



Baker City Herald

April 17, 2021

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In SPORTS, 5A
Track/field
season
begins

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Outdoors • Sports • TV

\$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Alisa Anderson of Baker City.

Sports, 5A

Baker used a furious last-inning rally to beat Grant Union/Prairie City 14-10 in the Bulldogs' season-opening baseball game Wednesday, April 14 at John Day.

Baker, trailing 10-6 entering the seventh inning, scored eight runs to take the lead.

BRIEFING

Baker City working on housing needs analysis

Baker City residents are invited to share their thoughts about the city's housing needs for the next 20 years as part of a needs analysis.

The Baker City Planning Department has scheduled an open house on the topic for Monday, April 19. Residents have two options for participating:

- Zoom meeting, 3:30 p.m. To access the meeting, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81819675944>. Or call 1-253-215-8782 and use meeting ID 818 1967 5944.

- Attend an open house at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall, 1655 First St.

WEATHER

Today
68 / 31

Sunny
Sunday
75 / 40

Sunny
Monday
61 / 27

Sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

Forest Service Lights Prescribed Fire At Phillips Reservoir

Friendly Flames

■ Thursday's controlled blaze designed to reduce risk of future fires



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

Alex McDonald, left, and Nick Schramm, both members of the La Grande Hot Shots firefighting crew, talk tactics during a prescribed fire at Phillips Reservoir on Thursday, April 15.

By Jayson Jacoby
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They wind their way between the pines like wraiths, dripping dollops of fire with each stride.

Smoke, and the blurring effect of rising waves of heat, combine to obscure the figures.

But their bright yellow shirts, made of fire-resistant cloth, are visible as they bob along, rather

like nightflies flitting among the ponderosas and the sage and the occasional clump of bitterbrush.

The firefighters are here on the north side of Phillips Reservoir on the blue-sky morning of Thursday, April 15 with multiple goals to accomplish with their flaming torches and their flat-bladed tools designed

to scrape away the forest duff to mineral soil.

One reason they're here, while a few scraps of snow still shelter in the north-facing gullies, is to reduce the chances that they'll have to come back on a scorching day in July or August.

See Fire/Page 3A



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

A La Grande Hot Shot firefighter uses a drip torch to ignite dry grass on Thursday, April 15.

County reports COVID death

■ 71-year-old woman who died on April 14 is the 14th county resident to die after testing positive for the virus

By Jayson Jacoby
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A 71-year-old Baker County woman who died on Wednesday, April 14 at a Boise hospital is the 14th county resident to die after testing positive for COVID-19, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) reported.

The woman, who tested positive on April 7, died at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. She had underlying conditions, according to OHA.

"This loss weighs heavy on all of us," Nancy Staten, director of the Baker County Health Department, said in a press release. "The Health Department staff all sends our condolences to those who knew her."

See COVID/Page 6A

City removes trash from property

By Jayson Jacoby
and Samantha O'Conner
Baker City Herald

For the fourth time in four years, Baker City has removed trash and other debris from a property on the east side of town.

The city also cited the resident, Lucas Gwin, for violating the city's property maintenance ordinance, said Lt. Ty Duby of the Baker City Police.

The latest incident happened on Wednesday, April 14.

See Trash/Page 6A

North Powder students back home for now

■ Students taking online classes until April 26 due to COVID cases, exposure

By Corey Kirk
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Students in the North Powder School District will take classes online through April 22 because as many as 30 students were potentially exposed to COVID-19.

The school district announced on Wednesday, April 14 that students would return to distance learning on Thursday, April 15.

North Powder students, who have a four-day school week, will continue to take online classes next week, April 19-22.

They are slated to return to in-person classes on Monday, April 26. The district has about 280 students.

See Students/Page 2A



TODAY
Issue 145, 14 pages

Classified.....2B-4B
Comics.....5B
Community News....3A

Crossword.....2B & 4B
Dear Abby.....6B
Horoscope.....3B & 4B

Jayson Jacoby.....4A
News of Record.....2A
Obituaries.....2A

Opinion.....4A
Outdoors...1B, 2B & 6B
Sports.....5A

Senior Menus.....2A
Turning Backs.....2A
Weather.....6B

TUESDAY — LODGING TAX WORK GROUP CONTINUES TO MEET