



The Baker County Press

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TheBakerCountyPress.com

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Friday, March 3, 2017 • Volume 4, Issue 9

Another solar eclipse meeting held in Baker City

BY EILEEN DRIVER
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“The 2017 monumental massive solar eclipse event is what we are here to talk about,” was the welcome by Craig Farley of the Regional Solutions Office of Oregon to the assembled city, county and state agency representatives at Baker City Hall last Wednesday.

This group has come together to identify and hopefully meet the chal-

lenges brought about by the solar eclipse coming August 21, 2017. Their monthly meetings, all held at the Baker City Hall council chambers, will continue through August with the hopes that the outcome will be a smooth, well orchestrated event.

A report on statewide marketing by Travel Oregon’s Linea Gagliano reported that they are preparing an Eclipse Visitor’s Guide, which will

include preparedness, wild-fire and safety information as well as inspirational itineraries and information.

The message of the guide will be, “Don’t just come to Oregon for the eclipse, but come see Oregon,” according to Gagliano.

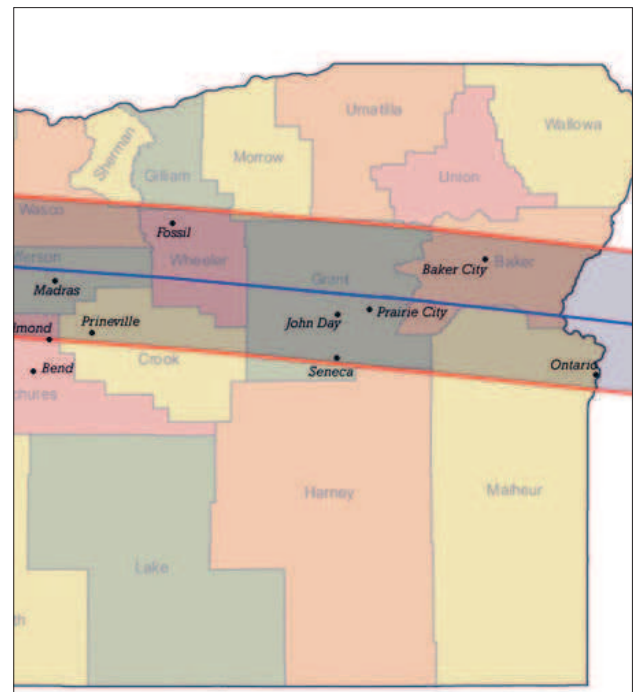
Travel Oregon is planning to print 50,000 copies of the guide, which will be distributed along with 50,000 eclipse glasses all over the state.

They also will be holding

a press conference along with the state days before the event with weather and cloud forecasts.

Eastern Oregon Visitors Association representatives Alice Trindle and Elizabeth Farrar reported that most lodgings within the path of totality are booked and outlying communities are starting to get inquiries for lodging as well.

SEE ECLIPSE PAGE 8



Submitted Photo.

The path of totality across eastern Oregon.

Intro to Law Enforcement courses offered



Samantha O’Conner / The Baker County Press

School Resource Officer Lance Woodward stands in the BHS library where he will begin teaching classes this month.

BY SAMANTHA O’CONNER
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Officer Lance Woodward of the Baker City Police Department will begin teaching an Introduction to Law Enforcement four-part course beginning Friday, March 3 at the Baker High School library.

All students are welcome to the courses.

Woodward is finalizing the courses to have explanations about the different branches of law enforcement. His goal is to educate students who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement.

This is the first year these classes have been offered. Woodward and a variety of other community organizations were approached by the 5J School District about helping with their Friday school. They tried to enlist community support and draw expertise from community partners. Woodward hopes to continue doing Introduction to Law Enforcement classes in the future.

Woodward’s first class will be about police functions and law enforcement. He will discuss the differences between city policing, county policing, and being a state trooper. He will discuss the function of the police and what they do on a daily basis.

The second week, he is planning to bring in the Baker

County Corrections Department so they can talk to the students about corrections and what that looks like.

“We, as police officers, can arrest people,” Woodward explained. “And then, after we arrest somebody, if it’s a custody arrest we take them to jail—so that whole corrections aspect.”

