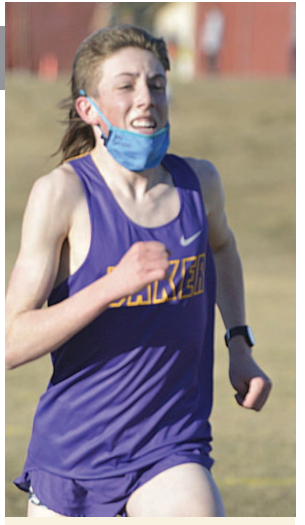


# Baker City Herald

March 16, 2021

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Justin Ash

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Home & Living • Sports

\$1.50

### QUICK HITS

#### Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber David Bowers of Baker City.

#### Sports, 5A

Baker's volleyball team started strong against Vale and showed its resilience with a late rally, but the Bulldogs couldn't overcome the Vikings on their home court, losing a five-set match on Friday, March 12.

#### Sports, 5A

Baker's boys soccer team played even with the unbeaten La Grande Tigers on Friday, March 12 for almost the entire first half.

Then came the penalty kick. La Grande was awarded that kick with about seven minutes left in the first half of a scoreless match.

The Tigers converted the kick into the match's first goal, and that gave La Grande momentum that led to a 3-0 lead at halftime and, eventually, a 6-0 win.

### BRIEFING

#### Vector Control District board to meet Thursday

The Baker Valley Vector Control District board of directors will meet Thursday, March 18 at 11 a.m. at the District office near the Baker City Airport, 19611 S. Airport Lane. The meeting will be livestreamed, and the link is available at bv-cvd.org. The district oversees mosquito control.

### WEATHER

Today 48 / 27 Partly sunny

Wednesday 60 / 39 Mostly cloudy

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

# County No. 2 in COVID shots

■ Among Oregon's 36 counties, only the smallest, Wheeler, is vaccinating residents at a higher rate

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Baker County had the biggest day of its COVID-19 vaccination effort on Friday, March 12.

A total of 791 doses were administered that day, according to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

Most of those doses — 717 — were given by the Baker County Health Department either during a clinic at Baker High School or, later in the

day, at the Health Department.

Baker County's previous one-day record for giving vaccines was 746 doses on Feb. 26. The Health Department also had a major clinic that day at the high school.

As of Monday, March 15, Baker County's vaccination rate, per 10,000 residents, ranked second among Oregon's 36 counties.

See Vaccine / Page 3A

### Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Receives Recognition



Saint Alphonsus Medical Center/Contributed Photo

Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City was recently named a top 11 critical access hospital.

# Hospitals Honored

#### The (La Grande) Observer

Three Northeast Oregon hospitals, including Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Baker City, have received recognition as top critical access hospitals.

The Chartis Group, which provides comprehensive advisory services and analytics to the health care industry, recently released its annual list of Top 100 critical access hospitals.

Saint Alphonsus, along with Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande and

Wallowa Memorial Hospital in Enterprise, made the list.

Oregon has 25 critical access hospitals, according to a press release from Grande Ronde Hospital, and the three Northeast Oregon hospitals are the only ones in the state on the list for 2021. All three hospitals also are regulars on the list.

Saint Alphonsus has been in the top 100 five consecutive years.

Grande Ronde has received the recognition five times since its first

such designation, in 2011. Wallowa Memorial Hospital reported that it has earned the designation eight out of the 11 years and five years consecutively.

According to ruralhealthinfo.org, there are 1,350 critical access hospitals nationwide in the nation. The Chartis Group listing, then, places the trio of Northeast Oregon hospitals in the top 7.4% of their peers.

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# Trooper rams vehicle going wrong way

By Jayson Jacoby  
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A Missoula, Montana, man is in the Baker County Jail on multiple charges after he drove the wrong way on Interstate 84 and collided with an Oregon State Police trooper who was trying to find the wrong-way driver Friday afternoon, March 12.

Sr. Trooper Andrew McClay was evaluated at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City and released, according to an OSP press release.

The driver, Logan Raye Clinkenbeard, 28, sustained minor injuries and was treated at the hospital.



Clinkenbeard

Clinkenbeard is charged with second-degree attempted assault, reckless driving and reckless endangerment.

See Wrong Way / Page 3A

# Preparing for possible trouble

■ Autumn Swiger-Harrell, who grew up in Baker City, works in a hospital just three blocks from the building where Derek Chauvin is on trial

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Autumn Swiger-Harrell isn't involved in America's most notorious current criminal trial, but she only has to step outside her workplace to see its effects.

That step is necessary because plywood temporarily blocks the windows.

Swiger-Harrell, who grew up in Baker City and graduated from Baker High School in 1993, works as a physician assistant in the emergency room at the Hennepin County Medical Center in downtown Minneapolis.

The hospital is about three blocks from the building where jury selection is continuing in the trial of Derek Chauvin.

Chauvin is the former Minneapolis police officer accused of murder and manslaughter in the May 25, 2020, death of George Floyd.



Swiger-Harrell



Autumn Swiger-Harrell/Contributed Photo

Plywood protects the windows at the emergency department of the Hennepin County Medical Center in downtown Minneapolis.

Floyd's death, which came after Chauvin had pressed his knee to Floyd's death for about nine minutes, prompted a series of protests and riots in Minneapolis and many other American cities

that continued for several months.

In anticipation of demonstrations and potential violence during and after Chauvin's trial, officials in Minneapolis have installed

barricades and boarded up windows at many buildings, including the hospital where Swiger-Harrell has worked for the past year and a half.

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THURSDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE