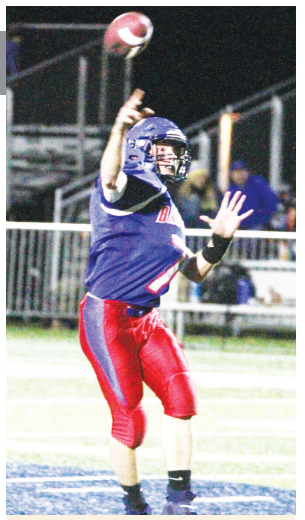


# Baker City Herald

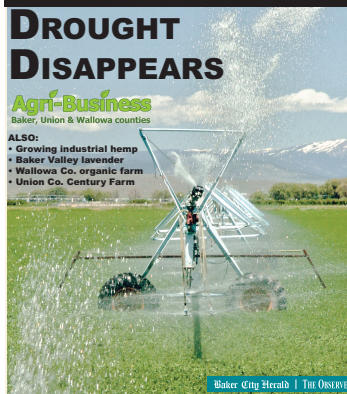
October 25, 2019

Serving Baker County since 1870 • bakercityherald.com



Reece Dixon

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



## DROUGHT DISAPPEARS

**Agri-Business**  
Baker, Union & Wallowa counties

ALSO:  
• Growing industrial hemp  
• Baker Valley lavender  
• Wallowa Co. organic farm  
• Union Co. Century Farm

**INSIDE TODAY**  
The 3rd of our 3 annual special sections devoted to the agriculture industry.


**QUICK HITS**


**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**  
A special good day to Herald subscriber Caroline Crawford of Baker City.


**BRIEFING**

**Volunteers repair veterans monuments**  
The Baker City Rotary Club is inviting the public to join a work party to repair veterans monuments at Mount Hope Cemetery on Saturday, Oct. 26, from noon to 2:30 p.m.  
Anyone interested in helping Saturday is encouraged to bring shovels and pry bars.  
More information about this ongoing public service project is available by calling Dennis Teskey at 541-523-3904.

**WEATHER**

**Today**  
65 / 32   
Mostly sunny

**Saturday**  
49 / 24   
Mostly sunny

**Sunday**  
47 / 17   
Mostly sunny

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.

## Retired NASA Official Visits Keating Elementary School

# Exploring Space



Lisa Britton / For the Baker City Herald

Amanda Wilde, head teacher and principal at Keating Elementary, shows Blaine Myers a photograph of footprints on the moon made by the same boot mold students were able to inspect. James McBarron II, background, pauses in his story about work at NASA.

**By Lisa Britton**  
For the Baker City Herald

**KEATING**—Third-grader Christian Graham's shirt sported a guitar-playing astronaut. Across the table sat a man who worked on space suits for all NASA flight programs. These two — separated by some 70 years in age — had a lot to talk about. James McBarron II visited Keating Elementary School on Tuesday as part of a year-long program to learn more about NASA's space program. McBarron, 81, was a student subject from 1958 to 1961 in trials designed to determine

human endurance in extreme environmental conditions. His career at NASA began in 1961. He worked on Project Mercury, the Gemini Project, and the Apollo 9, Apollo 11, Apollo 13, and Apollo 15 missions. James Loftus coordinated McBarron's visit, which also included a stop at Baker High School. Loftus is the founder of the JPL Museum in Stayton that honors the NASA career of his father, Joseph P. Loftus Jr., who worked at the Johnson Space Center. Part of the museum's mission is to bring the experience of NASA to rural areas.

This year Loftus, along with Oregon Connections Academy, launched a new program called Remote and Distant Interactive Online Sessions (RADIOS) that brings live broadcasts from Space Center Houston into classrooms across Oregon. Space Center Houston is the official visitors center for the Johnson Space Center and a nonprofit education foundation that helped with the RADIOS program, along with support from the NASA Alumni League, and grants from PacifiCorp Foundation, and Santiam Hospital.

See **Space** / Page 2A

# 1 teen arrested in arson blaze

■ Second teenage girl also a suspect but hasn't been charged

**By Chris Collins**  
collins@bakercityherald.com

A 14-year-old girl was arraigned Thursday in Baker County Juvenile Court on a charge of first-degree arson for allegedly starting a fire in mattresses and box springs on a downtown sidewalk Tuesday night. The girl was arrested at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Baker City Police Sgt. Wayne Chastain said today. She was transported to the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility juvenile center at The Dalles. Judge Greg Baxter ordered the girl released from detention after the arraignment, said District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff. She was placed on house arrest with her family and will be required to wear an ankle monitor. Another hearing is scheduled Nov. 15, Shirtcliff said. A second teenage girl has been identified as a suspect, but has yet to be charged. Police are still investigating to determine the second girl's degree of involvement in the crime, Shirtcliff said.

See **Arson** / Page 3A

# Fob failure caused false alarm at Brooklyn

**By Chris Collins**  
collins@bakercityherald.com

A mechanical malfunction in one of the handheld alarm fobs used by the Baker School District to notify law enforcement of an emergency on school grounds is blamed for the false alarm reported at Brooklyn Primary School Tuesday. Superintendent Mark Witty said Wednesday that human error was not responsible for the false alarm as was the case in some previous inadvertent activations of the system.

See **Alarm** / Page 3A

# Hospital waiting room project almost finished

**By Lisa Britton**  
For the Baker City Herald

Work is nearing completion on the new waiting room for the emergency department at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City. It should be open by mid-November, said Laura Huggins, director of marketing and communications. The new space is self-contained with a registration desk, waiting room, and bathroom. The door from the parking lot will open to two hallways: Turn right to the emergency room; turn left to the cafe and the rest of the hospital.

See **Hospital** / Page 3A



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

**TODAY**  
Issue 72, 42 pages

Calendar.....2A  
Classified.....3B-6B  
Comics.....7B

Community News.....3A  
Crossword.....5B & 6B  
Dear Abby.....8B

Horoscope.....5B & 6B  
Jayson Jacoby.....4A  
News of Record.....2A

Obituaries.....2A  
Opinion.....4A  
Outdoors.....1B & 2B

Senior Menus.....2A  
Sports.....6A  
Weather.....8B

**MONDAY — BAKER FOOTBALL WRAPS UP REGULAR SEASON AT LA GRANDE**



8 51153 00102 0