

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald
March 10, 1972

The city council last night generally agreed that the basic facts in the existing airport lease with Don Doyle be maintained but suggested it include legal descriptions and contain changes required by the FAA.

25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald
March 10, 1997

Officials from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative worry that deregulating the electric industry might benefit a few large companies that use large amounts of power at the expense of all other customers.

Steve Schauer, OTEC's member services manager, discussed the potential effects of deregulation at Friday's Lunch Bunch.

10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald
March 9, 2012

BEND — The Rev. Liam Cary, who has strong roots in Central Oregon, was named the new bishop of the Bend-based Catholic Diocese of Baker on Thursday.

The 64-year-old Cary, who grew up in Prineville and is currently the parish priest at St. Mary's Church in Eugene, was appointed to the position by Pope Benedict XVI.

ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald
March 11, 2021

Snowmobiles are about as common in Sumpter as ponderosa pine trees, but the speedy machines that gather in the old mining town this weekend won't be there to take scenic tours on the nearby mountain trails.

These sleds are coming to race.

A regional championship event is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Sumpter Fairgrounds at the southeast corner of the town.

Sumpter, population around 210, is about 28 miles west of Baker City.

Bill Sproul, a member of the Grant County Snowballers snowmobile club who is serving as race director, expects 80 to 90 racing snowmobiles to compete in several classes on the quarter-mile oval race course.

Sproul said riders will be coming from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah.

"Sumpter has the facilities for a wonderful snowmobile event," he said.

It certainly has the snow.

More than 4 feet fell in Sumpter, elevation 4,400 feet, during February, said Mike Bogart, president of the Sumpter Valley Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club.

Like Sproul, Bogart is excited about this weekend's races.

Part of their anticipation has to do with the racing machines, which are not the sorts of sleds you're likely to see on groomed trails.

This weekend's races are for "vintage" snowmobiles, Sproul said.

Those are machines built before 1985 and that have leaf-spring suspensions rather than the comparatively sophisticated independent suspensions that modern sleds have.

Sproul said this weekend's races will also have a separate class for somewhat newer snowmobiles, those built as recently as 1997.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, MARCH 7

13-17-31-35-39-47

Next jackpot: \$2.6 million

POWERBALL, MARCH 7

10-43-55-59-67 PB 2

Next jackpot: \$99 million

MEGA MILLIONS, MARCH 8

7-18-38-58-64 Mega 24

Next jackpot: \$20 million

WIN FOR LIFE, MARCH 7

3-21-49-68

PICK 4, MARCH 8

• 1 p.m.: 7-7-0-6

• 4 p.m.: 7-8-7-0

• 7 p.m.: 6-2-8-3

• 10 p.m.: 2-2-9-2

LUCKY LINES, MARCH 8

2-7-9-14-20-23-26-31

Next jackpot: \$26,000

SENIOR MENUS

FRIDAY (March 11): Pork roast, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, green salad, bread pudding

MONDAY (March 14): Orange-glazed chicken strips, rice, broccoli, rolls, green salad, ice cream

TUESDAY (March 15): Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, peas and carrots, rolls, Jell-O with fruit, pudding

WEDNESDAY (March 16): Pork tips over noodles, mixed vegetables, rolls, green salad, lemon square

THURSDAY (March 17): Corned beef and cabbage, red potatoes, baby carrots, rolls, pea-and-onion salad, tapioca

FRIDAY (March 18): Meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, rolls, green beans, coleslaw, cheesecake

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$5 donation (60 and older), \$7.50 for those under 60.

