

North Powder News

By Vickie Christensen



Summer break is upon us! North Powder's graduation ceremony was held at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 28. This year's Valedictorian is Samantha Sexton. The Salutatorian was Kaitlyn Uttenreuther. Congratulations to them both. This is a great honor that each of you earned with hard work and diligence. The world is waiting for all you great graduates, so go get it!

On May 23, the North Powder City Council approved its 2016-2017 city budget. After budget discussions, a brief meeting was held for a decision of a zone overlay, enabling a residential area to be used for a commercial business. The motion failed.

The Huckleberry Board held their meeting on May 19 at Wolf Creek Grange. The purpose for these meetings is to plan and organize the upcoming Huckleberry Festival. The committee would like to invite everyone interested in making this event a

great success to attend.

This year's theme: 10 YEARS ON THE OREGON TRAIL. New ideas and input are always needed! The next meeting is at The Wolf Creek Grange on June 16 at 7 p.m. Please come and participate, everyone is welcome.

Here's this week's helpful hint: If you have a line of ants trailing into your house or on your counters, draw a line with white chalk. It is said the ants will not cross the line.

For a mound of ants pour unflavored grits over the mound. The greedy ants will gobble the grits and impede as the grits swell in their digestive tract destroying them.

You might also want to keep in mind that ants hate cayenne pepper and cucumber peels.

These are all kid and pet friendly methods.

Thank you for reading the North Powder Buzz! It is a pleasure to serve!

Eastern Oregon State Highway Construction Underway

Highway construction season has begun and several projects are currently underway. Eastern Oregon travelers can expect to see orange traffic cones and construction workers at several dozen work sites throughout the year along Interstate 84 and secondary state highways. ODOT reminds motorists to slow down, pay extra attention and be prepared for flaggers and traffic pattern changes when they see orange cones and construction signs. Distracted or inattentive driving and speed are primary causes of crashes.

With new, higher legal speed limits on many eastern and central Oregon routes, it is more important than ever to keep your mind on the task of driving. Remember, traffic fines are double the amount in all work zones, regardless of the presence of construction workers. Please pay attention to avoid paying a fine, or being involved in a crash.

This year ODOT crews and their contractors will repair and resurface hundreds of miles of pavement, repair or replace aging bridges and culverts, add life-saving rumble strips, and perform other work necessary to keep highways safe and efficient.

Listed below are a number of key highway projects currently underway or expected to start soon. Project information is sorted by county area, with interstate and U.S. highways listed first. The highway number and anticipated traffic impacts are listed in bold type. Location information is listed via mile post (MP) number for the highway section. Construction timeframes are estimates and subject to change. Updated information or changes from previous construction report is highlighted in RED. Additional updates will be shared throughout the construction season.

Union / Wallowa / Baker County Area

I-84 Old Oregon Trail Highway – Bridge deck repairs at Union interchange, Exit 265, MP 265.9. Lane closures, reduced speeds, minor delays. Work expected to start late May/early June. Completion: 8/2016

I-84 Old Oregon Trail Highway – Bridge rail upgrades on three structures near North Powder, MP 285.6–289.2 Eastbound and westbound lane closures, reduced speeds, minor delays. Work is ongoing. Completion: 9/2016

I-84 Old Oregon Trail Highway – Variable Speed Limit Sign installation between Baker City and La Grande, various sites adjacent to freeway shoulders, MP 277.1–307.1. Shoulder and lane closures, minor delays. Work is ongoing. Completion: 10/2016

I-84 Old Oregon Trail Highway – Add rumble strips at several locations along freeway between North Powder and Pleasant Valley, MP 298.51–317.36. No impacts expected. Work is now completed. Completion: 6/2016

U.S. 26 John Day Highway – Pavement chip seal between Austin Junction and Grant Co. line, MP 190.4–199.4. Lane closures, reduced speeds, day/nighttime flaggers, pilot cars, loose rock on the roadway, delays up to 20 minutes. Work expected to start July 25 and take about 3 days. Completion: 8/2016

U.S. 26 John Day Highway – Rock fall correction work near Camp Creek, MP 220–220.5. Lane closures, flaggers, temporary traffic signals, up to 20 minute delays. Work is ongoing. Completion: 7/2016

U.S. 30 La Grande - Baker Highway. Intersection improvements and signal installation at U.S. 30 and McAlister Road (RR xing) in La Grande area, MP 4.95. Lane closures, flaggers, delays up to 20 minutes. Work is ongoing. Completion: 10/2016

OR 237 La Grande - Baker Highway - Pavement overlay through Pyle's Canyon south of Union, MP 17.4-20.5. Flaggers, pilot cars, up to 20 minute delays. Work expected to start late June, early July and be completed by July 31. Complete 8/2016

Deer Cr. Rd. (Wallowa Co.) - Replace Deer Creek Road Bridge across Wallowa River near Minam and relocate old structure to Wallowa. Work site is adjacent to OR 82 at MP 33.75. Deer Creek Road closed at bridge site, use alternate route. No impacts to OR 82. Old bridge has been removed and transported to new site in Wallowa. New Deer Creek Road Bridge is scheduled to be completed and open by Labor Day. Completion: 9/2016

20th street (La Grande city street) – Rebuild a section of 20th Street in La Grande. Road closures, detours on city streets, minor delays. Use alternate routes. Work is expected to start early July. Complete 11/2016

