



Foul Mudammas: It tastes better than it sounds

# Baker City Herald

June 3, 2019

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### QUICK HITS

#### Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Linda Robbins of Baker City.

### BRIEFING

#### Sculptures decorate Main Street

Baker City's Main Street looks more like an African savannah with the addition of several metal animal sculptures placed in front of businesses and, in one case, crawling down a building.

The temporary art display is a precursor to a show that opens Friday at Anders Gallery, 1802 Main St. Jeff and Susan Jentsch are bringing sub-Saharan African art and artifacts from Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya. Jeff describes it as an ethnographic show, which means museum-quality pieces such as tribal and ceremonial masks.

Jeff and Susan also run an organization called Art Roamers that represents African artists who create pieces such as the metal animals on display downtown. Art Roamers will set up next to the Anders Gallery on Valley Avenue. The street will be closed during First Friday (June 7) and Third Thursday (June 20).

### WEATHER

#### Today

79 / 40



Mostly sunny

#### Tuesday

81 / 47



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.

**Correction:** Jayson Jacoby's column in Friday's issue had the wrong pronoun for Nobel prize winner Dr. Frances Arnold, who is a woman.

### Baker High School Commencement

## A Sunny Send-Off



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Baker High School teacher Adriene Oster received flowers from all the seniors, including Morgan Stone, right, the Class of 2019 valedictorian, and salutatorian Zachary Schwin.

#### By Samantha O'Conner

A sunny weekend finally greeted Baker City, and just in time for Baker High School Class of 2019 to receive its diplomas.

A breeze made its way through Bulldog Memorial Stadium Sunday afternoon, offering some relief to hundreds of family and friends sitting in the grandstand as temperatures reached the mid-80s.

Beginning the ceremony, the BHS band, led by Hope Watts, played the graduation hymn as faculty led the

seniors onto the field.

Principal Greg Mitchell welcomed everyone to the stadium, giving thanks to the custodians, maintenance, the guidance department for helping coordinate the ceremony, and assistant principal Chelsea Hurliman.

Mitchell acknowledged the Baker School District Board of Education, Superintendent Mark Witty, and Assistant Superintendent Petty Palmer.

He thanked all district staff members, saying "Nearly all of our graduates came up through this district from elementary school all the

way through today, therefore every building and every department in our district had a guiding hand in supporting them through the years."

Mitchell then thanked the graduates' parents.

"Parents, you protected them, nurtured them, and kept them focused on their goals throughout the duration of their education here," Mitchell said. "We know how valuable that is to our students' success and we are indebted to you."

See Graduation / Page 5A

## Groups oppose plan to kill ravens

#### By Jayson Jacoby

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Some environmental groups are objecting to a state plan to poison up to 1,500 ravens in Baker County over three years in an effort to reduce the birds' predation on sage grouse eggs.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) in April 2018 applied for federal permits to kill the ravens, which are protected under the federal Migratory Birds Treaty Act.

See Ravens / Page 3A

## 5J working on budget

#### By Chris Collins

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The Baker School District Budget Committee will meet for a third time Tuesday night to continue its review of a proposed \$58,998,386 budget for 2019-20, including \$45,492,860 in the general fund.

The committee is made up of the five school board members and community members Rosemary Abell, Mike Rudi, Josey Gaslin, Wes Price and Linda Cyr.

See Budget / Page 3A

### Program Helps Teach Students About Bicycle Safety

## Pedaling practice on the playground

#### By Lisa Britton

For the Baker City Herald

Laynie Harmon kneels beside her bike and fiddles with the chain.

Then she stands, hands coated in black grease, and grins at her PE teacher Jessie Anderson.

"Mrs. Anderson! I can fix the chain!"

Then she hops on her bike and is off to navigate the course Anderson designed on the playground at South Baker Intermediate School.

Anderson teaches PE at South Baker and Haines schools. This year, she had access to a classroom set of bicycles and helmets through a program called JumpStart.

Funding came through several channels. A grant from ODOT was awarded to Street Trust, which in turn awarded mini grants to agencies across the state. Community Connection secured one to bring the JumpStart program to Baker County.

The program included training on bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Anderson taught bicycle safety in early May to grades 2 through 6 at Haines. After learning the basics of riding, Anderson took students in grades 4 to 6 on a ride on streets.

See Pedal / Page 3A



Lisa Britton / For the Baker City Herald

Fifth-grader Otis Young leads his class through an obstacle course to practice proper signalling techniques while riding a bicycle. A grant through Community Connection and the Oregon Department Of Transportation provided a classroom set of bikes and helmets for a bicycle and pedestrian safety course at South Baker Intermediate School and Haines Elementary, taught by PE teacher Jessie Anderson.



TODAY  
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WEDNESDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE