker Chapter of the Future Farmers of America last night before a crowd of nearly 220 people who attended the annual parent-son banquet of the FFA. Warner was given the oath of office by outgoing president Craig Conklin.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 8, 1996

Some members of the volunteer group that helps operate the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center worry that attendance and donations will drop when the U.S. Bureau of Land Management begins charging admission fees later this year.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 9, 2011

While searchers were scouring Baker County's backcountry for her in early April, Rita Chretien was a couple hundred miles away and already more than two weeks into a 49-day ordeal.

Her remarkable tale of survival ended Friday when hunters found her, malnourished but relatively healthy, along the remote Nevada mountain road where the van Rita, 56, and her husband, Albert, were traveling in got stuck in the mud on March 19.

The search is continuing for Albert Chretien, 59, who left the stranded van on March 22 and went for help.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald May 9, 2020

A group of Oregon churches and individuals, including as lead plaintiff the Elkhorn Baptist Church in Baker City, is suing Gov. Kate Brown claiming her executive orders imposing restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic are unconstitutional.

The plaintiffs filed the suit in Baker County Circuit Court on Wednesday.

They are represented by attorney Ray D. Hacke of the Pacific Justice Institute in Salem. Hacke said the Institute is a nonprofit law firm that defends religious liberty. It opened its Salem office about two years ago.

The plaintiffs are asking for a preliminary injunction prohibiting the governor from enforcing the executive orders, including the ban on gatherings of more than 25 people, which has affected many church services.

Hacke said Thursday afternoon that he also filed a motion asking a judge to grant the plaintiffs a temporary restraining order.

That order would prevent the governor from imposing terms of the executive order, including the prohibition on larger gatherings if participants can't maintain social distancing.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, May 5
4 - 12 - 15 - 36 - 41 - 44
Next jackpot: \$2.4 million

POWERBALL, May 5
15 - 23 - 28 - 40 - 63 PB 1
Next jackpot: \$157 million

MEGA MILLIONS, May 4
4 - 27 - 32 - 57 - 63 Mega 22
Next jackpot: \$370 million

WIN FOR LIFE, May 5
10 - 25 - 46 - 73
PICK 4, May 6
• 1 p.m.: 1 - 5 - 0 - 3
• 4 p.m.: 2 - 8 - 5 - 7
• 7 p.m.: 9 - 1 - 1 - 8
• 10 p.m.: 4 - 0 - 2 - 8
LUCKY LINES, May 6
3-6-12-14-20-22-27-30
Next jackpot: \$23,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY (May 10):** Meatloaf, red potatoes, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, rolls, apple crisp
- **TUESDAY (May 11):** Chicken strips, mashed potatoes with country gravy, corn, biscuits, Jell-O and cottage cheese salad, cookies
- **WEDNESDAY (May 12):** Ham and cheese sandwich, split pea soup, potato salad, bread pudding
- **THURSDAY (May 13):** Fettuccine Bolognese, Italian vegetables, breadsticks, 3-bean salad, lemon squares
- **FRIDAY (May 14):** Barbecued pork ribs, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, rolls, green salad, cherry cheesecake

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., from 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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ARREST

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Police also found a stolen 9 mm handgun and ammunition, along with "other items indicative of narcotics trafficking," according to the press release from Lt. Ty Doby of the Baker City Police Department.

Carroll is accused of unlawful delivery of meth, being a felon in possession of a firearm, theft by receiving, money laundering and engaging in financial transactions in property derived from unlawful activity.

Doby said Carroll formerly lived in Baker City, and police believe he still spends a fair amount of time in this area.

Doby said that when he worked for the Oregon State Police in Baker County in

the 2000s, a big case might have involved ounces of drugs and hundreds or a few thousand dollars in cash.

But he said the amounts, both of drugs and cash, have been increasing in cases, such as the arrest of Carroll, when the narcotics enforcement team focuses on larger suspected traffickers such as Carroll.

