sort of hike I usually have to wait

we saw only one person on the

trails, we came across about a

dozen mountain bike riders, all

above the Upper Igo trailhead.

by a friendly dog.

paths for ATVs.

each of whom was accompanied

the Union County Parks Depart-

mittee, is renowned for its moun-

tain bike trails and its network of

but I'm sure I would have fun -

I've never pedaled at the place

albeit not the same variety of high-

flying fun that a couple of riders

were indulging in as they navi-

gated a downhill section of trail

amply endowed with jumps and smoothly banked corners.

MERA is no wilderness, to be

But it's a pretty fair approxima-

tion, with its patches of forest and

streams, the latter lined with thick

vegetation and spanned in places

As we walked along on the

two evenings it occurred to me,

now and again, about how close

we actually were to the bustling

we could neither see nor hear the

commotion. They might as well

city, and the busy freeway, yet

its meadows and its occasional

by simple but quaint wooden

bridges.

ment and has an advisory com-

MERA, which is managed by

of them courteous and apprecia-

tive when we stepped aside as they grinded up a series of switchbacks

We also passed a pair of hikers,

Unlike our previous visit, when

until the weekends for.

KLAMATH

Continued from Page BI

only a matter of time before trout populations collapse.

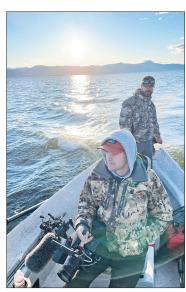
Unite So much of the narrative in my lifetime has been one of polarized, opposing sides. Farmers and ranchers on one side and Native Americans on the other. It's time for this to stop. Despite differences, everyone will benefit from a healthier Klamath.

The Klamath, Modoc and Yahooskin Tribes are not alone in their victimization by United States policy and past actions. There is no denying the mistreatment and genocide of tribes across the country; however, past sins are not an excuse for continued marginalization. Society has evolved and can continue to do so. We can respect the legacy of the people who were here first without completely eliminating agriculture.

A healthy Klamath Basin is a healthy Klamath Falls, a healthy Klamath County and a healthy public at large. We do not have to choose between agriculture and ecology. At least, not yet. Water availability is its own discussion, but we have no control over the rainfall. We absolutely have control over habitat loss.

It's time to buy back and rewild vacant land where possible then open it to regulated public use. Create new wetlands. Limit erosion. Rebuild banks where possible. The first step is to keep cattle out of the water with fences and begin to replant shoreline vegetation to keep the banks from eroding further.

Many ranchers have already taken these steps, including



Luke Ovgard/Contributed Photo Local guide Tim Cleland (rear) motors in the boat for the author and videographer Nick Mitchell (front), who is working on a documentary of his own centered in the Klamath

a close friend and successful rancher in the area who has already fencing his properties on Lost River where waterfowl benefit just as much as fish from the natural, healthy habitat untrampled by hooves.

Fencing is a solution neither prohibitively expensive nor overwhelmingly complex. Cattle ranching can persist even as we restore the Klamath and its tributaries to its former glory. This isn't controversial; it's common

For similar stories, read the author's book "Fishing Across America," which is available for preorder now at https:// bit.ly/3MKucLp. Sign up for every single ${\it Caught Ovgard \, column \, at \, www.patreon.}$ com/CaughtOvgard. Read more for free at caughtovaard.com; contact luke. ovgard@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support of local journalism.

BACKYARD

Continued from Page Bl

I've often daydreamed, while hiking in the woods, about how fine it would be to take a rest on a stump or log and munch a savory slice, grease pooled in the pepperoni and molten cheese dripping from the crust. But these episodes, which I suspect plague most hikers at some point, inevitably end with salivation rather than salvation. A handful of trail mix satisfies the body, but the brain, after such episodes, reacts with disdain to peanuts and dried fruit.

I scarcely had time to ponder the pizza delivery scenario before we got to the parking lot. I suspect that if I lived around Riverside Park I could make the trip in about as much time as it takes to drive from my house to the grocery store. Which in Baker City, with its tidy dimensions, is not long at all.

We applied bug spray for the first time in many blissfully insect-deficient months, and started hiking on the Red Apple

The bugs, happily, weren't numerous enough — or voracious enough, anyway — to constitute even a minor annoyance. Although when we paused for more than 10 seconds or so I noticed that every mosquito in the vicinity veered over to have a look at the rich sources of carbon dioxide that had suddenly appeared, although they were strangely apathetic. Perhaps they were satiated and sluggish after assaulting previous hikers or mountain bikers.

It was the sort of evening that it seems to me is exclusive to June.

We started hiking around 7 o'clock. I donned a fleece jacket but this was for protection against mosquitoes rather than insulation. The temperature, according to the thermometer in our car, was 65. If mild can be defined precisely, I think 65 degrees would do nicely.

The air had the fresh clean quality that disappears along about the middle of July, when the heat and the dust — and more so in recent years the wildfire smoke make outdoor endeavors sweaty and sometimes unpleasantly congestive.

Patches of lupine perfumed the

There was little wind, and the occasional breezes seemed perfectly timed to cool our brows during an uphill stretch or when the trail found a patch of waning but still potent sunlight. It was as if MERA had sent along an aid with a portable fan to ensure we were never even slightly too warm.

We sampled just a small section of MERA, having limited time and being on foot besides.

(Our own feet, that is. We saw plenty of evidence that equestrians had enjoyed portions of our route as well.)

