

# Baker City Herald

September 13, 2019

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In SPORTS, 6A

Baker tops Homedale

**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 Jan Kerns of Haines.

**Local, 5A**

Whit Deschner really wants salt licks. And not just any old salt licks, but ones sculpted into artistic forms for the 13th-annual Great Salt Lick contest and auction.

This year's event will be held at Churchill School, a location change from previous years to accommodate the crowd.

BRIEFING

**Blood drive set for Sept. 16 at Nazarene Church**

The American Red Cross has scheduled a blood drive for Sept. 16 at the Nazarene Church, 1250 Hughes Lane. Please call Myrna Evans at 541-523-5368 to make an appointment. Please note the change in venue to the Nazarene Church.

**Natural Resource Committee to meet**

Baker County's Natural Resource Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 3 p.m. at the Courthouse, 1995 Third St. Agenda items include reclaiming the Sumpter dredge tailings and the Baker City watershed.

WEATHER

**Today**

77 / 44



Mostly sunny

**Saturday**

83 / 46



Partly sunny

**Sunday**

83 / 45



Showers late

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**9/11 Remembrance Ceremony At Baker City Fire Department**



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Baker City Fire Department and law enforcement personnel pay respect and observance to the fallen heroes of September 11, 2001.

## Memories That Linger

By Chris Collins  
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A giant American flag suspended from a ladder truck at the Baker City Fire Department fluttered in the cool wind of a late summer morning Wednesday as people gathered to pay their respects.

They recalled, many in amazement at how quickly the years had passed, that 18 years ago — on Sept. 11, 2001 — terrorists launched a deadly attack on the United States of America.

About 75 people, including nearly 20 representing various law enforcement and fire service agencies, attended the 9/11 observance.

Cellphones and other cameras and recording devices were visible in the audience, which was made up of people who'd traveled from their homes and workplaces to gather along Second Street in front of the fire station. They were there to recognize those who serve their community and to remember those who lost their lives across the country on that September day 18 years earlier.

Baker City Fire Department Lt. Casey Johnson, 40, was a 22-year-old serving in the Marine Corps Reserves and working in construction when he learned of the disaster that had befallen the country on that day.

See **Memories** / Page 5A



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

A calm yet steady breeze moves Old Glory high above the 9/11 remembrance ceremony Wednesday morning in front of the Baker City Fire Department.

2015 RULE EXPANDED FEDERAL REGULATION OF WATERWAYS

## Walden praises water rule repeal

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Congressman Greg Walden and a local rancher and county commissioners are among those applauding federal officials for repealing a rule enacted during the Obama administration that critics contend could deprive farmers and ranchers of irrigation water.

At issue is the Waters of the United States rule, and specifically how that term is defined.

That definition affects how far the federal government's authority extends in enforcing the 1972 Clean Water Act.

In 2015 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers enacted a rule that broadened the definition of Waters of the United States to include not just navigable waterways, but also their tributaries and some other adjacent waterways, including ones that don't

hold water year round.

In a statement Thursday, Walden said that since 2015 he has heard from farmers and ranchers across Oregon who fear the federal government, using the expanded definition, could restrict how they use water, potentially including water diverted into irrigation ditches and stock ponds, common practices throughout the state.

See **Water** / Page 5A

## Former councilor suing county, sheriff

By Jayson Jacoby  
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A former Baker City Council member who pleaded guilty to criminal mischief in November 2017 after he was cited that summer at the abandoned lime plant near Huntington has filed a civil rights lawsuit against Baker County and Sheriff Travis Ash, seeking \$1.3 million in damages.

Adam David Nilsson, 48, filed the suit in August in U.S. District Court in Pendleton. He is demanding a jury trial.

Most recently, 22 people died and 24 were injured in a mass shooting on Aug. 3 at a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas.

See **Lawsuit** / Page 2A

EVENT SCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 27-28

## Active threat drill planned at school

By Chris Collins  
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A training aimed at improving police and emergency medical response to an "active threat" in the community will take place Sept. 27 and 28, a Friday and Saturday, at Brooklyn Primary School.

Even though the training is taking place at a school, the skills that will be taught and refined are aimed at broadening the

scope, said Ben Klecker. He's the Eastern Oregon regional training coordinator for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (also known as the Oregon Police Academy).

"From situations around Oregon, people associate active shooters with schools," he said.

But Klecker pointed to other incidents such as the 2008 bank bombing at

Woodburn in which two police officers were killed and two other people were injured; the Clackamas Town Center shooting in 2012 in which three people, including the perpetrator, were killed and one person was injured; and the Umpqua Community College shooting at Roseburg in October 2015 in which 10 people, including the perpetrator, were killed, and eight people were injured.

Klecker says the Baker City training will prepare responders to deal with incidents they might encounter in an industrial workplace setting, shopping area or other large-scale situations.

Most recently, 22 people died and 24 were injured in a mass shooting on Aug. 3 at a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas.

See **Drill** / Page 3A



**TODAY**  
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**MONDAY — ROUND UP OF HIGH SCHOOL WEEKEND SPORTING EVENTS**