



GO! Magazine
Your weekly guide to events happening around Northeastern Oregon

Baker City Herald

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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 Leslie Gecy of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Deadline nears for Ostwald Business Scholarship

The deadline for students to apply for the Ostwald Business Scholarship is Friday, June 5.

This scholarship is awarded to Baker High graduates who have completed a minimum of two academic terms of full-time coursework at an accredited college, university or trade school in order to help them further their academic education in a business-related field. They must also have attained a minimum post-high school grade-point average of 2.5.

Scholarships are awarded annually based on the earnings of the Ostwald trust.

How to apply

Applicants can access more information and the application through this Google form: <https://forms.gle/NNRCLqzCeaJ1AYH6>

The award will be paid directly to the appropriate institution upon receipt of a letter from the institution confirming that the recipient is enrolled as a full-time student at the school.

WEATHER

Today

55 / 33



Chance of showers and thunderstorms

Friday

54 / 29



Chance of morning rain showers

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

Nichols wins; levies pass

By Jayson Jacoby
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Bruce Nichols earned a second 4-year term on the Baker County Board of Commissioners in Tuesday's election, and county voters extended a pair of property tax levies, one to control noxious weeds and the other to combat mosquitoes.

In unofficial results from the

County Clerk's office, Nichols received 3,470 votes (62.2%) to Loran Joseph's 2,083 votes (37.4%).

Joseph, who is Baker City's mayor, was the only candidate to challenge Nichols, who was elected to his current term in 2016.



Nichols

"I am very appreciative of everybody who supported me," Nichols said Wednesday morning.

Nichols said he was pleased with his margin of victory.

He said he was nervous as he awaited election returns, wondering



Joseph

if Joseph's prominence as mayor in Baker City, where 60% of the county's residents live, would give Joseph an advantage.

Nichols said he believes he benefited from his experience. "I think that was a big deciding factor," said Nichols, 68, who's a CPA.

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Baker County Library's Drive-Up Window Reopens



Lisa Britton / For the Baker City Herald

Robert Bennett collects his reserved books from John Brockman at the Baker County Public Library Tuesday. The library's drive-up window reopened Monday.

Books Return

By Lisa Britton
For the Baker City Herald

Baker City missed books. "We've had a steady stream of cars coming through — very happy patrons," Perry Stokes, library director, said on Monday.

That was the day Baker County Public Library, 2400 Resort St., opened its drive-up window after being closed since March 28. Services are limited to library inventory. Interlibrary loans are not yet available.

To request books, patrons can either place a hold online at www.bakerlib.org, or call the library at 541-523-6419.

The drive-up hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Book returns are quarantined for seven days after receiving a strong UV light treatment.

Stokes said information varies from three days to five days for how

long a virus can survive on a book surface. They decided seven days for an extra precaution.

Stokes said Monday also brought phone calls asking when the library would reopen its doors.

He said the tentative date is June 1 for limited use. This includes appointments to use the computers with only five users at one time, and limited browsing to five small family groups at a time.

"Not full services, but a step in the right direction," he said.

Stokes said the library generally has 10 employees on site. Add five patrons on computers and another 10 browsing the stacks, and that gets to the limit of 25 people.

Patrons who come to search for books will need to sign in, receive a time limit, then sign out before leaving.

In-person storytime is still on hold, but Missy Grammon has been livestreaming storytime on the

library's Facebook page.

The summer reading program planning is still in process, but will likely combine outdoor and online activities.

As he looks ahead, Stokes projects the library's cleaning budget will increase.

"We'll more than double the janitorial budget for next year," he said.

Although not set, he said the hours for the limited reopening in June will probably be the same as the current drive-up hours.

The branch libraries will have different schedules and services. For details, here are the numbers for each branch:

- Haines Library: 541-856-3309
- Halfway Library: 541-742-5279
- Huntington Library: 541-869-2440
- Richland Library: 541-893-6088
- Sumpter Library: 541-894-2253

Each branch also has a Facebook page.

BAKER SCHOOLS

Witty hopes for 'in-person' fall classes

By Chris Collins
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With an optimistic eye to the future, Superintendent Mark Witty told budget committee members Tuesday night that he thinks the Baker School District can expect classes to return to "in-person school" in the coming year.

But that doesn't mean it will be the same system that was in place just two months ago before Gov. Kate Brown ordered schools closed for the remainder of the year and implemented "distance learning for all."

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Soggy storm sets a record

By Jayson Jacoby
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Wednesday was the wettest day at the Baker City Airport in almost 5 years.

But that's not the only way to gauge the significance of the day's soggy.

Wednesday also crammed more rainfall into its 24 hours than any of the previous 7 months managed.

Actually Wednesday didn't need even half those hours to pull off the feat.

By 8 a.m. the day's total of 0.41 of an inch had already surpassed the monthly total for every month since September 2019.

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OTEC awards \$5,000 scholarships to 6 locals

Four graduating Baker High School seniors and two returning college students are among the 22 to receive \$5,000 college scholarships from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative.

Baker County recipients are 2020 BHS graduates Guadalupe Macias, Sam McCauley, Isabelle Wachtel and Naomi Woodward.

Koedi Birmingham, who attends Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, and Quinn Coomer, a student at Corban University in Salem, were

among returning college students to receive the scholarships.

This year, four students were the first to receive a new scholarship through the OTEC-EOU Rural Scholarship Program, an OTEC press release stated.

The new scholarship pays all tuition and fees at EOU if the student commits to graduating from the La Grande university.

The four recipients of that scholarship are La Grande High School

graduates Josie Bornstedt and Nathan Reed, Emily Inselman, a Burns High School graduate, and Andrew Lusco, of Grant Union High School at John Day.

"By allocating four of our scholarships to this program and leveraging a matched investment from EOU we can invest into our local communities directly," Les Penning, OTEC's CEO, stated in the press release.

The scholarship also allows the electric cooperative to support local students and "return value to OTEC

member-owners through the internship projects that the students will complete throughout their four years at EOU," Penning said.

Scholarship applicants must be active OTEC members in good standing with the co-op or a dependent of such members to qualify. Scholarships are funded by capital credits.

Recipients of the trade school and lineman school scholarships will be announced in June, the press release stated.



TODAY
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SATURDAY — SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW: GETTING INTO GEOCACHING