

## FIREWOOD

Continued from A1

"We are pleased to be able to offer free personal use firewood across the national forests in Oregon and Washington," Regional Forester Glenn Casamassa said in a press release. "This change will benefit people who rely on firewood as their primary

heat source and will allow us to dispose of material that otherwise would have a cost to burn or remove."

The change to free woodcutting includes the Willowa-Whitman, Umatilla and Malheur national forests in Northeastern Oregon.

Firewood cutting season ends on Nov. 30, 2021, and resumes on May 1, 2022.

Forest supervisors will des-

ignate free use firewood areas and will establish the annual limit on the number of cords of free use an individual can cut, according to the Forest Service. The total amount of free use material granted to an individual in any fiscal year cannot exceed \$200 in value. District rangers or forest supervisors can authorize free woodcutting in excess of that limit in cases of hardship or unusual need.

## DURKEE

Continued from A1

Plaintiffs Joseph Randolph, Joanne Leggett, Patrick Clegg and Philip Morse filed the suit Monday, Sept. 20 in Baker County Circuit Court.

They are represented by Sara Montrone, an attorney with the Oregon Law Center in Ontario.

The defendants are the Desert Hills Mobile Home and RV Park, Roberta Chantel Wickett and Lynn Chantel.

The park, at 34721 Express Road, is just south of Interstate 84, about 25 miles southeast of Baker City.

According to the lawsuit, the defendants notified park residents, including the plaintiffs, around Aug. 12 that the park was closing and that they should move out by Sept. 5. Around Aug. 24 the defendants gave notice that water would be shut off by Sept. 5.

Water was shut off around Sept. 10, according to the lawsuit, and "Unless the court orders defendants to restore water to the premises to comply with ORS 90.320, plaintiffs fear that they will continue to live without access to water, continuing to suffer harm for which damages will not provide adequate compensation."

The lawsuit seeks a preliminary injunction requiring the park to restore water service, as well as a temporary re-

straining order prohibiting the defendants from taking "any action to terminate plaintiffs' tenancy or to discriminate or retaliate against plaintiffs for pursuing a preliminary injunction."

According to Oregon Revised Statute 90.645, if a manufactured housing park, or the portion of a park that includes manufactured dwellings, is to be closed, the landlord must give tenants at least 365 days' notice in writing.

ORS 90.320 requires landlords to maintain units, including manufactured homes, in a "habitable condition," which includes supplying running hot and cold water. This requirement applies up to the point where a tenant has left, or has been legally evicted, the latter of which is a separate action that, according to the lawsuit, has not been pursued in this case.

The plaintiffs are also asking for reasonable attorney's fees and for financial restitution, specifically:

- \$900 for Leggett, twice the monthly rent, for the intentional interruption of water service.
- \$700 for Randolph, twice the monthly rent, for the intentional interruption of water service.
- \$600 for Gregg, twice the monthly rent, for the intentional interruption of water service.
- \$1,000 for Morse, twice

the monthly rent, for the intentional interruption of water service.

In the motion for a preliminary injunction, Montrone writes that the decision to turn off the water is "clearly a violation of habitability standards and plaintiffs are suffering continuing harm."

In a written declaration dated Sept. 20, Montrone wrote that she had told Lynn Chantel, on Aug. 27, that if water was turned off, Montrone would file a motion for a temporary restraining order.

Montrone wrote that she spoke with Lynn Chantel by phone on Sept. 16, and that Chantel told her that water would not be turned back on at the park.

Morse and Gregg also filed declarations.

Gregg wrote that he has been without running water since Aug. 24. Morse wrote that his water was turned off Sept. 10.

Both wrote that they have had to drive to Baker City, about 25 miles away, to buy water for cooking, drinking and flushing their toilets.

A phone call to the number listed for the Desert Hills Mobile Home and RV Park was not answered. The park is listed online as temporarily closed.

The business was registered in Oregon in 2004, according to the Oregon Secretary of State's office.

# Pandemic pauses House work on redistricting

By GARY A. WARNER

Oregon Capital Bureau

A political showdown in the House over political redistricting was put on hold for at least a day amid reported COVID-19 cases traced to the Monday, Sept. 20 session in the Capitol.

House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, announced just after 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21 that a COVID-19 case had been traced to Monday's House session. She canceled the House floor session until Wednesday morning, Sept. 22.

"In the last hour, we were notified that a person who was in the Capitol yesterday has tested positive for COVID," Kotek said.

"This is obviously a developing situation and hopefully we will be back tomorrow to complete our business," Kotek said.

No additional information was given on the identity of the person who tested positive. The House had been interrupted at least three times over the past year by outbreaks among lawmakers and staff.

Kotek's announcement was made to a nearly empty chamber. The House was scheduled to vote on final passage of new legislative and congressional maps required to reflect population changes in the 2020 U.S. Census.

However, there were questions as to whether the GOP lawmakers would show up at all.

Republicans are considering a boycott or walkout to block a Democratic redistricting plan they say includes a broken promise by Kotek on partisan parity on the



Sam Stites/Oregon Public Broadcasting

Oregon state House seats are empty as a report of a positive COVID-19 case forces postponement of work on redistricting Tuesday, Sept. 21.

committee deciding the fate of legislative and congressional district maps for the 2022 election.

"We've been had," said Rep. Daniel Bonham, R-The Dalles, a lead negotiator for GOP on redistricting for the 2022 election. "I don't know if that makes me a sucker, but if it does, I'm a sucker with character."

Bonham was reacting to the decision by Kotek, to unilaterally revise a deal giving Republicans equal say on the House Redistricting Committee.

The House and Senate redistricting committees had worked since August on the much-delayed political maps. Twelve legally required hearings were held and thousands of pieces of testimony and comments were gathered. Democrats and Republicans submitted a total of eight different maps.

