Baker City Herali

February 20, 2019

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



QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Leonard Nemec of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Saint Alphonsus among top 100 critical access hospitals for third straight year

For the third consecutive year Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City has been named one of the top 100 critical access hospitals in the U.S. by iVantage Health Analytics and The Chartis Group Center for Rural Health.

There are more than 1,300 critical access hospitals in the country.

"We are humbled and grateful to receive this recognition - it is a testament to the hard work of our dedicated colleagues, clinicians and providers serving to fulfill the mission of our organization: To serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities," said Priscilla Lynn, interim president and CEO at the Baker City hospital.

"This award highlights the quality of care provided by our hospital to the citizens of Baker County." Congratulations to all the medical staff and Colleagues at Saint Alphonsus-Baker City," said Kent Bailey, chairman of the hospital's board of directors.

WEATHER

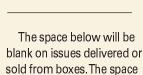
Today



Snow likely

Thursday 33 / 9

Mostly cloudy



is for a postage label for

issues that are mailed.

Inland Cafe Severely Damaged By Fire Jan. 13

Starting Over



The interior of the Inland Cafe, damaged by a fire Jan. 13, has been gutted in preparation for a rebuild.

By Jayson Jacoby ijacoby@bakercityherald.com

The Inland Cafe is a blank canvas, and owner Kristi Hensley is eager to start filling the empty space.

But she can't pick up the palette and the brushes just yet.

Although her thoughts lean more to tables, chairs and menus.

The Inland, at 2715 10th St., was severely damaged in a fire Jan. 13.

Initially Hensley wondered whether she and her husband, Chris, who bought the popular restaurant in November 2007, would be able to reopen.

The Inland, which is known for its breakfasts, has been in business since about 1942.

But the Hensleys soon learned that their insurance coverage would allow them to rebuild the Inland. The policy also is paying their employees' wages in the meantime.

The insurance company hired a contractor to clean up the seating area, which sustained smoke and water damage.

Workers stripped that area to the wooden framing.

"It's gutted," Kristi Hensley said. "There's nothing left in there. It's down to the 2 by 4s."

But the rebuild has been postponed for the past couple weeks, she said, because the



Looking east across 10th Street from inside the Inland Cafe. Owner Kristi Hensley hopes to reopen the remodeled restaurant by June 1.

insurance company, in part due to recent wintry weather, hasn't been able to have a fire investigator tour the Inland.

Baker City Fire Chief John

Clark said the fire was accidental, and started in a swamp cooler on the restaurant's roof.

See Inland/Page 2A

Neighbors hold pair at gunpoint until police arrive

■ Idaho couple charged with trespassing at Durkee home

By Jayson Jacoby ijacoby@bakercityherald.com

An alert Durkee resident who noticed

a car parked in the driveway of a home that was supposed to be empty, and then went to the house armed with a shotgun, led to the arrest of two Idaho residents on trespassing and other charges Monday night.

Olive Phillips, a commercial truck driver, noticed the car in the driveway when he exited Interstate 84 at Durkee, an unincorporated community about 23 miles southeast of Baker City.



Adair

The house belongs to a relative of Phillips' wife, Lessie.

Cindy Fortin, who is the Phillipses' neighbor, said Lessie called her and asked her to drive her to the home, which is just across the freeway, on Vandecar Road.

Fortin said they jotted down the car's license number and also saw at least one person, a man, inside the home, which was dimly lit.

They returned to their homes, and Phillips called Baker County Dispatch

See Arrest/Page 2A

Tax changes catching some by surprise

■ Although most people paid less in taxes last year, smaller refunds for some are raising questions

By Jayson Jacoby jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Tax day is almost two months away but Julie Huntington is already accustomed to answering questions from bemused taxpayers.

There are multiple sources for confusion it is the federal tax code, after all, a document infamous for be-

ON PAGE 5A:

Changes in the federal tax code are prompting questions from many taxpayers

ing all but impossible to decipher.

But a recurring issue unique to this year is the perception that the benefits from the tax reform bill that Congress passed in December 2017, and that President Donald Trump has cited as one of his signature achievements, haven't materialized, said Huntington, a partner at Bingham, Bingham & Watt, a Baker City accounting firm.

"There's a few things that people probably didn't get a good handle on," Hunting-

Chief among those is how changes in tax withholding charts have affected many Americans' tax refunds.

See Refunds/Page 2A







Calendar Classified......4B-7B

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

Dear Abby.....

...1B & 2B Business Horoscope......5B & 6B Lottery Results... News of Record......2A

Obituaries...

Opinion... Sports