We had so much fun, though, that we returned two nights later, on June 22.

This time we hiked farther north, on the MERA Loop and a few other sections of trail.

It was noticeably warmer the hottest day in more than 9 months, in fact, in Baker City but the basalt ramparts of Mount Emily block the sun pretty early, and we were in shade almost the whole way.

We swatted at a few more mosquitoes than we did two evenings earlier.

And we had to rush the last mile or so to get back to LHS to pick up Olivia. But otherwise it was again an

altogether enjoyable visit — the

have been a hundred miles away instead of a handful. I was also consumed, as it

were, with the nagging reality that a hot pizza was mere minutes away.

■ Jayson Jacoby is the editor of the Baker City



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SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Fish-eating
- mammal
- Fake it
- Foot-pound relative
- and repeat 13 Cultural
- Revolution figure
- 14 Postal Creed word
- 15 Pub.
- prosecutor Tin, in the lab
- 17 More liberal 19 Notable time 21 Aptitude
- 23 Hindu prince 25 Hardened 26 Queen's
- quarters 30 Piped up
- 32 Woody or
- Steve 33 Swamp gases

15

- 36 Makes steel
- assortment

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38 Golf stroke

material 41 Spot

40 Paving

place

48 Ziegfeld

49 Flustered

52 Lead-in to

4-Down

39 Asian royalty

45 Food storage

nickname

- 57 Try a bite 59 Long time

DOWN

- 3 Opry's st.
- Curvy letter
- Ripped apart 6 Moseyed along
- 7 Insert mark

13

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38

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- 54 Gold Rush st. 55 Demure

32

52 53

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- 56 Blvd.
- 60 Contractor's figure 61 Fixed a seam

- Command
- Headpiece

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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- letters 35 Prince Valiant's son
- 36 "You bet!" 38 Soft and
- cushiony
- 40 Fountain in Rome
- 42 W. Coast
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- 44 Harnessed 46 Melville
- captain 47 "Phooey!"
- 49 Unreturnable serve
- 50 Show disapproval 51 Rand of "Atlas
- Shrugged" 53 "The Facts of Life" star

58 Compass pt.

Construction Auction Saturday June 25th. 11:00 am Start time.

103 Announcements

Preview will be from 12-6pm on Friday before the sale. Location: NE Johns PI Pendleton, OR 97801. Items for sale: Liftall forklift. Lincoln 225 arc welder. Miller welder, 2n fordson tractor, trail ers, wackers, Tannewitz saw, concrete saws, John deere tractor, backhoe buckets, Pvc pipe, lumber, and way too many items to list Check. Check for pictures and a full list on our Facebook page Fords Auction. All items are sold as is. Buver's premium 10%, Pickup

and pay the sale day. Contact us for estate sales and consignments. Licensed and bonded in Washington. 541-561-5798 Ford or 541-314-3153

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Colby

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103 Announcements



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- **Baker City Herald**
- Dollar Tree Black's Distributing
- **Ryder Bros**
- Baker Elk's Lodge Main Event
- Lefty's Tap House Baker City Fire Dept. Haines Sell-Rite
- Idle Hour

Salvation Army FIND IT IN THE

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104 Community Calendar

DEADLINES: LINE ADS: Tuesday: 10:30am Monday

Thursday: 10:30 am Wednesday Saturday: 10:30 am Friday **DISPLAY ADS:**

2 Days Prior to

Publication Date

VISA Mas

VFW POST 460 Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm.

Corner of Main at Birch in Union LA GRANDE LIONS CLUB Meets 2nd & 4th Monday of each month @ 12 PM Union County Senior Center

1504 N. Albany St., La Grande

PINOCHLE Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Senior Center 2810 Cedar St., Baker City Public is welcome

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HOROSCOPES

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022 YOUR BIRTHDAY by Stella Wilder

really are, without the distortion of personal This does not mean, however, that you do not SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- You will

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

yourself into a situation in which you don't explain yourself to those who will listen. belong. This is not wise.

treated fairly today, and so you must treat oth- simply because you haven't done your homeers fairly as well. Now is no time to assume work recently. You can and must commit to your authority is greater.

Born today, you tend to see things as they with you an awareness of the situation. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Now is no bias, hope or aspiration; you don't let your time for you to overindulge in anything that be looking forward to a conversation that you

world at large -- color your view of daily life. amounts. Moderation will keep you safe today. issue today, all should go well indeed.

dream -- for dreaming is as natural to you as know immediately when you are stepping lines of communication may not be available breathing, and when you dream, you see outside of your comfort zone and into a new to you today, for whatever reason; you must things not as they are but as they should be or situation that can prove dangerous. Watch take an old-fashioned approach. your step! SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Your

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- You may be behavior has been somewhat baffling to oth- same people today, you're sure to be frustrattempted to disguise yourself in order to insert ers recently, but today you should be able to ed. Be clear the first time. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- You

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You expect to be may find yourself at a disadvantage today much younger than you today. This shouldn't prove frustrating, but inspiring.

by Stella Wilder easily avoided today simply by following your you think you have a moment to breathe and

instincts and staying close to those who share take stock today, you're likely to be slammed with several new and time-sensitive tasks. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) -- You may not

feelings about a given topic -- or about the might prove dangerous to you in copious know you need to have, but if you raise the ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Your usual

> TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- When you have to say something more than once to the

> GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- You are likely to admire the skill displayed by someone

could be.

catching up. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- A threat is AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Just when