

Local & State

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m.; work session to discuss the Request for Proposals for operating a visitor center in Baker City. Due to space limitations, citizens are encouraged to watch the meeting using a Zoom link which is available on the county's website, www.bakercounty.org/online/meetings.html

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald May 10, 1971

Oregon State Police may get the opportunity to use helicopters in their law enforcement work soon but not as extensively as was originally proposed by the Joint Ways and Means subcommittee in Salem.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 10, 1996

As part of its plan to emphasize that marijuana and other illegal drugs are not tolerated, the Baker School District will use a drug-sniffing dog to check lockers at Baker High School this month.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald May 11, 2011

A federal appeals court has ruled that Baker City Police had probable cause to arrest an Oregon man on suspicion that he was driving drunk during Miners Jubilee in 2007.

Walter Gage, who lives in Toledo and was 72 at the time of the arrest, sued the city in April 2009.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald May 12, 2020

A team of Baker County "contact tracers" is continuing to try to identify and interview anyone who had close contact with the only county resident who has tested positive for the coronavirus.

The process can take up to a few weeks, said Nancy Staten, administrator of the Baker County Health Department.

The county announced April 6 that one person had tested positive.

County officials have not identified the person or given any other information about the circumstances, including the person's age range or severity of symptoms, citing federal health privacy laws.

County Commissioner Mark Bennett said Friday that the person was recovering at home.

Staten said contact tracing protocol from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) calls for tracers to identify people who have been in "close contact" with a person who tested positive for coronavirus. "Close contact" is defined as being near the person for at least 15 minutes, Staten said.

She said people interviewed by contact tracers could include family and friends of the person who tested positive.

She declined to say approximately how many people the Baker County team has identified, or expects to interview, in connection with the county's single confirmed case, again citing privacy laws.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, May 8
2 — 13 — 24 — 42 — 43 — 46
Next jackpot: \$2.5 million

POWERBALL, May 8
12 — 17 — 20 — 21 — 26 PB 8
Next jackpot: \$168 million

MEGA MILLIONS, May 7
5 — 10 — 19 — 21 — 50 Mega 10
Next jackpot: \$396 million

WIN FOR LIFE, May 8
5 — 19 — 30 — 46

PICK 4, May 9
• 1 p.m.: 0 — 6 — 0 — 2
• 4 p.m.: 5 — 4 — 3 — 4
• 7 p.m.: 6 — 5 — 9 — 9

• 10 p.m.: 9 — 3 — 9 — 0
LUCKY LINES, May 9
1-7-10-13-19-21-25-31
Next jackpot: \$26,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **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

■ **MONDAY (May 17):** Pork roast, red potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, fruit, cookies

■ **TUESDAY (May 18):** Chicken ala king over a biscuit, carrots, broccoli-bacon salad, lemon squares

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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Forest Service to cull wild horse herd

By Michael Kohn

The (Bend) Bulletin

A herd of more than 120 horses roaming free in the Ochoco National Forest will be cut in half as part of a management plan to control their numbers.

The 2021 Ochoco Wild Horse Management Plan will establish a management level of 47 to 57 horses that can reside in the national forest, according to a news release on Friday from the U.S. Forest Service.

The Big Summit herd is the only one in Oregon and Washington to be managed solely by the U.S. Forest Service. Most of the other wild horse herds in the Pacific Northwest are managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

The number of horses permitted in the herd takes into account forage availability in winter and the management of a lack of genetic variability in the horse herd. The decision also includes an emergency action plan that provides protocols for how the Forest Service will intervene on behalf of sick, injured or starving horses.

The herd is located about 25 to 30 miles east of Prineville and grazes on 27,000 acres of land located at 4,000 to 7,000 feet in elevation.

The management plan, which became effective on Friday, updates the original herd management plan drafted 46 years ago.

The horses are believed to have first appeared in the



Ryan Brennecke/The (Bend) Bulletin File

A wild horse is seen within the Big Summit Wild Horse Territory, a 27,300-acre range near the western edge of the Ochoco National Forest in 2018.

area in the 1920s, when it is believed that ranchers at that time turned loose quality animals from a good breeding stock to ensure a future supply of good horses.

"In general, wild horses and burros are descendants of animals released by or escaped from Spanish explorers, ranchers, miners or Native Americans," said Cassidy Kern, a spokesperson for the Ochoco National Forest.

While horse lovers are fond of seeing the animals roaming wild in the forest, the Forest Service says the herd is damaging riparian areas by chewing up forage along river banks.

"The horses will be managed

through gathers beginning in the fall of 2021," said Kern. "It will likely take five years or more to gather down to the appropriate management level set out in this plan."

Kern said about 100 horses will need to be removed over that five-year period. The current herd size is between 120 to 150 horses.

