



GO! Magazine
Your weekly guide to arts and entertainment happening around N.E. Oregon

Baker City Herald

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IN THIS EDITION: Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine **\$1.50**

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Lee Swiger of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Community Orchestra spring concert April 12

The Baker Community Orchestra's spring concert is set for Friday, April 12, at 7 p.m. at the Baker High School auditorium, 2500 E St. There is no admission charge and all are welcome.

The concert will feature American composer Clare Grundman's Hebrides Suite, a collection of folk songs from the isles of the Hebrides off the west coast of Scotland. The islands maintain a strong folk song tradition including the five folk songs in the suite. Also on the program is the Children's March by Percy Grainger, an arrangement of Johannes Brahms' Academic Festival Overture, a rousing march by Oregon composer Steve Hodges, and perhaps a little rock and roll.

The Baker Community Orchestra, under the direction of Russ Carpenter, is made up of volunteer community members. New musicians are always welcome, and instruments are available for loan. More information is available by calling Brian Watt at 541-523-4662, and updates are posted on the Orchestra's Facebook page.

WEATHER

Today

59 / 38



Rain showers

Thursday

60 / 42



Rain showers

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Cool Weather Slows Melting Of Mountain Snowpack

Wealth of Water



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

Spring has arrived in the valleys, but winter still reigns along Rock Creek in the Elkhorn Mountains west of Haines.

By Jayson Jacoby
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When Jeff Colton looked at the shrunken Phillips Reservoir in late January, more a puddle than the oversized pond it's supposed to be, he was worried.

Two months later the reservoir is still pretty puny.

But Colton feels ever so much better even as he gazes across the diminished surface of the impoundment.

"That was scary back in January," said Colton, who as

manager of the Baker Valley Irrigation District distributes water stored in the reservoir on the Powder River about 15 miles southwest of Baker City. "I was sweating bullets."

See **Water** / Page 6A

INFANT DIED FROM CO-SLEEPING

Parents won't be charged in infant's death

A Baker County grand jury declined to file criminal charges against a Baker City couple whose infant daughter died from co-sleeping last year, District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff announced Tuesday.

Coree Lynn Welch was 3 months old when she died on Nov. 11, 2018. Her parents, Destinee Ross-Mann and Justin Welch, were home at the time. Both tested negative for illegal substances, Shirtcliff said.

Shirtcliff said he will continue to bring co-sleeping deaths to the grand jury for review. The state medical examiner's office said Coree Welch died from asphyxiation related to co-sleeping.

2 Haines councilors resign

By Casey Crowley
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Two members of the Haines City Council resigned Monday just hours before the Council met in an executive session to discuss a city employee's complaints about the mayor.

Katie Jones-Bedolla and Lisa Whited both submitted resignation letters, Whited sending hers by email.

Both councilors said, during the Haines City Council's March 26 meeting, that they were concerned about actions Mayor Jim Brown had taken, according to a letter submitted to the Council by Brandon Fry, the city's public works employee.

See **Haines** / Page 3A

N.E. Oregon Snowpack Report

Measuring Site	Elevation	Snow Water Equivalent (inches)				Snow Depth
		Now	Average	% of avg.	Last year	
Aneroid Lake	7,300	20.5	24.2	85	17.7	69
Anthony Lakes*	7,125	28.0	26.0	108	21.1	74
Beaver Reservoir	5,150	14.2	8.3	171	7.3	37
Bourne	5,800	18.5	14.6	127	8.5	44
County Line	4,530	0.3	0.2	150	0	8
Dooley Mountain	5,400	11.6	8.0	145	0	29
East Eagle Creek	4,400	25.8	20.9	123	15.6	68
Eilertson Meadow	5,440	16.2	6.2	262	4.2	41
Gold Center	5,340	12.9	3.0	430	4.4	32
High Ridge	4,980	31.2	20.3	154	24.3	68
Little Alps*	6,200	15.0	13.6	110	9.7	46
Moss Springs	5,850	25.4	24.9	102	25.1	61
Mount Howard	7,910	17.3	15.6	111	14.3	49
Schneider Meadow	5,400	37.8	26.1	145	21.7	88
Taylor Green	5,740	26.9	19.6	137	15.3	56
Tipton	5,150	15.3	11.7	131	8.8	42
West Eagle Creek	5,500	33.7	30.0	112	18.9	75
Wolf Creek	5,630	19.8	16.8	118	10.9	53
AVERAGE				151		

Witty: 5J acted quickly on complaint about coach

By Chris Collins
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Former Baker High School coach Warren Wilson will not be returning in an official capacity to the volleyball team's bench or to the baseball team's dugout in the coming years.

That part of his future has been decided, says Baker Superintendent Mark Witty, who fired the 63-year-old Wilson from his coaching jobs on Feb. 25. The Baker School Board upheld Witty's decision in a public meeting on March 19.

Witty wants to ensure that the public knows Baker administrators acted quickly, as they do after any investigation that produces evidence of questionable conduct by a staff member, to attempt to forestall any similar conduct in the future when they received an earlier complaint against Wilson in August of 2015.

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TODAY
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Obituaries.....2A

Opinion.....4A
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FRIDAY — BAKER CITY ROTARY CLUB TAKING OVER EASTER EGG HUNT