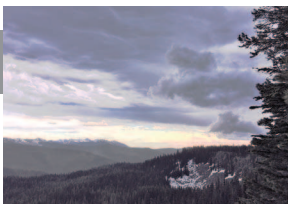


Baker City Herald

June 7, 2019

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In **OUTDOORS, 1B**
Science of the storm

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Health & Fitness • Outdoors • TV **\$1.50**

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber David Sorensen of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Eagle Valley Days events set June 15

RICHLAND — The annual Eagle Valley Days celebration is set for Saturday, June 15, at the Grange Park at the town's western entrance.

A parade starts at 10 a.m. Other events include vendors, a classic car show, vintage airplanes, kids games, a pie contest and auction, live music, burgers, hot dogs and strawberry shortcake. Vendor spaces are available by calling 541-893-6292. The event is a fundraiser to operate the Grange Park.

WEATHER

Today

56 / 36



Rain showers

Saturday

64 / 33



Partly cloudy

Sunday

75 / 41



Mostly sunny

Correction: A story on Page 1A of Monday's Baker City Herald about the Baker School District Budget Committee meetings misstated enrollment at the Baker City Web Academy and Baker Early College. Enrollment at the Baker Web Academy, Grades K-12, and the Baker Early College, Grades 9-12, totaled 2,124 in October 2018. That number is projected to grow to 2,515 in 2019-20.

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.

Remodeling Begins At Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City

Hospital's New Look



Lisa Britton/For the Baker City Herald

A remodel project started May 20 in the emergency department at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center.

By Lisa Britton
For the Baker City Herald

A remodel began May 20 to change the emergency department at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City.

"It will be better for patient care and privacy," said Laura Huggins, director of marketing and communications for the hospital at 3325 Pocahontas Road.

Prior to this work, the Sunrise Cafe opened toward the emergency room. Those two spaces will now be separated by a wall.

Access to both is still through the door near the emergency room. A hallway to the right will lead to the emergency department, which will have a new triage area, waiting room and bathroom.

The hallway to the left will lead to the cafe area and the rest of the hospital.

Both will be fully functioning during the remodel, which is estimated to be finished by mid-October.

"Just changes in traffic patterns," Huggins said.

Construction will be divided into phases. The first will focus on the cafe area, including new seating in what used to be the food service manager's office.

Phases two and three will focus on the emergency department.

This major remodel is funded in part by money raised at the 2018 Festival of Trees — \$33,980.

The remaining funds come from the Leo Adler Foundation (\$42,034), Leo Adler Endowment Fund held in the Saint Alphonsus Foundation (\$42,034), and \$11,277 from the Saint Alphonsus Foundation.



Lisa Britton / For The Baker City Herald

See **Hospital** / Page 6A The first phase focuses on the cafe area.

Teens charged with graffiti spree at BHS

By Chris Collins
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Two Baker High School freshmen have been charged with one count each of first-degree criminal mischief for allegedly causing thousands of dollars in damage to the BHS auditorium by spray painting obscene graffiti on the walls, floor and equipment on the stage.

A 14-year-old girl and a 14-year-old boy were detained on the Class C felony charges Wednesday and transported to the juvenile detention center at The Dalles, said Staci Erickson, Baker County Juvenile Department director.

They were arraigned Thursday in juvenile court.

See **Graffiti** / Page 6A

County officials convene

By Samantha O'Conner
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A Baker City man on Wednesday urged the Baker County Board of Commissioners to consider enacting an ordinance allowing the county to seize vehicles from people arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Robert McKim presented Commission Chairman Bill Harvey and Commissioner Bruce Nichols (Mark Bennett was out of town) with a 1994 ordinance from Lincoln County.

The ordinance states that if a person is arrested for driving while intoxicated, the "vehicle is subject to seizure and possible forfeiture."

See **County** / Page 2A

Ashley Rhodes-Courter Was In Foster Care For nearly 10 Years Before Being Adopted

Author to speak about foster care ordeal

By Lisa Britton
For the Baker City Herald

Ashley Rhodes-Courter is a survivor, and she's sharing her stories to help bring awareness for others in the same situations.

Rhodes-Courter, 34, was in foster care for nearly a decade. She lived in 14 different foster homes, including two group homes.

She moved schools twice a year, had multiple caseworkers and experienced abuse at one of her foster care placements.

And yet.

Her story started to change when a guardian ad litem — a CASA, court-appointed special advocate — was appointed by the court to represent her, and she finally had someone give her a voice in the foster care system.

A quote from her best-selling memoir exemplifies how much one person can change a life: "Every child deserves to have one person in their life who knows the color of their eyes."



Rhodes-Courter

"It only takes one person to reshape the life of another," she said in a telephone interview on Monday.

Rhodes-Courter will be in Baker City on Wednesday, June 12, to speak at 4 p.m. at Churchill, 3451 Broadway St. (enter off 16th Street).

On June 13, she will speak at 6 p.m. at La Grande High School.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Rhodes-Courter was adopted at 14.

She grew up, earned a double major in communications and theater, then a master's degree in social work.

Education was always a big part of her life.

"School was my sanctuary," Rhodes-Courter said. "My education was something no one could take away. No one could beat it out of me."

At age 22 she published a memoir titled "Three Little Words" that details her years in foster care. The nugget for the book came from an essay she wrote for a contest in the New York Times magazine.

See **Author** / Page 2A



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Opinion 2A
Outdoors 1B

Senior Menus 2A
Sports 6A
Weather 12B

MONDAY — RENOVATIONS AT BAKER BULLDOG MEMORIAL STADIUM