

# Local

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

### 50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald

June 4, 1972

PORTLAND (UPI) — The wilderness is getting so crowded the U.S. Forest Service has announced plans to require permits for entry into the 14 wilderness areas of Oregon and Washington.

### 25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

June 4, 1997

The Oregon Trail Interpretive Center will begin collecting fees on June 18, said Dave Hunsaker, center director.

The center was scheduled to begin charging fees June 1, but that plan was delayed because the fee booth was not finished.

### 10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

June 4, 2012

Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium's bleachers were tightly packed on Sunday's cloudy but warm afternoon to see off the 110 graduates of the Class of 2012.

"Never been so excited in my life," said graduate Nathan Payton.

"I'm finally here," said graduate Erin Brandon.

Jeremy Baxter, ASB president, welcomed all to this year's graduation ceremony.

### ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald

June 5, 2021

Spencer Shirlcliff lost his senior prom and his graduation ceremony and his final high school baseball season to COVID-19, but he concedes things might have turned out even worse.

He could have been his brother.

Spencer, 19, glances at Payton, who's 18 months younger and, more important in this case, one year behind at Baker High School.

Although Spencer laments the larceny that the virus committed on the last term of his senior year, in the spring of 2020, he has greater sympathy for Payton and the BHS Class of 2021.

"I felt really bad for you," Spencer said to Payton on the warm, breezy evening of Monday, May 31 in the shady backyard of the Shirlcliff family's Baker City home, five days before Payton's 18th birthday and six days before he was set to receive his diploma.

"We had some normal for our senior year," Spencer said to Payton. "You had none."

Payton considers this.

And although he acknowledges that his brother has a point, Payton also feels that, comparatively speaking, he fared better than some of the younger students at Baker High.

Payton points out that when his senior year started in September 2020, BHS students "attended" their classes online only.

(BHS students returned to school for one day per week on Nov. 9, 2020, and for two days per week on Jan. 25, 2021. They have had a regular four-day weekly schedule since April 12.)

"I can't imagine going into your freshman year on a computer," Payton said. "I feel bad for them."

The brothers gathered with their parents, Beth and Matt Shirlcliff, to reminisce about the most unusual 15-month period their family — and most families — have experienced.

## OREGON LOTTERY

### MEGABUCKS, JUNE 1

8-13-18-20-21-33

Next jackpot: \$1.6 million

### POWERBALL, JUNE 1

11-41-56-57-63 PB 2

Next jackpot: \$184 million

### MEGA MILLIONS, MAY 31

6-15-41-63-64 Mega 24

Next jackpot: \$189 million

### WIN FOR LIFE, JUNE 1

20-24-27-44

### PICK 4, JUNE 2

• 1 p.m.: 0-4-7-3

• 4 p.m.: 4-1-1-2

• 7 p.m.: 1-6-3-8

• 10 p.m.: 9-3-9-3

### LUCKY LINES, JUNE 2

1-5-11-15-19-23-25-32

Next jackpot: \$52,000

## SENIOR MENUS

**MONDAY (June 6):** Chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, rolls, green salad, ice cream

**TUESDAY (June 7):** Beef burgundy over fettuccine noodles, broccoli, rolls, green salad, fruit cup

**WEDNESDAY (June 8):** Chicken cordon bleu with hollandaise, rice pilaf, green beans, Jell-O with fruit, cake

**THURSDAY (June 9):** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables, rolls, three-bean salad, pudding

**FRIDAY (June 10):** Clam chowder, Caesar salad, rolls, apple crisp

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.

## CONTACT THE HERALD

2005 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Open Monday through Friday

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Telephone: 541-523-3673

### Publisher

Karrine Brogotti

kbrogotti@lagrandobserver.com

Jayson Jacoby, editor

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Advertising email

ads@bakercityherald.com

Classified email

classified@bakercityherald.com

Circulation email

circ@bakercityherald.com

## Baker City Herald

ISSN-8756-6419

Serving Baker County since 1870

Published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays except Christmas Day by the Baker Publishing Co., a part of EO Media Group, at 2005 Washington Ave., Suite 101 (P.O. Box 807), Baker City, OR 97814.

Subscription rates per month are \$10.75 for print only. Digital-only rates are \$8.25.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Baker City Herald, P.O. Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814.

Periodicals Postage Paid

at Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Copyright © 2022

# Three Arbor Day posters to be displayed

Baker City Herald

Baker City announced the winners in its Arbor Day poster contest on Thursday, June 2.

First place went to Joshua Bradford, a sixth grader at Haines Elementary School.

Tabitha Bradford, a fourth grader at Haines, placed second.

And Finley Ellis, a homeschooled first grader, won the third place award.

All the winning posters will be displayed at Ryder Brothers, 1735 Main St.

First place winner in Baker City's Arbor Day poster contest was drawn by Joshua Bradford, a sixth grader at Haines Elementary School.



Tabitha Bradford, a fourth grader at Haines Elementary School, was the second place winner in Baker City's Arbor Day poster contest.



Finley Ellis, a first grader who is homeschooled, drew the third-place poster in Baker City's Arbor Day poster contest.



## Container

Continued from Page A1

They approved Lethlean's application.

According to the city's development code, Type I decisions involve "clear and objective approval criteria, and applying City standards and criteria requires limited discretion." In such cases, planning department officials can approve the application without public notice or a public hearing.

The Type II procedure, which Russell contends the department should have used with Lethlean's application, also allows a planning department official to make a decision, but the department sends a public notice to nearby residents prior to approving or rejecting the application. In addition, Type II decisions can be appealed to the city planning commission, which is not an option with Type I decisions.

In an email in August 2021, Eva Henes, a senior planner, suggested that Russell bring his concerns about the development code to the city planning commission.

Russell wrote a series of emails to the planning department in August and September 2021.

In an Aug. 26, 2021, email, Russell wrote: "Frankly, it's dishearteningly to witness Baker City considering yet allowing this historic (downtown) gateway neighborhood to diminish like it is. Many families use Valley as their daily walk and/or commute downtown. Unfortunately, Valley Ave. is looking pretty poorly these days. ... broken weeded sidewalks, unkept rentals, and now Port of Long Beach out my front porch. Not what I envisioned when I bought my property."

Russell also claimed that Lethlean, who is a former city employee, had "bragged" about his relationship with the city, and cited it as a reason his application was handled as a Type I decision.



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

A shipping container placed in the front yard at 1620 Valley Ave. in Baker City has prompted complaints from a neighbor about the city's development code.

Holly Kerns, the city/county planning director, refuted that contention in a Sept. 7, 2021, email to Russell.

Kerns wrote, in part: "In Mr. Lethlean's case, many of the staff here have spoken with him in the past at the department. While I understand the concern, the decision for Mr. Lethlean's property was based solely on the application meeting the criteria included in the Development Code, and no other factors were involved."

Russell again cited the shipping container in emails to the city on March 9 and May 14 of this year.

In the March 9 email he included photos of Lethlean's property, writing: "I thought you might like to see an update resulting from your poor judgment in allowing (Lethlean) to drop a 40 (foot) ocean shipping container one block from historic downtown. This IS NOT beautifying our neighborhood. The reason for a Type II approval process. Since you allowed him to skirt your Type II approval process he has polluted what was once a nice open building lot — and turned it into a junk yard!"

In the May 14 email, Russell cited the

proximity of Lethlean's property to the city's Central Park, which is the new site for the Baker City Farmers Market, and the city's downtown district.

Russell cited the "homeowner/City financial impact and/or improper zoning practice Baker City allowing this Junkyard."

Lethlean, who declined to comment, noted that he had gone through the required process, submitting an application and receiving approval from the planning department to place the shipping container.

According to Kerns, "When an accessory building is less than 20 feet tall and less than 1,200 square feet, or less than 1.5 times the size of the primary structure, whichever is greater — these structures are permitted through a Type I decision. No accessory structure or combinations of such structures shall have a footprint any larger than 1.5 times the primary structure."

Based on those criteria, the owner of a residential parcel similar to Lethlean's could place multiple shipping containers through the Type I process.

Russell and a couple of his neighbors have also suggested that the city at least require Lethlean to place the shipping container at the back of his property rather than in the front.

He noted that planning department officials suggested last year that he file a complaint with the Baker City Police Department if he believes Lethlean, who also has trailers, machinery and other items on his property, is violating the city's property maintenance ordinance.