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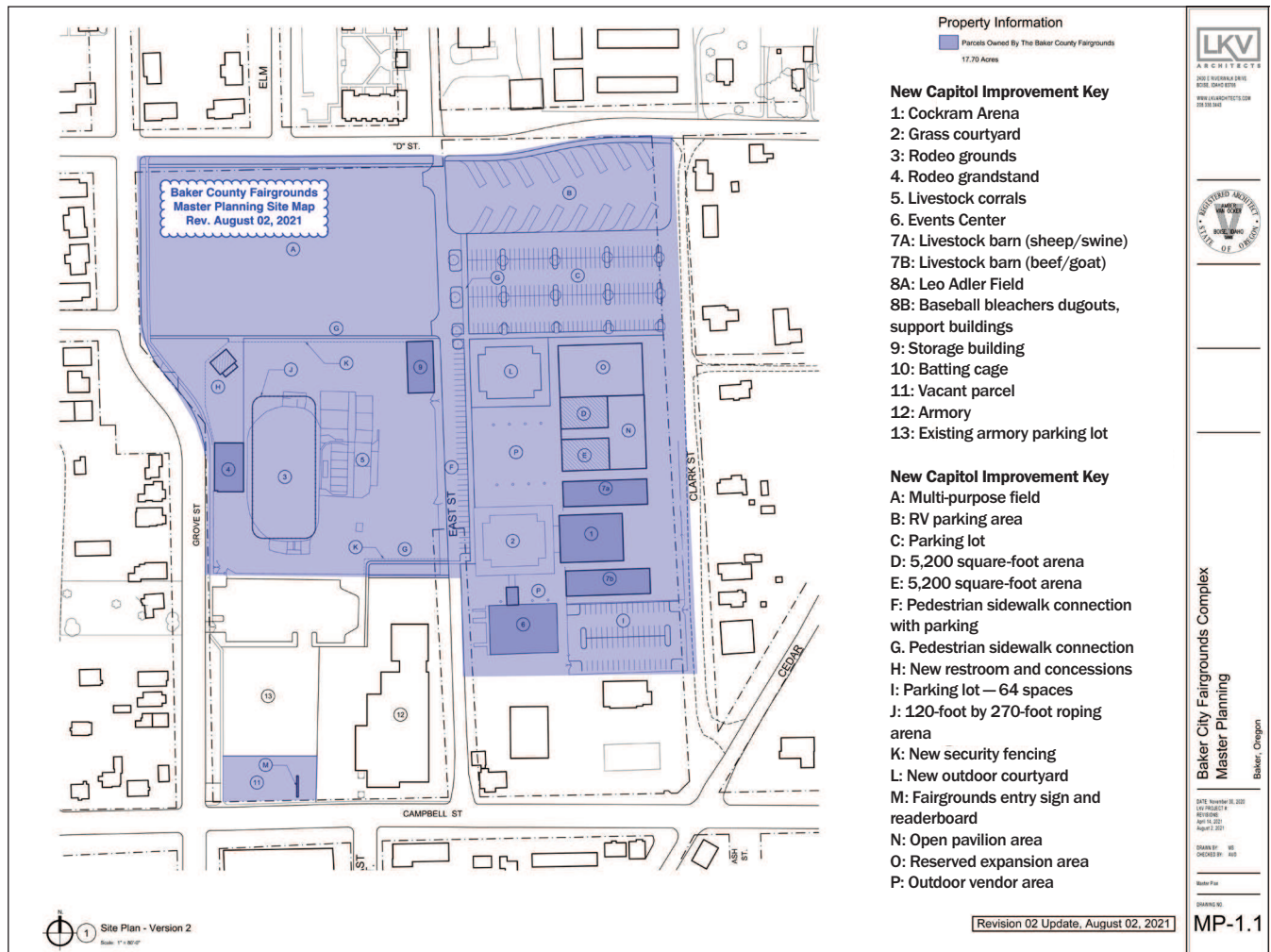
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This map is part of the Baker County Fairgrounds 5-year master plan approved in 2021. The capital improvements listed are not prioritized.

Fairgrounds

Continued from Page A1

Dean Defrees, the Fair Board's vice chairman, agreed.

"We feel really fortunate to get it, as funding has been so hard to come by," Defrees said on Tuesday, March 8.

Rowan said the Oregon Fairs Association, which lobbied for House Bill 5202, asked county fair boards to send a list of priorities were they to receive state dollars.

Baker was among several counties that will get money to improve their fairgrounds.

Grant and Harney counties each was allocated \$2 million, and Union and Wallowa counties will each receive \$1 million.

Rowan said the Baker County Fair Board will have its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 15, at 6 p.m. in the small meeting room at the OSU Extension Service office, 2600 East St., to begin discussing priorities for the unexpected infusion of dollars.

"We're very excited about it," he said.

Rowan said the Fair Board's 5-year master plan, written by LKV Architects of Boise and adopted in 2021, will serve as

the starting point for the discussions. The overall goal, he said, is to make the 17.7-acre fairgrounds attractive for a variety of events in addition to mainstays such as the Baker County Fair in early August, and the Baker City Bull and Bronc Riding events in July.

"One of our focuses is to make this facility user friendly to the public, a venue people will want to use," Rowan said. "Something we can all be proud of."

He emphasized, though, that the Fair Board needs to confirm whether there are any restrictions on what the county can use the money for before setting priorities based on the master plan.