He is hoping corrections will talk about the distinction between county corrections versus state corrections. In Baker, they have the county jail, where they take most people and they also have the Powder River Correctional Facility. If an offender has done something serious enough, they might get time at a state penitentiary or state jail. Woodward hopes they will discuss the state level corrections as well.

For the third week, he is planning to have someone from the District Attorney’s (DA’s) office speak. As the ones who read the cases, decide if the cases are strong enough to file charges on and if they will stand up in a court of law, the D.A.’s office is part of law enforcement.

The D.A.’s Office will talk about their side of operations and how they relate to law enforcement. Woodward explained that the DA’s office does not always take things to trial as people will plead out before the trial happens.

SEE LAW ENFORCEMENT PAGE 9

Hearing ahead in Safeway injury suit

BY TODD ARRIOLA
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On Wednesday, March 8, 2017, a pre-trial hearing is scheduled in Baker County Circuit Court Case No. 16CV19166, Sherry Stroy vs. Safeway, Inc., Muffrey, LLC, Payless Drug Stores Northwest, Inc., and AB Acquisitions, LLC, in which Stroy seeks an amount totaling over \$600,000, for economic and non-economic damages, as a result of injuries due to a fall she said occurred in June 2014 in the Safeway parking lot.

Stroy, represented by attorney David Auxier of Fruitland, Idaho-based Coughlin & Leuenberber, P.C., filed the lawsuit on June 16, 2016, initially against all four defendants, because, according to the complaint, “... Defendant AB Acquisitions, LLC (the parent company of Albertsons) owns Safeway... Defendant Muffrey, LLC... owns the real property leased by Defendant Safeway... Defendant Payless Drug Store shares portions of the parking lot at issue, in this case with Defendant Muffrey, LLC, and Defendant Safeway.”

She claims that she had parked her vehicle in a parking space reserved for disabled permit holders, with her husband, in front of the Safeway store, at 1205 Campbell Street, on June 28, 2014, during business hours, with a permit displayed within the vehicle. Upon exiting, on the way to the store, “...she caught her foot on the parking block immediately in front of the vehicle. The parking block had steel protruding out of the top of it, which Mrs. Stroy caught her foot on, causing her to fall,” according to the complaint.

As a result of this fall, Stroy claims she sustained a transverse intra-articular fracture through her proximal ulna, together with a comminuted displaced radial head, and neck fracture of the elbow; a fracture to her right orbital bone, and her right maxillary sinus wall; a traumatic brain injury, manifested by a subarachnoid hemorrhage; and cuts and abrasions. Stroy claims that the injury to her elbow, and the traumatic brain injury resulted in permanent impairment.

Stroy claims that the defendants were negligent in one or more of the following: “In failing to provide an unobstructed path from the parking space to the Safeway store; By failing to protect against the danger posed by the parking block in general, and by the protruding piece of steel in particular; By failing to warn of the unreasonable hazard presented by the parking block in general, and the protruding piece of steel in particular.”

Economic damages were sustained in the amount of \$120,503.69 as a direct result of the fall, Stroy claims, and she seeks an additional \$485,000, for present and future pain and suffering, inconvenience and interference with her normal and usual activities, and loss of enjoyment, plus costs and disbursements incurred in the case.

SEE SAFEWAY LAWSUIT PAGE 4

	Friday Scattered snow then scattered rain/snow showers. Highs in the upper 40s. Chance of precipitation is 40%. Friday Night: Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Lows near freezing.
	Saturday Scattered rain/snow showers. Highs in the mid 40s. Chance of precipitation is 60%. Saturday Night: Rain/snow showers. Lows near 30.
	Sunday Scattered snow showers. Highs near 40. Chance of precipitation is 40%. Little to no accumulation expected. Sunday Night: Scattered snow showers. Lows in the upper 20s.

Your weekend weather forecast for Baker County.



Our forecast made possible by this generous sponsor:



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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Sumpter replaces attorney	Page 3
City Council approves 911 contract	Page 3
“So I was thinking...” by Jimmy Ingram	Page 4
Behind the scenes at Casino Night	Page 5
Man arrested on meth charges	Page 5
Commissioners hear small biz update	Page 8

