

Baker City Herald

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GO! Magazine
Your guide to events happening around the region

October 3, 2018

Taste of Baker

MADE BY BAKER COUNTY AG CENTER OPEN HOUSE

BAKER COUNTY OPEN STUDIOS TOUR

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine \$1

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Sharla Erickson of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Park passes for fourth-graders

All fourth graders and their families can explore federal parks, forests and recreation areas thanks to a program called "Every Kid in a Park."

Current fourth graders can print out a paper voucher for free entry into all federal lands by visiting the Every Kid in a Park website at www.everykidinapark.gov. Students and their families can also redeem their paper voucher for a plastic pass at any Forest Service office. For office locations, visit www.fs.usda.gov/r6/. The voucher and passes are valid Sept. 1, 2018 to Aug. 31, 2019.

The Forest Service is partnering with schools and educators across Oregon and Washington to plan Every Kid in a Park events in local communities and distribute passes at back-to-school events this fall. For more information on upcoming Every Kid in a Park events, contact your local forest or visit www.everykidinapark.gov

Dog Jog set for Saturday

The second-annual Dog Jog is set for Saturday, Oct. 6, at Central Park in downtown Baker City. Registration is available at Baker City Hall or online at <http://bakercity.com/2283/Dog-Park>. A link is also available on Facebook — search for Baker City Partners for Paws.

Entry the day of the event is \$10. Same-day registration starts at 8:30 a.m., and the event starts at 9 a.m. The route is a 1-mile loop that goes down the Leo Adler Memorial Parkway to Geiser Pollman Park and back to Central Park. Dogs are encouraged but not required to participate. All proceeds go toward continued maintenance and improvements at the Baker City Dog Park, located near Sam-O Swim Center in east Baker City.

WEATHER

Today
64 / 36

Partly sunny

Thursday
58 / 25

Rain showers

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

2018 Fire Season Was Unusually Tranquil In Northeastern Oregon

Not This Summer

■ Officials say lack of lightning was the key factor in the quiet year



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald file photo

The McClain fire burned near Oxbow in 2006.

By Jayson Jacoby
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Northeastern Oregon suffered from the smoke this summer but it pretty much missed out on the fire.

This corner of the state, the site of more than a dozen major blazes over the past few decades, was something of an eye in the fiery storm that engulfed much of the West.

While fires were scorching tens of thousands of acres elsewhere in Oregon, and in the neighboring states of Idaho, Washington and California, Northeastern Oregon's drought-desiccated forests and rangelands burned only in a figurative sense as an August heatwave broke temperature records.

See Fires / Page 3A

Plenty Of Smoke, But Few Local Fires

Although dense wildfire smoke clogged Baker Valley and other parts of Northeastern Oregon at times this summer, the culprits, in most cases, were not local fires but blazes elsewhere in Oregon, California, Washington or British Columbia. Below is a comparison of wildfire statistics for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest:

YEAR	WILDFIRES		TOTAL ACRES
	LIGHTNING	HUMAN	
2018	26	11	21.5
2017	91	20	4,498
2016	33	29	28,614
2015	63	23	50,248
2014	99	15	55,914
2013	124	16	929
2012	42	40	70,738
2011	61	20	9,233

TRUCK HAULING STRAW CATCHES FIRE NEAR DURKEE



Oregon State Police photo

Truck fire closes freeway

By Chris Collins
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The eastbound lanes of Interstate 84 were closed for several hours Tuesday afternoon and evening after a truck hauling straw bales caught fire near Durkee.

The fire started about 1:30 p.m. near Mile-post 325, about 21 miles southeast of Baker City. The freeway was initially closed at Baker City, and the closure was later extended to La Grande and to near Pendleton when truck parking spaces filled in Baker City and La Grande.

See Freeway / Page 5A

Harvey, Nichols have 2nd debate

By Casey Crowley
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Baker County Commission chairman candidates Bruce Nichols and Bill Harvey covered topics ranging from the Second Amendment to government transparency to land management during a debate Monday evening at the Baker Elks Lodge.

The Baker County Republicans sponsored the debate, the second between Harvey, the incumbent chairman, and Nichols, who is also a commissioner.

See Debate / Page 5A

Baker man shot during altercation

By Chris Collins
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A Baker City man remained in critical condition in a Boise hospital Tuesday after being shot in the chest and neck area Monday night during an altercation with another man outside a Main Street house.

Lucas McMillen, 36, of 3220 Campbell St., was flown by Life Flight from the Baker City hospital to St. Alphonsus Hospital in Boise, District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff stated in a press release.

Jason Crump, 33, of Parma, Idaho, shot McMillen with a handgun during a dispute that took place outside a home at 2515 Main St., Shirtcliff said. The two men know each other and had worked as subcontractors on a construction job at the Main Street house owned by Cliff and Angie Robertson, he said.

See Shooting / Page 3A

Motorcycle rider hurt in crash near Halfway

By Chris Collins
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A Portland man who was traveling on the Wallowa Loop Road by motorcycle with three others was seriously

injured Saturday when his motorcycle went off the road and traveled about 100 feet down an embankment and striking a tree.

William J. Shanahan, 52, of Port-

land, was transported by Halfway ambulance to a gravel pit in the area where a Life Flight helicopter was able to land, said Sheriff Travis Ash. Shanahan was flown by Life Flight to

St. Alphonsus Hospital in Boise.

Shanahan complained of shoulder and neck pain and broke one finger in the crash, Ash said.

See Crash / Page 2A

TODAY
Issue 63, 24 pages

Business 1B & 2B
Calendar 2A
Classified 4B-9B

Comics 3B
Community News 3A
Crossword 5B & 6B

Dear Abby 10B
Horoscope 5B & 6B
Letters 4A

News of Record 5A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A

Senior Menus 2A
Sports 6A
Weather 10B

FRIDAY — FATHER AND SON BOND ON MARATHON HIKE

