



In HOME, 1B
Get more from your grilling

Baker City Herald

May 11, 2021

Serving Baker County since 1870 • bakercityherald.com

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Home & Living • Sports

\$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Larry Brooks of Baker City.

Local, 3A

JOHN DAY — Glenn Palmer, the former Grant County sheriff who had a controversy-riddled, 20-year stint in office, has taken a new job as a marine deputy with the Sherman County Sheriff's Office.

Oregon, 5A

PORTLAND — A federal judge on Tuesday, May 4 declined to release college senior Matthew Klein, one of two Oregon brothers accused in the Jan. 6 breach of the U.S. Capitol, after finding his parents, who live in Baker City, unsuitable to supervise him pending trial.

BRIEFING

Katie Moe receives \$1,700 scholarship

Katie Moe has received a \$1,700 scholarship from the P.E.O. Program of Continuing Education. Chapter CJ of Baker City nominated Moe, who is a graduate student in intercultural relations at Johnson University. Moe and her husband, Silas, formerly ministered at the Baker City Christian Church but are now working with Pioneer Bible Translators in Dallas, Texas. The Moe's are on a fact-finding trip in Uganda, Africa, for the company.

WEATHER

Today
69 / 37



Mostly sunny

Wednesday
78 / 40



Sunny
Full forecast on the back of the B section.

The space below is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.

Property Owner Contends There's No Public Right-Of-Way On Pine Creek Road

Landowner Sues County Over Road



Contributed Photo

The Pine Creek Road through David McCarty's property is extremely rocky and rough.

By Jayson Jacoby
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The owner of a property in the Elkhorn Mountains has sued Baker County in an ongoing dispute over whether a recreational road that passes through his land is a public right-of-way.

David McCarty, who filed the civil suit in Baker County Circuit Court on April 30, is requesting a jury trial. He is asking for either a declaration that the disputed section of the Pine Creek Road is not a public right-of-

way, or, if a jury concludes there is legal public access, that the limits of that access be defined and that the county pay him \$480,000 to compensate for the lost value of the land based on the legal public access.

McCarty is also seeking a judgment requiring the county to pay him at least \$250,000 for "damages McCarty has incurred to investigate and respond to this dispute and to protect his property rights," according to the lawsuit.

McCarty is represented by Janet K.

Larsen of the Lane Powell law firm in Portland.

The county is represented by Andrew Martin, an attorney with Intermountain Law in Baker City.

Baker County Commissioner Bruce Nichols said on Friday, May 7 that he had not read the entire lawsuit and could not comment on the matter.

Martin said on Monday, May 10 that the county would not comment on active litigation.

See **Lawsuit** / Page 3A

Baker schools report 7 COVID cases

The Baker School District announced Friday, May 7 that seven people had tested positive in the district during the week, including two at Brooklyn Primary (grades 1-3),

three at South Baker Intermediate (grades 4-6) and two at Baker Middle School (grades 7 and 8).

The district, as has been the case for the past few weeks, did not say

how many of the people affected are teachers or other employees, and how many are students.

See **COVID** / Page 2A

Schedule Includes Two 'Battle Of The Bands' Events, on June 26 and July 31

Summer concerts start June 13

By Lisa Britton
lbritton@bakercityherald.com

Powder River Music Review will bring music to the park on Sundays again this summer, as well as "Battle of the Bands" events on two Saturdays, June 26 and July 31.

The regular concert series begins June 13 with Frank Carlson. Music is from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Powder River Pavilion in Geiser-Pollman Park.

Sunday concerts continue through Aug. 29. Concerts are open to the public and are free to attend.

Raffle tickets are sold at each event to help cover overhead expenses.

The music has also

been scheduled for Miners Jubilee, July 16-18. The weekend will bring back The Wasteland Kings, Leather and Lace, Brass Fire, The Blue Yesterdays, and possibly the Tri-City Drum group. Barefoot and Bonafide will perform at the street dance during Jubilee.

Baker City Events, which organizes the Powder River Music Review, is now taking applications from musicians and bands who would like to compete in the battles.

The entry fee is \$25 for single acts, \$35 for duos, or \$50 for bands of three or more members. The sound system will be provided.

Musicians will need to provide their own instruments.

The entry fees will be used for a People's Choice Award at the end of each day's concert.

There will be a "Sponsor Award" of \$1000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place.

According to a press release, musicians who donated their time and talent to raise funds for the building of the Powder River Pavilion will be given first chance at being scheduled to play at these special concert dates.

Vendor booth revenue and sponsor donations will comprise the "sponsor

award" funds. Vendor fees are \$200 per booth.

Musicians who want to enter or vendors who would like to reserve booth space can send an email to bakercityevents1@gmail.com to apply.

Businesses who would like to be a sponsor of the events can send an email for details and benefits.

Individuals or businesses that are interested in being a concert sponsor for one of the Sunday concerts, or providing a gift certificate or promotional item for one of the weekly raffle drawings, can contact Lynette Perry, event coordinator, by email at bakercityevents1@gmail.com.

Council to talk about COVID

County officials will answer councilors' questions during meeting tonight

By Jayson Jacoby
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Baker City Council members will have a chance Tuesday evening, May 11, to query county officials about multiple topics related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councilors will meet at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

During their most recent meeting, on April 27, councilors discussed issues such as how COVID-19 case counts are determined, reasons that Baker County case rates increased recently, and ways that the city can potentially mitigate the effects of state restrictions based on the county's risk level.

In a report to councilors for Tuesday's meeting, City Manager Jon Cannon wrote that, in response to the councilors' questions, he had spoken with county officials, who are overseeing the county's response to the pandemic, and that they had agreed to attend the meeting and answer questions.

See **Council** / Page 3A

Ballot return near 23%

Ballots are due by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18

By Jayson Jacoby
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Close to one in four Baker County voters had returned their ballot for the May 18 election as of Monday afternoon.

Almost 23% of the county's approximately 12,500 voters had returned their ballot one week before the deadline, said Stefanie Kirby, Baker County clerk.

Kirby recommends that voters who haven't filled out their ballot to bring it to a drop box rather than put it in the mail, to ensure it arrives before the deadline at 8 p.m. on May 18.

Mailed ballots that arrive after that time aren't valid, even if they're postmarked prior to the deadline. A list of ballot drop boxes is available at www.bakercounty.org/clerks/Drop_Sites.html.

See **Ballots** / Page 2A



TODAY
Issue 155, 14 pages

Calendar 2A
Classified 4B-6B
Comics 7B

Community News 3A
Crossword 4B & 5B
Dear Abby 8B

Home 1B-3B
Horoscope 4B & 5B
Letters 4A

Lottery Results 2A
News of Record 2A
Opinion 4A

Senior Menus 2A
Sports 6A
Weather 8B