



In OUTDOORS, 1B  
Spring  
snowpack  
pilgrimage

# Baker City Herald

April 24, 2021

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QUICK HITS

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscriber Deborah Penning of Baker City.

BRIEFING

**Kindergarten registration set**

Registration for incoming kindergarten students will be held in small groups this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Reservations for a specific time are required. Face coverings are also required.

Registration includes an opportunity to meet the kindergarten teachers, an informational session for parents, and a classroom visit for the child. Please bring your child's birth certificate, immunization record, and information about custody issues.

Available dates and times:

- Friday, May 14: 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 18: 4 p.m.
- Thursday, May 20: 5 p.m.

All sessions are at the Baker Early Learning Center, 2725 7th St. in Baker City. To reserve a time, call 541-524-2310. For more information, email angela.lattin@bakersd.org.

WEATHER

Today

54 / 34



Rain showers

Sunday

52 / 28



Cloudy

Monday

54 / 25



Cloudy

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

## COVID ages trend younger

■ About one-third of cases over past month in Baker County are people younger than 40

By Jayson Jacoby  
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Almost half of Baker County's COVID-19 cases during the past month, when the case rate more than tripled, are people younger than 50, the age range with much lower vaccination

rates compared with older residents.

Meanwhile the rate of infections among people 70 and older, the age group with the highest vaccination rate, has been declining, according to statistics from the Baker County Health Department.

Nancy Staten, the department's director, said the latter trend shows that vaccines are effective at protecting older residents, who are most likely to die or have severe health effects.

See COVID/Page 5A

### The Main Frontier Restaurant Is Open In Haines



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Owner Kari Raffety and employee Amanda Daugherty check the computer system during a recent lunch at the Main Frontier restaurant in Haines.

## Two Towns, Two Restaurants

By Lisa Britton  
lbritton@bakercityherald.com

HAINES — When state COVID-19 mandates forced Kari Raffety to temporarily close The Main Event Sports Bar and Eatery in Baker City, she set to work on a pandemic project.

Raffety opened another restaurant in another town.

But at least there's only 10 miles between the two.

Raffety owns The Main Event with her dad, Jay Raffety.

In the midst of the pandemic, they decided to buy the former Frontier Restaurant in downtown Haines.

"It's such a huge space with so much potential," Kari said. "We spent all Christmas (break) and January in here."

The space is divided in half with the restaurant on one side and the bar on the other with a pool table and a shuffleboard game.

The Raffetys installed new flooring and lighting, painted the ceiling, replaced tables and chairs, remodeled the bathrooms and added an ATM machine and lottery machines.

Jay also created a door in the north wall that will lead to a future outdoor seating area.

The Main Frontier opened Feb. 19 at 920 Front St. in Haines.

The Main Event, 1929 Main St. in Baker City, is open, too.

"They're like sisters," Kari said of the two restaurants.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

See Frontier/Page 2A Austin Villalobos prepares a takeout order at the Main Frontier.

## Wolf numbers rose 10% in 2020

By Jayson Jacoby  
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Oregon's wolf population grew by almost 10% during 2020, and 20 of the state's 22 wolf packs live in the northeast corner of the state.

Wolves from six of those packs include parts of Baker County in their range.

Those are among the statistics included in the annual wolf report released Wednesday, April 21 by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

The report is based on wolf statistics at the end of 2020.

ODFW officials confirmed that at least 173 wolves were in the state at that time, an increase of 9.5% from the 158 wolves tallied at the end of 2019. Those numbers are based on sightings, tracks and photographs from remote cameras, according to ODFW.

ODFW acknowledges that there are likely more than 173 wolves living in the state, as not all wolves are seen, or their presence confirmed by other evidence, during the annual winter census.

Although two wolf packs and two other groups of wolves are living in the Cascade Mountains or in Central Oregon, a large majority of the state's wolves inhabit the northeast corner.

See Wolves/Page 6A

## Drilling done on city's well

By Jayson Jacoby and Samantha O'Conner  
Baker City Herald

Baker City's new drinking water well is finished, but considerably more work is needed before it starts putting water into pipes.

The city's contract, Schneider Water Services of St. Paul, near Salem, finished drilling the well last week, said Michelle Owen, the city's public works director.

The company drilled down 654 feet at the site on the east side of the parking lot at the city-owned Quail Ridge Golf Course at 2801 Indiana Ave., Owen said.

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TODAY  
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TUESDAY — RESULTS FROM DRIVE-THRU COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC