



The Baker County Press

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Eclipsed: Inside the path of totality



Photo courtesy of Chance Quintana.

Photographer Chance Quintana of Haines said he looked forward to taking photos of the eclipse for two years, and even captured the pink edging.



Kerry McQuisten / The Baker County Press

Totality as seen from the Devil's Canyon Ranch in Bridgeport.



Photo courtesy of the Baker County Sheriff's Office.

Cars pulled off to the shoulders along the freeway and roads near Lime awaiting the eclipse.

GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE CROSSES EASTERN OREGON

BY KERRY McQUISTEN

News@TheBakerCountyPress.com

The Great American Eclipse proved Monday morning that some events just can't be captured in a way that fully does them justice.

Under nearly perfect viewing conditions, a 70-mile-wide lunar shadow crossed America from the Oregon Coast to the South Carolina Coast, with Baker County right in the path of totality.

At 10:24 a.m. on August 21, the light, which had slowly shifted to a golden saturation as the sun was obscured by the moon, fell into black. The shadows,



Photo Courtesy of Kyle Knight.

National Guard soldiers positioned in Durkee helped clear the way for Lifeflight in the parking lot of the Durkee Cafe after an accident during the post-eclipse exodus sent one woman to the hospital.

which had gradually filled with crescent shapes and seemed to go backward, went out. Crickets began to chirp. The stars came out. The temperature dropped up to 10 degrees in some parts of the county.

Then for two minutes and a few seconds, it felt as if the world stood still.

"This eclipse was absolutely amazing! My family watched it from our field and everyone enjoyed it. We were surprised at how cold it got," said Kari Stephens Anderson of Haines.

"The lighting leading up to totality was like nothing I've ever experienced. It really felt as though we

were on another planet.. Everything was so clear and was more saturated in color than normal. We were in an area completely alone ... So so quiet, eerily quiet. In totality the kids were in awe of the stars that shown bright in the skies above," said Brittany Aune of Halfway.



Kerry McQuisten / The Baker County Press

Even Mormon Basin, one of the most remote areas of the county, had a camp of about 40 visitors.

Joyclynn Potter of Baker City added, "I was so surprised! I really thought all the hype was going to make it underwhelming-totally the opposite."

While the eclipse itself was predicted down to the split-second, not so were the crowds or the traffic.

SEE ECLIPSE PAGE 5

5J awards summer program staff

IRVINE TO RESIGN, MOVE

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNER

Samantha@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Thursday, August 17th, the Baker School District 5J School Board held their meeting in the City Council Chambers.

At the meeting, Board member Melissa Irvine explained that her family is relocating and September's Board meeting will be her last.

Assistant Superintendent Betty Palmer presented certificates of Outstanding Recognition for the Summer Programs. Jason Todd, the Summer Academy Facilitator, Melissa Garner from the Kindergarten Camp, and Laura Morley and Jonathan Baer from the Jump Start Program



Samantha O'Conner / The Baker County Press

Left to right are Laura Morley and Jonathan Baer from the Jump Start Program, and Betty Palmer.

were presented certificates. David Laws, the China Program Summer Facilitator, Eric Layton from the June Experience, and Zach Grammon from Algebra Readiness were not present but recognized.

Kim Mosier gave an update on the Baker Val-

ley Education Foundation (BVEF) to the Board.

She asked that the School Board approve the new members BVEF has voted on by the BVEF Board and they are expanding the Board to include three additional members.

The BVEF is a non-profit

organization whose mission is to "promote, sponsor, facilitate and support innovative teaching and education in the Baker 5J School District."

SEE 5J PAGE 4

Scientists explain the eclipse

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNER

Samantha@TheBakerCountyPress.com

August 19th to the 21st, Barbara Sidway, the owner and operator of the Geiser Grand Hotel, presented and welcomed resident space scientists Jayne Aubele and Larry S. Crumpler to give a presentation, "Mystery of the Eclipse Explained."

Sidway explained that it took a year and a half to get someone to give context to what was happening in Baker City.

"We were very delighted to be able to bring these extraordinary space scientists and have that gift of learning and context we were able to share with our community," expressed Sidway. "And we always try hard to get interesting experiences to share with the community and an example is the Opera Elect that we have."

Aubele is the Adult Programs/Educator/Geologist and Crumpler is the Curator for the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science.

SEE SCIENTISTS PAGE 8



Friday

Partly sunny and mild, some areas of smoke are possible. Highs in the mid 80s. Night: Mostly clear and seasonable, some areas of smoke are possible. Lows near 50.



Saturday

Mostly sunny and warmer, some areas of smoke are possible. Highs near 90. Sunday Night: Mostly clear and seasonable, some areas of smoke are possible. Lows near 50.



Sunday

Mostly sunny and warmer, some areas of smoke are possible. Highs in the mid 90s. Sunday Night: Mostly clear and seasonable, some areas of smoke are possible. Lows in the lower 50s.

The Fire, Weather & Avalanche Center forecast:



Official weather provider for The Baker County Press.

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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Huntington's Pioneer Days	Page 5
Baker City's Eclipse Festival	Page 7
Sumpter's Music in the Meadow	Page 7
Local P.O.'s eclipse postmark	Page 8
City: Tesoro's local line repair ahead	Page 8
Memory Cruise/Car Show schedule	Page 10