Members of the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team, with assistance from the Blue Mountain Narcotics Enforcement Team, Oregon State Police and Baker City Police, executed a search warrant for Carroll, his car and the motel room on Thursday.

This arrest was a culmination of an ongoing investigation initiated by the Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team into meth and heroin distribution as well as

crimes involving firearms in the Baker County area and surrounding jurisdictions, according to the press release.

Carroll, who is under parole supervision from Malheur County, has also pleaded guilty to crimes in Baker City. He pleaded guilty on March 11, 2015, in Baker County Circuit Court to being a felon in possession of a firearm. On Dec. 18, 2013, he pleaded guilty to attempting to elude a police officer, and on Sept. 29, 2011, he pleaded guilty to delivery of meth. Both convictions were also in Baker County Circuit Court.

The Baker County Narcotics Enforcement Team includes members from the Baker City Police Department and is supported by the Baker County Sheriff's Office, the Baker County District Attorney's Office and the Oregon State Police.

ASBESTOS

Continued from Page 1A

The county bought the building in August 2020 from New Directions Northwest for \$500,000. The 5,000-square-foot building was constructed in 1970.

That building now houses the Baker County Health Department.

Nichols said that before the county bought the building, New Directions Northwest disclosed that the building possibly had materials that contained asbestos. Oregon law requires such a disclosure.

County Commission Chairman Bill Harvey, who is a building contractor, said he did the demolition work that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) cites in its notice of civil penalty and assessment to the county.

He denies the agency's claims that the building materials he removed contained asbestos.

"I was the one who did the work, that's why I know they're wrong," Harvey said. "I don't believe anything was done wrong."

According to DEQ documents, around Aug. 10, 2020,



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Renovations underway at the Baker County Health Department on Dec. 30, 2020.

workers began removing about 280 square feet of vinyl flooring, cutting it into sections and putting the material into a dumpster outside the building. The flooring was taken to the Baker Sanitary Service landfill southeast of town on Sept. 1.

"To protect the public from asbestos exposure, DEQ requires that asbestos abatement projects be performed only by contractors who are specially trained and licensed," the DEQ letter to the county reads. "The county removed portions of asbestos containing vinyl flooring without an asbes-

tos abatement license and failed to properly package the resulting waste, leaving it in a dumpster for over three weeks."

On Oct. 7, 2020, according to DEQ records, an accredited inspector collected samples of the vinyl flooring from inside the Fourth Street building, and an analysis showed that both layers of flooring and a layer beneath the flooring contained asbestos.

According to DEQ, from Nov. 16-26, 2020, a licensed asbestos abatement contractor, hired by the county, removed the remaining vinyl flooring from the Fourth

Street building and properly disposed of the material.

The work the county did previously, without a license or having a certified contractor, qualified as an "asbestos abatement project," as defined by an Oregon administrative rule, because removing the flooring had the potential to release asbestos fibers into the air.

The DEQ civil penalty assessment and order includes a \$3,600 fine for removing the asbestos without a license.

The DEQ also assessed a \$4,800 fine due to the county placing the asbestos-containing flooring in an open dumpster.

The county also violated a state rule by failing to have an accredited inspector survey the building for asbestos prior to the renovation, according to DEQ.

But the DEQ is not assessing a fine for that violation.

"DEQ appreciates your efforts to minimize the impacts of the violation by eventually hiring a licensed abatement contractor to properly package and dispose of the asbestos containing materials. DEQ considered these efforts when determining the amount of civil penalty."

OBITUARIES

Betty Perry

Baker City, 1927-2021

Betty J. Perry, 93, of Baker City, died April 23, 2021, at Settler's Park.

A private family interment will take place at a later date at Mount Hope Cemetery.

Mrs. Perry was born on July 18, 1927, at Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Thomas and Hazel E. (Greenleaf) Smith. She attended school in Bend.

She was a mother, wife and artist. Growing up in the Depression years, she was always aware of thrift. She and her sister rode ponies to a one-room school and at 15 years old she ran an elevator, and was a dental assistant. She married Jack W. Perry, a war veteran, in Bend on May 4, 1946.

