



In LOCAL, 2A

Fair Family of the Year

Baker City Herald

July 30, 2018

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IN THIS EDITION: Local • Home & Living • Sports Monday \$1

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Michael Smietana of Baker City.

Local, 5A

LA GRANDE — The citizen-led initiative to vote on the ban of recreational marijuana in La Grande came up short of the necessary amount of signatures to secure a place on the November ballot.

BRIEFING

Baker County Garden Club meets Aug. 1

The Baker County Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 10:30 a.m. at 995 J St. in Baker City for an auction and meeting. Please bring a sack lunch and auction items. New members are always welcome.

City seeks volunteers for boards

Baker City is seeking volunteers to fill vacancies on several boards and commissions:
• Public Works Advisory Committee — four vacancies
• Tree Board — two vacancies
• Parks and Recreation Board — three vacancies
• Airport Commission — two vacancies
• Public Arts Commission — one vacancy.
Volunteer applications are available at www.bakercity.com — click on the "Boards and Commissions" page.

Chip-sealing planned on sections of Highways 7, 30

The Oregon Department of Transportation plans to chip-seal sections of Highways 7 and 30, including areas in Baker City, in August.
The schedule:
• Aug. 6-7 — I-84 on and offramps at Exit 306 (South Baker City), Highway 30 into Baker City (Elm and Bridge streets) to the Auburn/Main intersection.
• Aug. 7-9 — Highway 7 from near the bottom of the Mason Dam grade to Salisbury Junction, Mileposts 35.42 to 41.86.
• Aug. 13-15 — Highway 30 from Hughes Lane north through Haines to North Powder. Work is planned in Haines on Aug. 14.

WEATHER

Today

98 / 55



Sunny with areas of smoke

Tuesday

102 / 58



Sunny with areas of smoke

Sizzling July Boosts City's Water Demand

A Thirsty Month



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Baker City's water use has risen along with the temperatures during July.

By Casey Crowley
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July's near-record heat has boosted Baker City's water demand beyond even July 2015, when the city instituted voluntary restrictions due to extreme drought.

Over the first 26 days of this

July, the city supplied 130 million gallons of water. That's 27 million gallons more than the city used during the first 26 days of July 2015.

This July, the city has used on average about 5 million gallons per day, nearly double the normal demand for summer, said

Michelle Owen, the city's public works director.

Peak demand was July 18, when the city supplied 5.86 million gallons of water. The low of the month was the first of July when the city used 4.24 million gallons.

See **Thirsty** / Page 3A

Little interest so far in Council election

■ With a month left to file, just two people, both incumbents, have started the process

By Casey Crowley
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If the Baker City Council election were today, there would be no names on the ballot. The deadline to file as a candidate is Aug. 28 and just two people have even started the process to get on the ballot.

The two who have picked up paperwork from City Hall are both incumbents — James Thomas and Adam Nilsson — who have been embroiled in controversies over the past year.

Thomas was arrested June 19 for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Nilsson, who pleaded guilty in November 2017 to criminal mischief in connection with his August 2017 arrest at the abandoned Lime plant near Huntington, has given notice that he intends to sue the city based on a search of his home.

Four of the seven seats on the City Council are up for election Nov. 6. The top three candidates will be elected to four-year terms, and the fourth-place finisher will serve a two-year term.

See **Council** / Page 5A

Commissioners to discuss jail roof

Baker County commissioners are scheduled to award a bid for replacing the roof at the Baker County Jail when they meet Wednesday at 9 a.m. at the Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

Commissioners will also consider a proposal to buy a 2017 Caterpillar skid-steer machine, and hear an update from Bill Lee, the county's technology director.

SECOND-HOTTEST JULY ON RECORD LIKELY

Heat makes its mark on the record book

By Jayson Jacoby
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You can tell it's a pretty severe heat wave when even the meteorologists resort to superstitions as they pine for a refreshing breeze.

Tim Barker is the science and operations officer at the National Weather Service's Boise office.

His job is to forecast the weather employing the objective tools of science.

But with two days left in one of the hottest Julys on record in the region, Barker admits he's also used something less complex than computer models and weather balloons as he ponders the potential for a cooldown later this week.

"Believe me, our fingers are crossed too," Barker said with a

Heat warning

The National Weather Service issued an excessive heat warning for Baker County, in effect from 11 p.m. today until 11 p.m. Tuesday. Temperatures could top 100 degrees Tuesday. The record high for the date is 100, set in 1959.

chuckle on Sunday.

But as a scientist Barker has to concede that only a couple of the several computer models that forecasters consult are suggesting more than a moderate dip in the temperatures.

See **Heat** / Page 5A

The Heat Is (Or Was) On

This July is likely to be the second-hottest at the Baker City Airport, where records date to 1943, based on the average daily high temperature. If the current forecast for the final two days proves true, the month also will include 20 days with temperatures of 90 or above, including the last nine days. That's well above the long-term July average of 10 days of 90 or higher, but it won't break a record. There were 22 such days in July 2007 and July 1985. Those and other Julys have also included extended heat waves that make this July seem, if not exactly mild, then at least slightly less sizzling. Following is a list of noteworthy July heat waves, with the daily high temperatures for each period:

JULY 23-29, 2018

97, 100, 99, 98, 97, 95, 96

JULY 21-28, 2006

99, 100, 101, 97, 94, 94, 98, 93

JULY 1-11, 1985

96, 96, 95, 96, 90, 99, 98, 100, 100, 94, 90

JULY 12-21, 1960

97, 95, 90, 93, 97, 102, 103, 98, 95, 95

TODAY
Issue 34, 16 pages

Calendar.....2A
Classified.....4B-7B
Comics.....3B

Community News.....3A
Crossword.....5B & 7B
Dear Abby.....8B

Home.....1B & 2B
Horoscope.....5B & 7B
Letters.....4A

Lottery Results.....2A
News of Record.....3A
Obituaries.....3A

Opinion.....4A
Sports.....6A & 7A
Weather.....8B

WEDNESDAY — SHRINE FOOTBALL GAME PREVIEW SECTION



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