

Baker City Herald

June 19, 2021

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In SPORTS, 6A

Baker boys win season finale

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Outdoors • Sports • TV

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Bill Lee of Baker City.

Oregon, 3A

State Sen. Lynn Findley, R-Vale, faces a potential recall effort.

Chief petitioner Patrick A. Kopke-Hales of Mt. Vernon filed a prospective recall petition with the Oregon Secretary of State's Office on Monday, June 14.

BRIEFING

Lloyd Nelson named Rotarian of the Year

Lloyd Nelson, who joined the Rotary Club on May 1, 1986, was named Rotarian of the Year for the Baker City Rotary Club.



Nelson

Nelson, who was also recognized for his 35 years of membership, served as the Baker City Rotary Club's president in 1991-92, 2017-18 and 2018-19, making him the longest-serving president since the local club was chartered on July 1, 1956. Nelson has served as chairman of the Rotary Club's Miners Jubilee buffalo burger committee since 2018.

WEATHER

Today 84 / 52



Sunny

Sunday 84 / 51



Sunny

Monday 92 / 58



Sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

Miners Jubilee, Bull And Bronc Riding Will Return In July

Back In The Saddle



S. John Collins/Baker City Herald File

The Pendleton Mounted Band entertained spectators during the 2019 Miners Jubilee parade.

By Joanna Mann
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Plans are in high gear for the 2021 Miners Jubilee weekend July 16, 17 and 18. The annual event, which was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic, is expected to draw record crowds.

Shelly Cutler, executive director of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, said the level of interest in this year's Jubilee seems to be "extremely high."

"I didn't know for sure if folks would feel comfortable coming out, but the park is almost full with vendors," Cutler said, referring to the food and craft vendors who will offer their wares at Geiser-Pollman Park. "I'm just so happy with the numbers that we have."

Some vendors, however, do not feel

comfortable returning just yet, so there are a few spots still available. Cutler said she has received several calls from people asking if the Jubilee is happening, leading her to believe that there will be a big boost in attendance this year.

Miners Jubilee celebrates Baker City's gold mining heritage with music, food and entertainment. The influx of tourists, including former residents returning to attend high school class reunions, benefits motels, restaurants and other local businesses, which is why the cancellation of last year's event was especially detrimental.

This year's event will run similarly to how it has in the past, with activities in the park from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

on Sunday. The theme is "Friends in Gold Places," which both recognizes the area's gold mining history and plays on the words of the Garth Brooks song, "Friends in Low Places."

There will be music all three days, entertainment for kids, the Lions Club annual breakfast on Friday and Saturday, the downtown parade on Saturday at 11 a.m., and the bronc riding competition Friday evening at the Fairgrounds, and bull riding Saturday evening.

"We're going to try to continue with the same routine we had in the past and look to do some extended events next year when we really have no guidelines," Cutler said.

See Jubilee/Page 3A

Drought keeping mosquitoes at bay

Populations of the pests are below average in part due to a scarcity of water

By Jayson Jacoby
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Drought causes all sorts of problems, but at least one affected group isn't likely to engender any sympathy for its plight.

Mosquitoes.

The pesky bugs spend their pre-flying days in water, so drought tends to limit their numbers, said Matt Hutchinson, manager of the Baker Valley Vector Control District.

Hutchinson is respon-

sible for controlling mosquitoes in a 200,000-acre, property tax-funded district that includes Baker City as well as much of Baker, Bowen and Keating valleys.

Hutchinson said the unusually dry spring —

rainfall since March 1 is about 37% of average at the Baker City Airport — has had a noticeable effect on mosquito populations in the district.

See Mosquitoes/Page 3A

Eagle Cap Innovative High School

Graduates grateful for option

By Lisa Britton
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Caleb Hawkins and Evelyn Bedolla found their preferred type of educational experience at Eagle Cap Innovative High School.

Both graduated in early June — Bedolla with valedictorian honors, and Hawkins receiving the Award of Merit.

"It was kinda surprised I got it," Hawkins said. "It encourages me to

try new things."

Part of the Baker School District, Eagle Cap is designed so students work through core subjects with the flexibility to work on their own schedule. Some students choose to take courses entirely online, while others pair online courses with classes on campus at Baker High School or Baker Middle School.

Bedolla liked the smaller class sizes.



Hawkins

"It was better for my mental health to be in a smaller classroom," she said. "And you can go through at your own pace. Eagle Cap made it easy for me to do that."

Hawkins liked the flexibility of completing schoolwork when it fit his life.

"I'd often do math the second half of the day," he said. "I didn't want to start my day off with math."

Bedolla preferred studying at night.

See Graduates/Page 2A



S. John Collins/Baker City Herald File
Leo Adler

Leo's day

Monday, June 21 is the birthday of Leo Adler, Baker City's beloved benefactor who died in 1993

By Lisa Britton
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The Baker Heritage Museum is honoring Baker City's most famous philanthropist with a celebration on his birthday.

Monday, June 21, is designated as Leo Adler Day in honor of Adler, who left \$20 million to benefit Baker County in the form of community grants and college scholarships.

See Leo/Page 2A

Witty to retire, but stay with 5J district

By Samantha O'Conner
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Mark Witty, superintendent of the Baker 5J School District since 2015, will officially retire on July 1 but he plans to continue to lead the district for two more years.

The school board — with two of its five members absent and a third recusing himself from voting — approved Witty's proposal Thursday evening, June 17.

This arrangement — continuing to work for a public agency after retiring — is possible for members of the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). They can begin to receive their pension benefits while still receiving a salary from a public employer.

Witty told the board that he plans to retire from PERS on July 1, but that he's willing to work as superintendent under contract for two more years.

See Witty/Page 2A



TODAY
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Dear Abby.....6B

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News of Record.....2A

Obituaries.....2A
Opinion.....4A
Outdoors.....1B & 6B

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Turning Backs.....2A
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TUESDAY — CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM FOR AILING LOCAL BIGHORN SHEEP