

Baker City Herald

June 3, 2021

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In SPORTS, 6A

Baker tops Vale

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine \$1.50



GO! Magazine

Weekly guide to arts and entertainment included with today's issue

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Rusty Little of Baker City.

Sports, 6A

DENVER — On Damian Lillard's record-breaking night when he was hitting one shot after another from behind the arc and almost beyond belief, it was Michael Porter Jr. who quietly sank the biggest basket of all.

MPJ's 3-pointer from the left corner barely fluttered the net with 1:33 left in the second overtime and proved the game-winner as the Denver Nuggets squelched an epic comeback by the Portland Trail Blazers with a 147-140 win Tuesday night in Game 5 of their best-of-seven playoff series.

Lillard's night included a franchise playoff record 55 points and NBA playoff record 12 3-pointers.

WEATHER

Today
92 / 55



Mostly sunny

Friday
84 / 48



Mostly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

New Owner Renovating Former Foursquare Church

Having A Fresh Start



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Gordon Holman is renovating the former Foursquare Church at Third Street and Court Avenue.

By Samantha O'Conner
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Gordon Holman hopes his efforts to restore a longtime church in Baker City will result in a congregation once again gathering inside to worship.

Holman bought the former Foursquare Church, at the corner of Court and Third streets, near the Baker County Courthouse, in November 2020.

He said the building, constructed in 1929, had been vacant for about four years.

Holman said that after he bought the structure he hoped representatives from a local church might approach him and propose to lease the building.

"I thought there was likely going to be interest in approaching me and talking about them getting involved and possibly leasing it since it would be much more doable if they did not have to have the burden of maintenance of a property that size and age," Holman said.

But when he didn't receive any such overtures, Holman rolled up his sleeves and got started on the renovations himself.

If he doesn't find a church interested in locating there, he plans to use the space for community activities and making it available for a variety of events.



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

Gordon Holman, who is renovating the former Foursquare Church, plans to install ADA-compliant ramps to make the basement accessible.

See **Renovation** / Page 3A

Bracing For A Potentially Busy Wildfire Season

Fire managers: threats from the sky, and on the ground

■ Lightning starts most fires in Northeastern Oregon, but human-caused blazes pose a serious risk as well, in part because they're impossible to predict

By Jayson Jacoby
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Noel Livingston and Joel McCraw ponder the coming fire season with not a small amount of dread.

In this sense the pair shares something in common with people across Oregon, and indeed across the West, whose task it is to deal with wildfires.

The combination of the drought afflicting much of the region, and fresh memories of the fires that destroyed sections of several towns and killed 11 people in western and southern Oregon in September 2020, is a troubling concoction.

But Livingston and McCraw, though their general concerns are typical of those in their business

at the cusp of another potentially fiery summer, have a perspective that's notably different, in one key respect, from some of their counterparts.

Livingston and McCraw work on the 2.3-million-acre Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

See **Fires** / Page 5A

Body of missing man found in river

The body of a Baker City man reported missing on May 25 was found in the Powder River near Hughes Lane Tuesday morning, June 1.



Rusty

The state medical examiner's officer confirmed Wednesday afternoon that the body was that of Raleigh David Rust, 46, Ashley McClay, public information officer for the Baker County Sheriff's Office, wrote in an email to the Baker City Herald.

McClay didn't have the cause of death, but she said foul play was not involved.

See **Missing** / Page 3A

Wolves kill calf near Keating

Wolves from the Keating pack killed a four-month-old calf on a private pasture north of Keating Valley last weekend, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) said.

A ranch employee checking cattle the morning of Monday, May 31, found the dead calf, which had been dragged under a fence. The carcass was about 12 feet outside the fence for the 400-acre private pasture.

The carcass was intact and had not been scavenged, according to an ODFW report. An ODFW biologist who examined the carcass Monday estimated the calf had died 24 to 36 hours earlier.

See **Wolves** / Page 3A

Bike for the Health of It event June 13

By Lisa Britton
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Bicycle riders of all ages are invited to a one-day Bike for the Health of It event on Sunday, June 13.

It is sponsored by The Trailhead, in partnership with Baker School District.

The event will be held at Central Park in Baker City from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Central Park is just east of Resort Street, between Washington and Valley avenues.)

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SATURDAY — TWO BROTHERS, TWO BHS CLASSES, ONE PANDEMIC