

Baker City Herald

May 10, 2019

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In OUTDOORS, 1B

Hunters losing access

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FOREIGN JOURNALISTS, TRAVEL OPERATORS VISIT BAKER CITY

Selling Baker County

By Jayson Jacoby
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Jan Copeman gazes through a picture window at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, the green fields of Baker Valley backed by the brilliant white peaks of the Elkhorns, and she can, with a certain creative license, imagine her home of Queensland, Australia.



Copeman

The verdant valley is familiar enough. So is the unblemished blue sky on this fine early May morning. But the jarring intrusion on this otherwise recognizable scene is the one that many people might choose as the most beautiful. It's that white mantle draped over the Elkhorns. "In Queensland we don't have snow," said Copeman, a freelance travel writer and editor who works for Travel Associates, a large travel agency based in Brisbane, Queensland's capital. But they do have mountains.

See **Tourism** / Page 6A

Identity thief gets 5 years

A Baker City woman was sentenced to five years in prison Tuesday after she pleaded guilty to five counts of identity theft and one count of second-degree theft.

Cassandra Lopez, 37, of 41302 Old Highway 30, was also ordered to pay \$3,459.82 in restitution to 11 victims and to write a letter of apology to 14 victims.

See **Theft** / Page 6A

5J board to approve calendar

By Chris Collins
ccollins@bakercityherald.com

The Baker School Board is expected to approve the 2019-2020 calendar and approve a collective bargaining agreement with the Baker Education Association during a special meeting Tuesday.

See **Schools** / Page 6A

Veterans Celebration Day At Baker High School

Hearing Heroes



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Irv Townsend, a veteran of Vietnam, brings a visual experience with slide photographs to the veterans gathering at Baker High School Thursday. Townsend flew helicopters during the war. Students from left are Logan Larkins, Garrett Nickens, Sania Miller, exchange student Setara Kong from Cambodia and Nathan Mendell. Police Chief Dustin Newman is at background left.

By Samantha O'Conner
soconner@bakercityherald.com

The Baker High School library hummed Thursday morning with the voices of local war veterans telling stories of their service and answering questions from students.

Among the veterans, Randy Guyer laid out photos and documents for students to see, explaining his different responsibilities and assignments.

Guyer described some of his jobs within the army, including one with the thought-provoking title of nuclear burst measurement officer.

Irv Townsend, a former Army helicopter pilot, sat with a group of students who admired his slide show of pictures from his exploits during the Vietnam War.

He has more than 1,000 slides.

See **Veterans** / Page 2A



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Hal Huntington of Baker City served in the U.S. Air Force from 1960 to 1980.



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Summer Curry served in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Annual Tradition At Rachel Pregnancy Center In Baker City

Baby Bottle Fundraiser starting

By Chris Collins
ccollins@bakercityherald.com

In addition to the flowers that bloom in May, the month also brings Mother's Day.

The holiday that is celebrated the second Sunday each May has come to represent another tradition in Baker County. That's when the Rachel Pregnancy Center's annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser gets underway.

The baby bottles will be distributed at 25 churches throughout the county on Sunday, May 12. They will remain in homes as a receptacle for change, cash and checks, and returned to churches from Baker City to Burnt River to Halfway and every community in between on Father's Day, June 16. The goal is for all bottles to be returned to the Rachel Pregnancy Center by June

30 at the latest.

The baby bottle drive not only raises awareness for the pregnancy center's services, but it's the nonprofit organization's major fundraiser each year.

Vera Grove, interim director in the absence of longtime director Alberta Darlington, is the center's only paid employee. Darlington is off on an extended leave of absence because of illness.

In addition to Darlington and Grove, the nonprofit organization is guided by these other volunteer Board members: Patricia Hoelscher, Shandra Lee, Cathy Blankenship and adviser Jesse Whitford, lead pastor at the Baker City Christian Church. Susie Busch is the longtime coordinator of the annual fundraising event.

See **Bottles** / Page 6A

Census Bureau looking for workers

By Samantha O'Conner
soconner@bakercityherald.com

America's once-a-decade head count is coming soon and the Census Bureau is looking to hire Baker County residents to help.

The Bureau needs temporary em-

ployees to help with what officials call "address canvassing."

Nicholas Brown, partnership specialist at a regional Census center in Los Angeles, told Baker County commissioners Wednesday that the job pays from \$14.50 to \$16 per hour.

The jobs are part time, and the Bureau hopes to line up 30 more local applicants before June 1.

Job applications and instructions are at www.2020census.gov/jobs.

See **Census** / Page 6A

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Beverly Weston of Baker City.

History, 5A

Part two of a four-part series by Baker City historian Gary Dielman about the Founding Fathers of Baker City.

Local, 8A

The Baker City Backpack Program will be the recipient of money raised during this month's UnWINEd event. UnWINEd takes place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month, which this month falls on May 16.

BRIEFING

Baker County Garden Club to travel to Eagle Cap Nursery May 15

Members of the Baker County Garden Club will travel to the Eagle Cap Nursery in the Keating area for their May 15 meeting.

It will begin at 10:30 a.m. Participants are asked to bring a sack lunch.

Those who need a ride or directions to the nursery should meet at the Baker County Library at 2400 Resort St., at 9:30 a.m.

WEATHER

Today

73 / 35



Mostly sunny

Saturday

82 / 43



Mostly sunny

Sunday

85 / 44



Mostly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

The space below will be blank on issues delivered or sold from boxes. The space is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.



TODAY

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MONDAY — BAKER BASEBALL TEAM AIMS FOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP