

# Baker City Herald

March 30, 2021

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In SPORTS, 5A

## Bulldogs dominate Ontario

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Home & Living • Sports

\$1.50

### QUICK HITS

#### Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Greg Boruch of Baker City.

#### Local, 3A

**NORTH POWDER** — The North Powder Rural Fire Protection District welcomed the first day of spring, Saturday, March 20, with an open house of its new fire station. Dozens of people attended the event — which included free hamburgers, sodas and desserts — and liked what they saw.

#### Sports, 6A

**TAMPA, Fla.** — Damian Lillard helped Portland surge ahead in the third quarter. CJ McCollum finished the job in the closing minutes as the Trail Blazers beat the Toronto Raptors 122-117 on Sunday night, March 28.

### BRIEFING

#### Baker City Council, county commissioners to meet Wednesday

The Baker City Council and the Baker County commissioners will have a joint meeting Wednesday, March 31, at 6 p.m. at the Baker County Event Center, 2600 East St. The agenda includes updates on the 911 dispatch center, Economic Development Committee, lodging taxes and the city's and county's shares from the American Rescue Plan Act. Citizens are invited to attend the meeting. Masks and social distancing will be required.

### WEATHER

#### Today

50 / 23



Sunny

#### Wednesday

62 / 32



Sunny

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

# From sizzle to shiver

■ After record-tying high of 75 on Sunday, a cold front brought chilly air and wind gusts up to 59 mph

By Jayson Jacoby  
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A powerful storm barged into Baker County Sunday night, March 28, rapidly replacing the summer preview that prevailed earlier in the day with chilly wind gusts more typical of winter.

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Lisa Britton/For the Baker City Herald

Wind uprooted this fir tree Sunday night along Campbell Street between 11th and 12th streets.



### COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic At Baker High School



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Lisa Weichbrodt receives her second dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine during a clinic Friday, March 26, at Baker High School. About 450 people got their second shot during the clinic.

# Second Shots

By Samantha O'Conner  
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About 450 Baker County residents had their second dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine Friday during the Baker County Health Department's third major clinic at Baker High School.

Nancy Staten, the health department's director, said another 108 people had their first dose administered. Staten said 91 volunteers helped put on the clinic, which followed similar events on Feb. 26 and March 12.

Mary Tomlinson, who was getting her second dose, said she doesn't plan on making any immediate changes to her lifestyle.

"I will wait for two weeks and then I will follow CDC guidelines and meet with those who've had two shots also and who I know are careful," Tomlinson said. "We're going to wait a while before doing things like indoor gatherings with people we don't know. That still seems unsafe."

Judith Lutz, who also received her second dose at the clinic, said that although she spends much of her time at home, she feels relieved about being fully vaccinated.



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Mary Tomlinson, left, received her second dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on Friday, March 26 at Baker High School.

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# Virus case rate highest since January

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Baker County's rate of new COVID-19 cases has risen over the past week or so to the highest level in more than two months.

For the seven-day period, March 22-28, the county recorded 33 new cases.

That's the most in a week since the county had 55 new cases from Jan. 9-15.

Nancy Staten, director of the Baker County Health Department, said the trend isn't connected to any large outbreaks.

"The county's case numbers rose last week, mostly due to small groups of connected cases tied to social gatherings," Staten said. "I hope the community is not becoming complacent about spreading the virus. I encourage everyone to keep taking precautions to protect each other, and to get vaccinated as you become eligible. Anyone interested in a vaccination can call us or sign up on the County's COVID-19 website. I really think that's the way we're finally going to move through this."

The county's website is [www.bakercountycovid19.com](http://www.bakercountycovid19.com). The vaccine phone number is 541-523-0015.

The past week's trend was driven in part by 10 new cases reported on March 24. That's the highest one-day total since 11 cases on Jan. 15.

Baker County, which as of Monday, March 29, had recorded 731 cases since the pandemic started a little more than a year ago, had posted declining rates of infection since mid-January.

The county's daily average dropped from 6.3 per day in December to 3.4 in January and to 2.5 in February.

March's daily average had been running at about 1.9 new cases per day through March 22.

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TODAY  
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THURSDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE