ker City Herald

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La Grande tops Baker

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Home & Living • Sports Monday \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

October 7, 2019

A special good day to Herald subscriber Kevin Bell of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Flu shot fundraiser for local schools, other partners

Bi-Mart is once again supporting local organizations while also promoting flu shots. Anyone who gets a flu shot at Bi-Mart in Baker City can choose a community partner to receive \$1. Partners are: Brooklyn Primary, South Baker Intermediate, Baker Middle School, Baker High School, Keating Elementary, Haines Elementary, Community Connection of Baker County, Powder Valley Schools, New Bridge Grange, Pine-Eagle Clinic, and Prairie City School.

Maker's Clubs at **Baker Library set** for Oct. 9, 23

Two Maker's Clubs, free events for third-through eighth-graders, are planned this month at the Baker County Library, 2400 Resort St. Both will be from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. No registration is required.

The Oct. 9 club will focus on making a duct tape message board. On Oct. 23, participants will make paper circuit jack o'lanterns.

WEATHER

Today

68 / 41

Mostly sunny

Tuesday

54/31

Mostly cloudy with rain showers

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.

Missing man's body found

■ Andrew Dean Dennis, 60, died after apparently falling on steep terrain, according to his niece

By Jayson Jacoby jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Searchers found the body of Andrew Dean Dennis of Haines late Sunday morning in a nearly sheer rock chute in the Wallowa Mountains, eight days after the 60-year-old Haines man failed to return from a planned one-day deerhunting trip.

It appears that Dennis died from a fall in the steep terrain near East Eagle Creek, his niece, Candy Sturm, said Sunday.

Sturm said her uncle's body was found near where



searchers trapped Dennis' dog, Barney, on Saturday evening. The site is near where Curtis Creek crosses the East Eagle trail, about 2 miles from the trailhead where Dennis parked his vehicle on Sept. 28.

Dennis' body was initially spotted by a drone, according to a post Sturm made on her Facebook page.

Searchers found Dennis about 11:30 a.m. Sunday, according to a press release from the Baker County Sheriff's Office.

"His death appears to be a tragic accident," according to the press release. "No foul play is suspected."

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Haines Building Houses Four Businesses



Veterinarian Josh Anderson bought a building in Haines for his business, but he also divided it into space for three other businesses.

By Samantha O'Conner soconner@bakercityherald.com

HAINES — Veterinarian Josh Anderson has turned a Haines building into a multi-business development solo mobile large animal veterinarian where customers can attend to their health and to their hair.

Anderson had been renting space at 916A Front St., for about three years when he decided to buy the structure.

His tenants are Thornton Direct Primary Care, Dr. Willard Bertrand chiropractic office, and Heels and Spurs Salon.

Anderson, 44, said he had been working with cattle and horses out of his truck for about 15 years.

"I started this practice of being a ten years ago, 2010, and did it out of my house for a long time," Anderson said.

As his practice grew, he needed a bigger office and began renting the Front Street building.

"It's a good location and a good spot," Anderson said. "I like the building and the town."

He travels around Baker and Union counties in his truck stocked with everything he needs to care for farm and ranch animals — heaters, drugs and medications.

"You kind of have everything you need to work out of just right here," Anderson said.

He grew up in Hazleton, Idaho, and attended the University of Idaho where he graduated with a bachelor's degree.

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Baker man shot this morning

Police have a suspect in the shooting of Juan Martinez at the Green Acres Apartments

By Chris Collins ccollins@bakercityherald.com

A Baker City man was flown by Life Flight to a Boise hospital with injuries sustained in a shooting incident early this morning in south Baker City.

Juan Martinez was shot at least once by a person wielding a handgun about 1:30 a.m. at Apartment 107 of the Green Acres Apartment complex at 1560 Indiana Ave.

Baker City Police Chief Ray Duman said today that the Major Crime Team has been activated and the investigation is continuing.

"We have a suspect identified who we are wanting to speak to," he said.

No information about Martinez's condition was available in time for this story.

Baker student test scores improve

■ District students beat the Oregon average for language tests, but fell short on mathematics tests

By Chris Collins

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School leaders and community partners took a run at improving test scores over time last week when they traveled to early learning centers throughout the state in the hope of establishing such a center for Baker students.

Superintendent Mark Witty noted that the District's 2018-19 test scores, released recently by the state Department of Education, showed improvement in both English/language arts and math.

"Growth across all grades came in at 2.9% for ELA (English/language arts) and 1.2% for math," Witty stated in the release.

And compared with state results, 56.2% met state benchmarks in

ELA, compared to a 54.9% state average. In math, however, 35.3% of Baker students met benchmarks, compared to a 39.4% state average.

"The District is continuing to invest in new strategies to improve student achievement in mathematics," Witty said. "This year we hired a math tutor to work with Baker High School students needing additional support."

Witty noted that Baker Web Academy and Baker Early College showed improved participation rates for 2018-19. The District's state report card will reflect lower achievement ratings based on areas where participation drops below state benchmarks, however.

Participation rates for other Baker schools remain at or above

the state benchmark across other grade levels, Witty said.

In a recent review of the Smarter Balanced student test scores, Assistant Superintendent Betty Palmer said work to provide consistent training for the community's youngest children will help improve not only test scores, but also graduation rates.

While students continue to show improvement, a break-down of test score results shows that students who qualify for free and reducedprice lunches consistently score about 13 percentage points lower than their counterparts across the board, Palmer said.

"And two-thirds of the population, especially at the elementary level, fall into that category," Palmer said.

"Across the bar that's what you see," Palmer said of the drop for children in the lower socioeconomic category.

By the 11th grade the gap is beginning to narrow, to about an 11% difference between the low-income and those living at the middle income levels and higher.

In addition to the math tutor added this year, Palmer points to the Friday Academy classes aimed at keeping students in school for at least half a day Fridays to extend their four-day week schedule. The instruction is aimed at engaging students with hands-on activities when possible.

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