But with the start of the special session, all legislation and committees had to be reconstituted.

The Senate had a committee of three Democrats and two Republicans, just as before. It voted 3-2 to recommend maps drawn by Democrats for 60 House, 30 Senate and six congressional districts.

The full Senate approved the maps on an 18-11 party-line vote. The maps were then shipped over to the House.

In a surprise, if not completely unforeseen collision of partisan priorities, Kotek announced she was cleaving the redistricting committee in two.

"Separate committees are the only path the House now has to fulfill its responsibilities," Kotek said.

A committee to vote on House and Senate maps would have the previously brokered equality of Republicans and Democrats.

However, Kotek created a new committee of two Democrats and one Republican to consider the more controversial congressional maps.

"I am confident the maps passed by the Senate meet all statutory and constitutional requirements," she said.

Kotek accurately forecast the storm of protest from Republicans, many of whom noted the speaker had already announced plans to run for governor in 2022.

"No map is perfect, and this is a very complex task," Kotek said. "Ultimately, we are bound to do our constitutional duty and the job Oregonians elected us to do."

# Baker County CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Baker & Haines United Methodist Churches**  
Currently meeting via Zoom only  
**Worship 10am Sunday**  
Please join us  
Join Video Zoom Meeting  
<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/5415234201>  
Meeting ID: 541 523 4201  
669 900 6833 US (San Jose) (audio only)  
Or follow us on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/BakerUMCOregon>  
<https://www.facebook.com/Haines-United-Methodist-Church-Oregon-291206291510866>

**BAKER CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship  
First Service 8:30 AM  
2nd Service & Sunday School 10 AM  
Jr. High & High School Youth  
Tues 6:30 PM  
Youth Pastor Silas Moe  
675 Hwy 7, Baker City • 541-523-5425

**Harvest Church**  
EARLY WORSHIP GATHERING  
8:30 AM  
SECOND WORSHIP GATHERING  
10:30 AM  
Harvest Cafe open 30 minutes before each service  
3720 Birch St, Baker City  
541-523-4233  
[www.BakerCityHarvest.org](http://www.BakerCityHarvest.org)

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
Saturday Worship  
11:00 AM  
[www.bakercitysda.com](http://www.bakercitysda.com)  
17th & Pocahontas, Baker City  
541-523-4913

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
9-11 AM - Baker City 2nd Ward  
11:30-1:30 PM Baker Valley Ward  
2-4 PM - Baker City 1st Ward  
Everyone Welcome  
Family History Center is open again -  
Everything Free - Masks required  
Tues & Fri 1-4 PM  
Wed & Thurs 10AM-1PM  
Wed Evenings 5-8 PM  
2625 Hughes Lane, Baker City  
541-523-2397

**SAINT ALPHONSUS HOSPITAL CHAPEL**  
Open to all patients, family and friends for reflection and prayer.  
St. Alphonsus Hospital in Baker City

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship Service  
10:30 AM  
1995 4th Street, Baker City  
541-523-5201  
[firstpresbaker.blogspot.com](http://firstpresbaker.blogspot.com)

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
Third & Broadway  
541-523-3891  
Sundays  
10 AM Worship Service  
9 AM Sunday School  
Thursdays  
5:30 - 6 PM  
Free Community Dinner  
6:15 - 8 PM  
Celebrate Recovery  
[bakercalvarybaptist.com](http://bakercalvarybaptist.com)

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**  
Sunday Service  
10:00 AM  
[www.ChristianScience.com](http://www.ChristianScience.com)  
3rd & Washington, Baker City  
541-523-5911

**Elkhorn Baptist Church**  
Sunday School 10 AM  
Morning Worship 11 AM  
Evening Worship 6 PM  
Discovery Kids Worship  
6:30 PM  
3520 Birch St, Baker City  
541-523-4332

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Service at 11 am  
Live Streaming on Facebook  
1734 Third Street, Baker City  
541-523-3922  
[firstlutheranbakercity@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutheranbakercity@gmail.com)

**Baker City Church of the Nazarene**  
Sunday Worship 9:45am  
Sunday School 8:30am  
Coffee is 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM  
Pastor Troy Teeter  
1250 Hughes Lane, Baker City  
(Corner of Cedar & Hughes)  
541-523-3533  
[www.bakernaz.com](http://www.bakernaz.com)

**St. Stephen's Episcopal**  
Services at 9 AM  
1st & 3rd Sundays, Holy Eucharist  
2nd & 4th Sundays, Morning Prayer  
5th Sunday, Morning Prayer  
2177 First Street • Baker City  
Entrance on 1st Street  
Corner Church & First Streets  
541-523-4812

**ST. BRIGID'S IN THE PINES COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
11:30 a.m. Services  
1st & 3rd Sunday  
Holy Eucharist  
East Auburn Street, Sumpter  
541-523-4812  
A Mission of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Baker City

**St. Francis De Sales Cathedral**  
Daily Masses:  
M, T, Th, F 9 AM  
Day Chapel in Cathedral  
Wed Daily Mass 9 AM  
at St. Alphonsus Chapel  
Sat 8 AM at Day Chapel  
Baker City Saturday Mass 6 pm  
Baker City Sunday Mass 9:30 am  
St. Therese in Halfway 2 pm Sat  
St. Anthony's in North Powder  
11:30 Sun  
541-523-4521  
Corner of First & Church, Baker City

**AGAPE CHRISTIAN CENTER**  
Sunday Services  
10:00 AM & 6:30 PM  
South Highway 7,  
Baker City  
541-523-6586

The church directory is published once monthly. Information for this directory is provided by participating churches, please call 541-523-3673 for more information.

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