Property Sales

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April Sales

April 4 - Brent and Lisa Merritt sold 32314 Snake River Rd. to Joseph R. and Kassie M. Davis for \$875,000.
April 4 - William J. and Melissa Richards sold 2325 Mitchell Ave. to Andrea Marie Lucas for \$116,000.
April 4 - Kenneth E. Austin Jr. sold 44730 Pocahontas Rd. to Tim E. and Dana L. Taylor for \$230,000.
April 6 - George B. and Donna L. Conner sold 125 W. Adams St. to Jack C. and Marilyn R. Helm for \$105,000.
April 7 - Janet R. Celick sold 3005 2nd St. to Michael L. Rouse for \$120,000.
April 11 - Gaz Property, LLC sold 850 NE Badger St. to James S. and Jean A. Pearsall for \$130,000.
April 11 - Cheryl J. Webb sold 2996 Campbell St. to Big Creek Rentals, LLC for \$45,000.
April 13 - A.F.A.D., LLC sold 2505 10th St. to Big Creek Rentals, LLC for \$52,000.
April 14 - Troy Max and Ramona R. Fischer sold 565 W. 5th St. to Billie G. Arnold for \$25,550.
April 18 - Larry W. Lee sold 2435 17th St. sold 3708 Grace St. to Connie J. Davis for \$38,000.
April 19 - Suzen K. Fors Zweifel sold 2870 3rd St. to Charles J. Boruch Jr for \$80,000.
April 20 - Jaca Construction, Inc. sold 2040 Balm St. to Glendon F. Vandenbos et al for \$186,000.
April 21 - Paul A. Blair sold 1311 Walnut St. to JPMorgan Chase Bank Na for \$70,400.
April 21 - Machel K. Leggett sold 1030 Dewey Ave. to Wyatt L. Kandle for \$53,000.
April 22 - Jared Lakin sold 225 Main St. to Jerry E. Franklin et al for \$49,000.
April 25 - Dorothy Joyce Baxter sold 2334 Virginia Ave. to Nicole Ann Johnston for \$85,000.
April 26 - Gary and Judith Van Gaasbeck sold 40907 Spaulding Ridge Rd. to Parvaam Mining, LLC for \$105,000.
April 28 - William J. Clark sold 3610 Baker St. to Troy Hanson et al for \$65,500.
April 29 - Thomas Litchfield sold 3035 Elm St. to Lloyd E. Ritch for \$99,500.

Notice of Positions Open City of Baker City

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the General Election will be held on the 8th day of November 2016, at which time the legal voters of the city will be entitled to vote for candidates to office of City Council.

OFFICES OPEN FOR ELECTION ARE:

BAKER CITY COUNCIL

(3) FOUR YEAR TERMS (3) TWO YEAR TERMS

Petitions are available at the office of the City Recorder, 1655 First Street, Ste 203, and can be filed no sooner than June 1, 2016 9:00 a.m. and filed no later than August 30, 2016 by 4:00 p.m. in the City Recorder's Office.

Election information can be obtained on the city website at: <http://www.bakercity.com/2168/City-Council> or the Oregon Secretary of State Office at <http://sos.oregon.gov>.

First Friday with the Commissioner

First Friday with Commissioner Harvey is scheduled for Friday, June 3, 2016 from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Commission Chambers of the Baker County Courthouse located at 1995 Third Street, Baker City. This time will be used to allow the citizens to visit with the Commissioner about issues impacting Baker County. Baker County operates under an EEO policy and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Assistance is available for individuals with disabilities by calling 541-523-8200 (TTY: 541-523-8201).

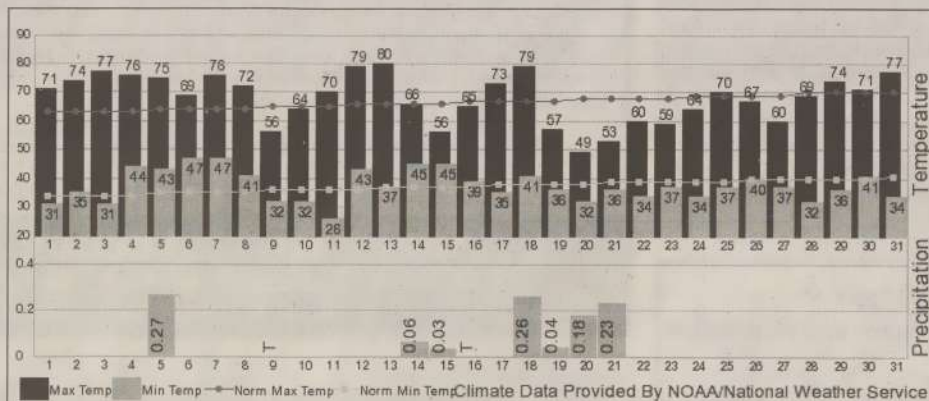
May Climate Summary for Baker City

According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Baker City averaged slightly warmer than normal during the month of May.

The average temperature was 52.7 degrees which was 0.5 degrees above normal. High Temperatures averaged 68 degrees, which was 1.2 degrees above normal. The highest was 80 degrees on May 13. Low temperatures averaged 37.4 degrees, which was 0.2 degrees below normal. The lowest was 26 degrees, on May 11.

There were 3 days with the low temperature below 32 degrees.

Precipitation totaled 1.07 inches



during May, which was 0.41 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation - at least .01 inch - was received on 7 days with the heaviest, 0.27 inches reported on the fifth. Precipitation this year has reached 2.34 inches, which is 1.60 inches

below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at Baker City has been 4.88 inches, which is 0.98 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 37 mph which occurred on May 19.

The outlook for June calls for

above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal highs rise from 71 degrees at the start of June to 80 degrees at the end of June. Normal lows rise from 41 degrees to 46 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 1.18 inches.

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