Her hobbies were camping,

fishing, gardening, pottery, scrapbooking, card making and playing in a card group, knitting, painting and reading. She was a blessing and will be missed by family and friends.

She is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law, Dave and Twila Perry of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Steve and Linda Perry of Baker City; her daughter, Sharon Love of Eagle Point, Oregon; her brother, Fred Reed of Oregon City; her sister, Bev Williams of Oregon; six grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and a sister.

Those wishing to make contributions in her memory may direct them to the Diabetes Foundation through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Betty's

memory, go to www.colestributecenter.com.

Ralph Allen

Baker City, 1959-2021

Ralph Brian Allen, 62, of Baker City, died on March 29, 2021, at his home with his loving daughters by his side.

Ralph, also known as Brian, was born on Feb. 13, 1959, at Independence, Iowa, to Thornton Allen and Janet Fiffles. Brian obtained his GED and joined the United States Army at the age of 17. He served his country for the better part of four years; Brian earned several awards and medals, including the Army Occupational Medal, a Sharpshooter M16 award, and a German Army Marksmanship Badge.

His hobbies included camping, fishing, traveling, woodcarving, and surviving life. Brian loved his family and friends. He was proud to have traveled half of the world, bought a car he loved, and he was proud to be clean and sober, quitting

cigarettes as well. He was happy that he was able to see marijuana legalized. Before he passed, Brian found forgiveness and Jesus.

He will be missed every moment of every day; his family will hold tight to the memories that were made, and they love him dearly and will see him again.

Brian is survived by his daughter, Crystal Allen, and her children, Devyn Efir and Jacob Efir, of Baker City; his daughter, Kimberly Hartford, and her children, Elizabeth Titus, Tasha Titus, Melissa Titus, Lacy Titus, Shyann Reid, and Saherra Hartford of Haines; his sister, Julie Abiles of Arizona; three great-grandchildren, Arya, Luna and Sabastian; and his nephews Josh, Andy, David and Nathan.

Brian was preceded in death by his parents, Thornton Allen and Janet Fiffles; his son, Roy Allen; his sisters, Virginia Allen Olney and Lilly June Efir; and a niece, Tasha Allen.

To leave an online condolence for Brian's family, go to www.grayswestco.com.



Betty Perry



Ralph Allen

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

Donald L. Neugart: 74, of Baker City, died May 4, 2021, at Saint Alphonsus Hospital in Nampa, Idaho. To leave an online condolence for Donald's family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Odett Patterson: 73, of Baker City, died May 6, 2021, at her residence in Settler's Park Assisted Living Facility. Arrangements are under the direction of Coles Tribute Center. To leave an online condolence for Odett's family, go to www.colestribute-center.com.

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
PROBATION VIOLATION: Raleigh David Rust, 46, Baker City, 4:38 p.m. Thursday, May 6 at East and Campbell streets; jailed.
FAILURE TO APPEAR (Baker County Circuit Court warrant): Brandi Nicole Bowen, 32, 1:59 p.m. Thursday, May 6 in the 1500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.
FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Adrienna

Dione Morris, 23, transient, 9:27 p.m. Wednesday, May 5; cited and released.

HINDERING PROSECUTION, FOURTH-DEGREE ASSAULT, SECOND-DEGREE DISORDERLY CONDUCT, HARASSMENT (Baker County Circuit Court warrants): Tamara Kay Fine, 47, Baker City, 4:36 p.m. Wednesday, May 5 in the 1400 block of Baker Street; jailed.

VIOLATION OF RELEASE AGREEMENT: Kadin Patrick Bailey, 20, Baker City, 1:12 p.m. Wednesday, May 5 at the Courthouse; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations
FRAUDULENT USE OF A CREDIT CARD, SECOND-DEGREE THEFT: James Dewayne Reedy, 54, Baker City, 2:38 p.m. Wednesday, May 5 at the Baker County Jail, where he was in custody on other charges.

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