Among the projects that board members have talked about are replacing the dilapidated green-painted wooden fence around the perimeter of the rodeo grounds, improving the 750-person capacity rodeo grandstand, and fortifying the crow's nest at the rodeo grounds to better accommodate the large video screen used during the bull and bronc riding competitions.

Defrees pointed out that the Fair Board made structural improvements to the grandstand several years ago, but minor

work is needed on supports for stairs at the south end. Another goal is to repaint the grandstand and do other cosmetic work.

Other possible projects include adding more seating, to avoid the need to bring in portable bleachers, and installing restrooms, although the latter would be expensive and have long-term maintenance costs.

Rowan said the Fair Board also is looking at ways to incorporate the former Leo Adler Field, which is no longer used for baseball, into the fairgrounds.

The field is at the northeast corner of the fairgrounds, just south of D Street. The 5-year master plan calls for using part of the former baseball field for RV and regular parking.

The master plan also proposes a new outdoor vendor area and outdoor courtyard on the east side of East Street, north of the Baker County Events Center, the 6,400-square-foot facility in the former National Guard Armory.

Rowan said the Fair Board has talked with Little League officials about moving the painted sign in center field at Leo Adler Field, which honors Leo Adler, Baker County's

beloved philanthropist who died in 1993, to the Baker Sports Complex north of Baker High School.

That facility, which has two baseball and two softball fields, made Leo Adler Field largely superfluous, and its use declined over the years.

Adler's generosity continues to benefit the fairgrounds along with many other community projects and facilities.

Rowan said the Fair Board received a grant from the Leo Adler Foundation to renovate the floor at the Events Center. He said the Fair Board would like to use some of the state dollars to add insulation to the building.

Defrees said another goal for the Fair Board is to build a new small animal barn, although the Board will need to confirm whether the \$2 million can be used for construction as well as improvements to existing structures.

Besides the infrastructure work that the \$2 million will make possible, Rowan said Oregon State University officials are beginning to interview candidates to serve as fair manager.

The former manager, Angie Turner, left the position during the summer of 2020.

News of Record

DEATHS

Delores Ethel Swanson: 86, died March 6, 2022, at Meadowbrook Place in Baker City. No services are currently planned. Her urn will be interred at Mount Hope Cemetery at a later date. To light a candle in Delores' memory, or to offer online condolences to her family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Roy Leonard Cole: 88, of Baker City, died March 5, 2022, at his home. He was a Korean War veteran. No public services are planned at this time. To light a candle in Roy's memory, or to offer online condolences to his family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

FUNERALS PENDING

James 'Jim' Allison: Celebration of life will take place Saturday, March 12, at 3 p.m. at the Harvest Christian Church, 3720 Birch St. in Baker City. For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Jim, the family suggests either the Powder River Rural Fire Department or the Sumpter Valley Railroad through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Roger Ballantyne: Graveside services Friday, March 11, at 1 p.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Donations in his memory can be made to Best Friends of Baker through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Roger, go to www.coletributecenter.com.

James 'Jim' Bacon: Memorial service with military honors will take place Saturday, March 12, at 11 a.m. at the Harvest Church, 3720 Birch St. in Baker City. Memorial donations in Jim's name can be made to the Powder River Sportsmen's Club rifle range, through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences can be shared at tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations
FAILURE TO APPEAR (two Baker County warrants): Victoria Jean McLean, 39, Huntington, 6:19 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, in Huntington; cited and released.

PROBATION VIOLATION: James Robert Blitch, 51, Baker City, 1:13 a.m. Wednesday, March 9, in the 2100 block of D Street; jailed.

warrant): Steven Forrest Adams, 55, Baker City, 8:02 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at the Sheriff's Office; cited and released.

PROBATION VIOLATION: Chaz Jordan Williams, 20, Baker City, 9:08 a.m. Monday, March 7, at the Sheriff's Office; jailed.

FOURTH-DEGREE ASSAULT (domestic): Joshua David Givens, 27, Baker City, 4:36 p.m. Monday, March 7, in Halfway; jailed.

PROBATION VIOLATION: Chaz Jordan Williams, 20, Baker City, 9:08 a.m. Monday, March 7, at the Sheriff's Office; jailed.

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★ March 4-10 ★

THE BATMAN (PG-13)
Friday 3:45, 6:45
Sat & Sun 1:00, 3:45, 6:45
Mon-Thurs 6:45

UNCHARTED (PG-13)
Friday 4:10, 7:10
Sat & Sun 1:10, 4:10, 7:10
Mon-Thurs 7:10

DOG (PG-13)
Friday 7:20
Sat & Sun 1:20, 7:20
Mon-Thurs 7:20

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