

Baker City Herald

January 3, 2020

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Baker's Riley Flanagan goes to the basket Thursday

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 John Busch of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Applicants sought for Baker City Council

Baker City residents interested in serving on the City Council have until 4 p.m. on Jan. 6 to submit an application. To be eligible, applicants must be registered to vote in Oregon and have lived within the Baker City limits for at least 12 months prior to being appointed. The vacancy on the seven-member City Council results from Councilor Ken Gross resigning at the end of this month due to his job being moved. The remaining six councilors plan to meet with applicants during a work session on Jan. 8, and then to appoint Gross' replacement on Jan. 14. To apply, go to www.baker-city.com and download the City Councilor application. Submit the application and a letter of interest to Katie LaFavor at City Hall, 1655 First St. The person appointed will serve through December 2020, and would be eligible to run for a four-year term in November 2020.

Adopted Wild Horse A Fixture At Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

The Name's Norm



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

A horse called Norm, an adopted wild stallion, is very affectionate with owner Debbie Henshaw and others.

By Samantha O'Conner
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Nearly six years ago, visitors to the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center near Baker City met a new volunteer who loves peppermints.

He also likes to give kisses.

Norm is an 11-year-old wild mustang gathered from public land near Murderers Creek in Grant County.

His owners, Debbie and Calvin Henshaw of Baker City, adopted Norm in 2014, when he was 6.

"It was a mutual bonding," said Debbie, 55.

She's been raising horses for 35 years. Calvin, 59, did all of the training on the horses and she does "back up training."

Debbie brought Norm to the Interpretive Center on July 4, 2014, to introduce him to people.

"We liked it so much that first time that we took him up just to expose him, that we just kept doing it," Debbie said.

As a wild horse, Norm needed time to become accustomed to being around people.

"Back then, for a couple of years, we did a program called Horse Sense, where we taught how horses use their instincts to survive in the wild," said Debbie, who works to promote the adoption of wild horses gathered from Oregon and other states in the West.



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Norm stands easy for owner Debbie Henshaw as he gets his hooves trimmed and filed by farrier Alan Elsberry Thursday morning.

See **Norm** / Page 2A

Rape suspect in jail in Idaho

■ **Bill David Gonyer**, who lives near Baker City, awaits extradition

A Baker County man is in jail in Idaho, awaiting extradition to Oregon on charges that he raped and sexually abused a minor girl.

Bill David Gonyer, 73, was arrested Dec. 28 in Ada County, Idaho, on a Baker County warrant that includes first-, second- and third-degree rape, sex abuse and sodomy, using a child in display of sexually explicit conduct and other charges.

The incidents, which are alleged to have happened in Baker County between May 1, 2019, and Dec. 20, 2019, involve a girl known to Gonyer, according to court documents.

He is being held in lieu of \$1,128,000 bail as he awaits extradition, the documents state.



Gonyer

See **Arrest** / Page 3A

Idaho robbery suspects arrested in Baker

Two Idaho robbery suspects were arrested Thursday at a Baker City laundry and are being held at the Baker County Jail awaiting extradition to Idaho.

Police were notified by the Caldwell Police Department that the suspects, Guillermo Pascual, 29, of Caldwell, and Jennifer Dodgson, 24, of Nampa, were in Baker City, Police Chief Ray Duman stated in a press release.

Officers and detectives from the Baker City Police Department and Oregon State Police troopers arrested the pair without incident at 12:44 p.m. Thursday at the Elm Street Laundry at 944 Elm St.

The two are accused of robbing a convenience store at the corner of Ustick Road and Cleveland Boulevard in Caldwell Wednesday night.

Dodgson allegedly assaulted a female cashier and then forcibly took money out of the register, Duman said.

Bull & Bronc Riding will be on TV

By Jayson Jacoby
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One of Baker City's biggest events — the annual bull and bronc riding competition in July — will continue in 2020 for its 26th year, but under new management.

And for the first time the rodeo, a major draw during Miners Jubilee, will be televised.

This year's bronc and bull riding competitions will be the first in which Ken McPheron won't be involved, said his son, Shane Pierce.

Pierce said his dad, who is in his

80s and has overseen the event as a volunteer, has been looking to retire from that position for the past five years.

The Baker City Bronc and Bull Riding events have joined the Challenge of Champions Tour, a series of 18 rodeos in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Nevada.

This year's Baker City competitions will both be televised on The Cowboy Channel, Pierce said. The cable network is affiliated with RFD-TV.

"We're super excited," said Pierce, who is a member of board of directors

for Baker City Bronc & Bull Riding Inc.

Pierce said that although he would have liked to take over for his father, that wasn't possible given his work and family obligations.

But he said the volunteer board, which includes McPheron, Ken Helgerson, Rich Lien, Greg Hammond and Nick Lien, was committed to making sure the bull and bronc riding events continue into a second quarter-century.

See **Rodeo** / Page 3A

WEATHER

Today
40 / 33
Partly sunny

Saturday
42 / 27
Rain or snow showers

Sunday
39 / 27
Rain or snow showers

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.

TODAY Issue 111, 14 pages	Calendar.....2A Classified.....3B-6B Comics.....7B	Community News.....3A Crossword.....5B & 6B Dear Abby.....8B	Horoscope.....5B Jayson Jacoby.....4A News of Record.....2A	Opinion.....4A Outdoors.....1B Senior Menus.....2A	Sports.....5A & 6A Turning Backs.....2A Weather.....8B
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