"Gathering a little at a time allows us to gather valuable genetic information to work with wild horse genetics experts to ensure that we have adequate genetic variability in the herd," said Kern. "Additionally, when we bait the horses into the corrals, we typically only get smaller bands of 5-10 at a time. Gathering this

way minimizes stress on the animals."

According to the decision notice, horses removed from the territory may end up in one of three places. These include the Bureau of Land Management corral facility in Burns or a Forest Service corral. A third option could see the horses transported to leased or contracted private facilities, where they will be prepared for adoption or sale.

After removal of the horses, the numbers will be maintained through contraception and sterilization.

For more information on the project and to view the decision notice, visit the project web page: go.usa.gov/xH375

COVID

Continued from Page 1A

People who were in close contact with one of the seven people will have to quarantine.

As of today, two employees and 41

students across the district — including 22 students at Brooklyn — are quarantining, according to the district.

Baker Superintendent Mark Witty urged people to take precautions against the virus.

"Now is not the time to let our guards

down," Witty said. "Please stay home if you are sick, wash your hands often, maintain physical distancing, wear your masks, and become vaccinated if you can."

Last week's cases were the first in the district since the week of April 19-23.

BALLOTS

Continued from Page 1A

One box, on the west (Fourth Street) side of the County Courthouse, 1995 Third St., is available around the clock.

The May 18 ballot includes multiple items, some of which will be decided by voters countywide, while others are limited to certain districts or cities.

Baker 5J School District bond measure

This measure, which is on the ballot only for voters who live within the school district's boundaries, would raise property taxes on property within the district for five years to raise \$4 million for school improvements.

The measure, if passed,

would leverage the \$4 million with another \$4 million from a state grant, and \$4 million from the district's capital projects budget for a \$12 million project.

The money would pay to install new heating, cooling and ventilation systems at all schools, as well as improved security systems.

The district would replace the roof at South Baker Intermediate School and build a cafeteria and kitchen at Baker Middle School, the only school that lacks such facilities.

If voters approve the measure, property tax rates would increase, for five years, by about 66 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Baker 5J School Board

There is one contested race,

with Jessica Dougherty and Koby Myer both vying for position 3.

Only voters who live within the school district's boundaries will have this race on their ballot.

Halfway marijuana measure

The 257 registered voters in Halfway will decide whether to allow not only dispensaries but other marijuana-related businesses, including growers, producers and processors within the city limits.

Move Oregon's Border

One measure that will be on all voters' ballots deals with a nonprofit organization's campaign to add 18 Oregon counties, including Baker, to Idaho.

Move Oregon's Border contends that the political inclinations of residents in those counties aligns more closely with Idaho state government than with Oregon.

The measure on the ballot doesn't deal directly with moving the border — doing that would require the approval of both the Oregon and Idaho legislatures, and of Congress.

Rather, if Baker County voters approve the measure, the Baker County Board of Commissioners would be required to meet on the second Wednesday every March, July and November "to discuss how to promote the interests of Baker County in any negotiations regarding relocating the state borders of Idaho to include Baker County," according to the ballot title.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

David 'Dave' Curtis: 86, of Baker City, died peacefully May 8, 2021, surrounded by his family at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Baker City. A memorial service will take place later, the time and place to be announced. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Joan Arlene Wendt: 82, of Redmond, and a former longtime Baker City resident, died April 27, 2021. She, along with her husband, Jack, owned and operated Wendt Floral Design in Baker City. There will be a service, time and place to be announced later. Memorial contributions in Joan's name can be made to Hospice of Redmond or Thelma's Place through Whispering Pines Funeral Home, 3168 N.E. Third St., Prineville, OR 97754. To light a candle for Joan or to leave an online condolence for her family, go to www.whisperingpinesfuneralhome.com.

FUNERAL PENDING

John Randall: Celebration of his life will take place on Sunday, May 30 at 1 p.m. at the Eagle Valley Grange Park in Richland, with food and beverages

following. Those who would like to make a donation in John's memory may do so to the Hilary Bonn Benevolence Fund, or the charity of one's choice, through Tam's Pine Valley Funeral Home, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police
SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING: Timothy Kelly Slaney, 32, Baker City, 4:05 a.m. Monday, May 10 in the 2200 block of Court Avenue; cited and released.

HARASSMENT, SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING: Adrianna Dione Morris, 23, transient, 9:53 a.m. Sunday, May 9 in the 200 block of Bridge Street; cited and released.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Trenton Keith Dowdy, 20, Baker City, 3:49

a.m. Saturday, May 8 at Myrtle and Seventh streets; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

GIVING FALSE INFORMATION TO A POLICE OFFICER: Suchuki Ekit Kikku Jr., 27, Boise, 1:28 a.m. Monday, May 10 in the 500 block of Campbell Street; cited and released.

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