Russell considers that idea "passing the buck."

"Baker City should do what they should have done in the first place — perform a Type II approval process," Russell said. "Type II also includes economic and environmental assessments and a forum for debate."

## News of Record

### DEATHS

**Donna Terrell:** 91, of Baker County, died June 2, 2022, at her daughter's home in Keating. Her graveside service will be Thursday, June 9 at 1 p.m. at the Eagle Valley Cemetery in Richland. A reception will immediately follow at the Eagle Valley Grange. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Oregon 97834. Online condolences can be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).

### FUNERALS PENDING

**Charles Richard 'Dick' Kirby:** Celebration of life will take place Wednesday, June 8 at 1 p.m. at the Baker City Christian Church, 675 Highway 7, with a reception following. Pastor Jesse Whitford will officiate. A private family urn burial will follow the reception at Mount Hope Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to the Shriner's Hospital for Children through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. To light a candle in Dick's honor, or to offer online condolences to his family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com).

**Carol Bouchard:** Graveside military service will be Friday, June 10 at 3 p.m. at the North Powder Cemetery. A celebration Carol's life will follow at 4 p.m. at the Wolf Creek Grange in North Powder. For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Carol, they may do so a charity of their choice through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Oregon 97834. Online

condolences can be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).

**Bob Pollock:** A celebration of Bob's life will take place Saturday, June 11 at 11 a.m. at the Pine Valley Fairgrounds in Halfway. Please come and join us as we share good food and stories. For those who would like to make a donation in memory of Bob, they may do so a charity of their choice through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Oregon 97834. Online condolences can be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).

**William Jackson:** A celebration of William's life will take place Saturday, June 11 at 2 p.m. at the Halfway Lions Hall. Donations to Community Connection in his honor would be greatly appreciated, and can be made through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, Oregon 97834. Online condolences can be shared at [www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com).

**Samuel F. Orr:** Celebration of life, June 18 at 1 p.m. at the Haines city park.

**David G. Cherry:** Graveside service will be Friday, June 17 at 2 p.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Bill Rompa will officiate the service. To leave an online

condolence for David's family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com).

### POLICE LOG

#### Baker City Police

##### Arrests, citations

HARASSMENT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Alicia Dawn Hills, 40, Baker City, 11:05 a.m. Thursday, June 2 in the 3300 block of Cedar Street; cited and released.

#### Baker County Sheriff's Office

##### Arrests, citations

PROBATION VIOLATION: Kenny Lee Hellman, 53, Baker City, 9:54 a.m. Thursday, June 2 at the Sheriff's Office; jailed.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Jason Richard Harris, 49, Baker City, 12:54 p.m. Wednesday, June 1 at the Baker County Jail, where he was in custody on other charges.

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Andrew Jay Culley, 33, Baker City, 12:38 p.m. Wednesday, June 1 at the Baker County Jail, where he was in custody on other charges.

### Oregon State Police

#### Arrests, citations

DRIVING WHILE SUSPENDED: Jason W. Surratt, 46, Lyons, Oregon, 6:05 p.m. Thursday, June 2 on Interstate 84, Milepost 306 eastbound; cited and released.

IDAHO FUGITIVE WARRANT: Darren Glenn Yeater, 32, 1:40 p.m. Wednesday, June 1 in Baker County; jailed. Yeater had outstanding arrest warrants from Ada County, Idaho, on a charge of possession, introduction or removal of certain items into or from correctional facilities, and from Benton County, Washington, on charges of failure to appear and second-degree escape.

#### Accident report

Interstate 84, Milepost 332 eastbound, 2:58 p.m. Thursday, June 2. A commercial truck lost control on a curve and landed on the driver's side against the center barrier, blocking the fast lane. The driver, Richard Simon, 57, of Hominy, Oklahoma, and the lone passenger, Lisa Simon, 49, of Hominy, were taken by ambulance to Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City with minor injuries. Richard Simon was in good condition at the hospital on Friday morning, June 3, and Lisa Simon had been treated and released.

**GRUMPY'S Repair Trucks Inc.** "You'll love the work we do. I guarantee it." - JR

REPAIR TRUCKS 541-523-3200

225 H Street • East of I-84 • 541-523-3200 • grumpysrepair.com