



In HOME, 1B
Tips for
first-time
cooks

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish
To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Marc Todd of Baker City.

Oregon, 3A

Scammers, fraudsters and price gougers are preying on Oregonians, capitalizing on their concerns about coronavirus.

Oregon, 5A

PORTLAND (AP) — Two large health care operations in Oregon are furloughing employees and cutting costs because of a lack of revenue due to the coronavirus outbreak, furthering cuts to medical facilities in the state.

BRIEFING

Sen. Ron Wyden
to have live online
town hall Friday

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., will have a live town hall for all Oregonians Friday, April 17 at 10:30 a.m. PDT.

To watch the town hall, hosted by the Town Hall Project, use this link: <https://www.facebook.com/TownHallProject/posts/2560590620862367>

Wyden has postponed in-person town halls — including one scheduled for March 14 in Baker City — until public gathering restrictions related to the coronavirus have been relaxed. People who would like to ask a question of Wyden can fill out a form at this Facebook page: Town Hall Project

WEATHER

Today
61 / 38



Mostly sunny

Wednesday
60 / 29



Partly sunny

Full forecast on the back
of the B section.

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

BHS Valedictorians, Salutatorians Reflect On Their Shortened Senior Year

Class of 2020: The
Year Like No Other

"It's overwhelming to me that I am losing some of the last moments of time I may ever spend with some of my classmates."

— Kale Cassidy



Kale Cassidy

By Lisa Britton

For the Baker City Herald

They are missing their last year of high school spring sports.

They are missing senior prom.

They might miss a traditional graduation.

But even with all the cancellations and uncertainty caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the seniors of Baker High School might miss, most of all, their last few months with classmates and friends.

"I miss making memories with those closest to me and I miss the time we've spent together these last four years," said Riley Flanagan. "With how things are looking, it seems we may never get the chance to go back to school and see these people."

On April 8, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown closed schools through the end of the academic year, and schools moved to distance learning.

The honor students from the BHS class of 2020 — valedictorians Flanagan, Anthony Cowan, Spencer Smith, Kale Cassidy and Sam McCauley, and salutatorians Anna Carter and Laura Illingsworth — shared how they are coping with this novel situation.



Laura Illingsworth

"I have hope for a brighter future for us all, and I look forward to the day when we can go back to school to finish what we have started."

— Laura Illingsworth



Anna Carter

"Sitting in our classes for the last time, having a last day of school, and getting to celebrate our accomplishments with a graduation ceremony, are all important steps to say goodbye to this chapter in our lives."

— Anna Carter



Anthony Cowan

"The thing that I miss most is the strength that our class creates when we are together."

— Anthony Cowan

ation.

But amid all the disappointments, each talks most about the impact and the heart of the Baker High Class of 2020.

"These concepts will definitely leave an unforgettable mental scar," Cowan said of all the canceled events and milestones, "but above all, the thing that I miss most is the strength that our class creates when we are together."

"Whether it was at sporting events or in the classroom, we would build each other up to success," Cowan said. "We cheered each other on and instilled grit within others. Despite our differences, we were all in it together. The lack of that support is the pinnacle of what I miss most."

See Class of 2020 / Page 3A

"I feel that COVID-19 abruptly took our goodbyes away from each other. Due to this outbreak, all seniors might be deprived of a graduation and their goodbyes to their lifelong peers."

— Sam McCauley

"I know I can't speak for all of us, but I know a good majority wants nothing more than to go back to school and make more lasting memories with those at our school."

— Riley Flanagan



Riley Flanagan



Spencer Smith

"I feel that the Baker High School Class of 2020 was unique. We all got along pretty well and worked hard together."

— Spencer Smith



Sam McCauley

Jobless
claims
decline

By Jayson Jacoby

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The number of new claims for unemployment benefits declined in Baker County during the week spanning the end of March and the start of April.

Jobless benefits claims peaked for the county during the last full week in March, according to records from the Oregon Employment Department.

During the week of March 22-28, a total of 129 Baker County residents filed for unemployment benefits.

That was more than double the 61 claims filed from March 14-21, the week during which the coronavirus pandemic began to have widespread effects.

Baker County claims for the week of March 29 to April 4 dropped to 111.

See Claims / Page 5A

Council to
consider
well bid

By Jayson Jacoby

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The Baker City Council will have a lengthy agenda to get through when it meets this evening at City Hall, including potentially approving a \$677,000 contract to drill a well as a supplemental source of drinking water.

Tonight's meeting starts at 7 p.m., and due to the coronavirus pandemic there will be some changes.

To comply with Gov. Kate Brown's executive order on the size of public gatherings, no more than six residents will be allowed to attend the meeting in person at one time.

See Council / Page 3A

Virus
affects
Realtors

By Corey Kirk

ckirk@bakercityherald.com

As Baker County residents continue to be encouraged to stay at home, real estate agents are maintaining a presence.

"There's still showings coming on the market, commercial and residential," said Marty Lein, a Realtor with John J. Howard and Associates. "It has slowed us some from what it was, but it seems like the listings are still coming on. Baker has slowed down some."

See Realtors / Page 2A



TODAY

Issue 154, 14 pages

Calendar 2A
Classified 4B-6B
Comics 7B

Community News 3A
Crossword 4B & 6B
Dear Abby 8B

Home 1B-3B
Horoscope 5B & 6B
Lottery Results 2A

News of Record 2A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A

Senior Menus 2A
Turning Backs 2A
Weather 8B

THURSDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE