

Baker City Herald

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GO! Magazine
Your guide to arts and entertainment events happening around Northeast Oregon

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine **\$1.50**

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Toni Phillips of Baker City.

Local, 2A

The Baker County Health Department mailed out 451 letters earlier this month notifying parents that their children would not be allowed to attend school unless their immunization records were brought up to date or an exemption form was provided. Wednesday is the day students were scheduled to be excluded from classes unless they met one of those requirements, said Nancy Staten, Health Department director.

BRIEFING

History of elk in Baker County presentation set for March 2

The Baker County Historical Society will have a program on the history of elk in the county on Monday, March 2, at 6:30 p.m. at the Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn Ave.

The guest speaker will be George Keister, retired wildlife biologist from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Keister was the district biologist for Baker County from 1995 to 2006.

Refreshments will be served. Attendees should use the door to the basement at Crossroads.

WEATHER

Today
41 / 20
Mostly sunny

Friday
46 / 23
Mostly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

The space below is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.

County delays visitor contract

By Samantha O'Conner
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Baker County commissioners voted unanimously Wednesday morning to postpone until Oct. 1 the awarding of a contract for operating a visitors center in Baker City.

That means the \$77,000-per-year contract, which is paid for with revenue from the tax collected from guests at motels, bed-and-breakfasts and other lodging businesses, will remain with the Baker County

Chamber of Commerce.

The county's lodging tax committee last fall solicited proposals from organizations interested in operating a visitors center.

The committee received two proposals — one from the Chamber of Commerce and one from Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort's owner, the nonprofit Baker County Development Corporation.

Both the lodging tax committee and the Baker Economic Develop-

ment Committee voted to recommend that commissioners award the contract to Anthony Lakes.

But during Wednesday's meeting before a packed room in the Courthouse, Commissioner Mark Bennett suggested postponing the decision until October.

In the meantime, Bennett said commissioners can have discussions with Anthony Lakes representatives.

Peter Johnson, Anthony Lakes

general manager, and Shelly Cutler, the Chamber's executive director, both attended Wednesday's meeting.

"The biggest thing is that there's a lot of people out here on all sides of the fence and it's so important that we make sure everything is clear and concise," Bennett said.

He said he wants to avoid polarizing residents on the topic.

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ODFW Confirms Wolves Killed Rancher's Bull Near Sparta



Submitted photo

Baker County rancher Mib Dailey said he had to euthanize this 2-year-old bull, worth an estimated \$2,500, after it sustained severe wounds in what a state biologist confirmed was an attack by wolves.

Wolves Kill Bull



Submitted photo

Mib Dailey said there were numerous tracks in the area where his bull and steer were attacked.



Submitted photo

The hide from a 600-pound yearling steer was left, but most of the carcass had been consumed.

By Jayson Jacoby
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A state wildlife biologist concluded that wolves killed a Baker County rancher's 2-year-old bull and probably also killed a yearling steer last week in the snowbound Wallowa Mountains northeast of Baker City.

Mib Dailey, who lives near Sparta, about 25 miles northeast of Baker City, said the bull and steer, along with two other bulls and one cow from his herd, had been stranded in the Eagle Creek area over the winter.

The animals didn't turn up last fall

when he was gathering his herd from summer pasture in the mountains, where he runs 250 cow-calf pairs.

Dailey said he has been looking for the missing animals, and about a week ago he found them on the west side of Eagle Creek near Puzzle Creek. That's between Eagle Forks and Martin Bridge, about 2 miles north of Sparta.

Dailey said a friend had been hauling hay to the cattle using a side-by-side ATV, as the 30 or so inches of snow made it impossible to reach the area in a truck and trailer.

Dailey said he also brought in a bull-

dozer to plow some of the snow from a road, with the goal of leading the cattle back to a main road where he could load them in a trailer and drive them back to his ranch.

Dailey said his friend delivered hay to the cattle late in the afternoon of Feb. 12. All five animals were together at that time, Dailey said.

When his friend returned with more hay on Saturday, Feb. 15, he found the carcass of the steer and the 2-year-old bull with severe wounds.

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Verizon doesn't appeal denial of cell tower

By Jayson Jacoby
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Verizon Wireless did not appeal to a state agency after the Baker City Council rejected the company's application to build a 70-foot cell tower in north Baker City.

The Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals did not receive a notice of intent to appeal from Verizon, an agency official said Tuesday.

The deadline for the company to file the notice was Feb. 13.

Verizon applied for a conditional use permit for the tower in September 2019.

The company wanted to build the tower on a 2.12-acre parcel, zoned industrial, that's just north of D Street near Leo Adler Field.

See **Tower** / Page 3A

OTEC criticizes Brown

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative issued a press release Wednesday afternoon criticizing Oregon Gov. Kate Brown's endorsement of removing four dams on the lower Snake River in Southeastern Washington.

OTEC, which is based in Baker City, buys its wholesale electricity from the Bonneville Power Administration, the federal agency that markets power from more than two dozen dams, including the four that Brown cited in a recent letter.

OTEC's press release referred to Brown's letter as "stunning."

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SATURDAY — GETTING A JUMP ON SPRING WITH A BICYCLE RIDE