



In SPORTS, A6 US men's basketball stunned

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Jay Raffety of Baker City.

Local, A3

MEDICAL SPRINGS — The Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District has received a \$9,400 grant from The Wildhorse Foundation to replace old tires on three of the district's trucks.

One of those trucks, a water tender, has 10 large tires, said Judy Whitley of the district, which covers an area around the Baker-Union county border northeast of Baker City.

Local, A3

MEACHAM — Road work being conducted on Interstate 84 between Meacham and Spring Creek this summer is a tale of fire and ice.

Oregon Department of Transportation crews and workers contracted by the state agency are laboring under the blazing summer sun while doing paving work designed to make driving in icy winter conditions safer.

Sports, A6

YOKOHAMA, Japan — Kelsey Stewart has a knack for walk-off hits in Japan.

Stewart hit a game-ending home run leading off the seventh inning, and the United States rallied late to beat Japan 2-1 Monday and win the Olympic softball group stage — and with it the right to bat last in the gold medal game.

WEATHER

Today 90 / 57 Sunny

Wednesday 92 / 55 Mostly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

Saint Alphonsus Recertified As Gold Safe Sleep Champion

Safer Sleeping



Sommer Sargent/Contributed Photo

A display at Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City includes information about the safest way for infants to sleep — on their back in a crib or bassinet with a sleep sack rather than blankets.

By Lisa Britton

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Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City has received recertification as a Gold Safe Sleep Champion with the Cribs for Kids program.

A community coalition formed in 2015 to promote safe sleep practices for infants in response to a number of local co-sleeping deaths. The hospital received certification in 2016.

To maintain the program, Saint Alphonsus must submit annual data on safe sleep education and outreach

conducted in the community in the past year, said Sommer Sargent, who is OB supervisor, Clinical Coordinator Supervisor, and Resource RN Supervisor at Saint Alphonsus.

"Anything that shows we are out in the community advocating about safe sleep," she said.

Every five years, the hospital must submit an application for recertification, which is essentially like applying for the initial certification.

"It's basically starting over," Sargent said.

In the recertification letter, received July 1, Saint Alphonsus was complimented by the Cribs for Kids program:

"Your hospital's leadership and healthcare team members' commitment to best practices and education supporting safe infant sleep is commendable."

To remain at the gold level, Sargent said the hospital will continue the education and outreach practices already in place.

See Safe Sleep / Page A3

Idaho Power plans maintenance work on major transmission line

Utility will replace poles, other parts of line between Baker City and John Day

By Jayson Jacoby

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Idaho Power Company is preparing for a major maintenance project on its 70-mile transmission line between Baker City and John Day.

Work is scheduled to start in mid-September and continue for about two months, said Mitch Colburn, vice president of planning, engineering and construction for the investor-owned utility in Boise.

The project will cost about \$800,000, Colburn said. The 138-kilovolt transmission line was built in 1967. The line connects Idaho to the rest of the Pacific Northwest power grid, allowing electricity to move between the two regions, Colburn said.

During the summer, when power demand peaks in the Intermountain West, the Baker City-John Day line brings electricity into Idaho, he said.

See Power / Page A5

Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Idaho Power Company plans to replace poles and other equipment this fall on its transmission line between Baker City and John Day. This three-pole tower, south of Phillips Reservoir, has a raptor nest platform above the center pole to keep birds from contacting the power lines.



Baker schools working on plan for fall

Officials haven't decided on policy for masks, social distancing, cohorts

By Jayson Jacoby

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Baker School District students and parents won't know until some time in August which COVID-19 rules will be in place when classes start Aug. 30.

District officials will meet later this week with the Baker County Health Department to discuss issues such as face masks, social distancing and dividing students into groups — cohorts — Lindsey McDowell, the school district's public information and communications coordinator, said on Monday, July 26.

See Schools / Page A5

ODFW probes 2 more possible wolf attacks

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is investigating two more possible wolf attacks on cattle in the Lookout Mountain area of eastern Baker County.

See Wolves / Page A5

Baker Rural Fire District seeks station

By Samantha O'Conner

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The Baker Rural Fire Protection District is hoping to buy a building and property in the Elkhorn View Industrial Park in northwest Baker City to serve as the district's primary fire station.

The district, which provides fire protection to parts of Baker Valley, is asking Baker County Commissioners to guarantee a loan the district is pursuing.

The district is also seeking financial help from Baker City, including approximately \$100,000 for the down payment, or a lease arrangement.

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