

Baker City Herald

July 31, 2021

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Local • Outdoors • Sports • TV

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Andrew Bryan of Baker City.

Oregon, A3

COVID-19 vaccination rates drop significantly outside of the Portland metro area, according to results of an Oregon Values and Beliefs Center survey. The online survey of Oregon residents showed the three counties making up the Portland area had a 77% vaccination rate. In the survey, 42% of those surveyed said they had not received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Local, A3

Keller Williams Four Rivers real estate has welcomed its three Baker City agents: Shannon Downing, Kristen McAdams and Jeff Anderson.

BRIEFING

Baker County Garden Club's annual auction, meeting set for Aug. 4

The Baker County Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 4 at 10:30 a.m. for the annual auction and meeting at the Daugherty home, 995 J St. Please bring auction items from your garden or extra items from home, along with a sack lunch and beverage.

WEATHER

Today
89 / 62
Showers likely

Sunday
79 / 60
Showers, storms

Monday
81 / 51
Partly sunny

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

Permit Allows Up To 4 Wolves From Lookout Mountain Pack To Be Killed

State Issues Wolf Kill Permit



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife/Contributed Photo

A trail cam photo from May 30, 2021, of one of the two yearling wolves in the Lookout Mountain pack.

By Jayson Jacoby
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The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on Thursday, July 29 authorized a Baker County ranching couple, or their designated agents, to kill up to four wolves from the Lookout Mountain pack, not including the pack's breeding male and female.

Wolves from that pack have attacked the ranchers' cattle four times since July 13 in eastern Baker

County, killing two animals and injuring two others.

The permit also allows ODFW employees to kill wolves from that pack. The permit expires Aug. 21, or when cattle are removed from the area where the attacks have happened, whichever comes first.

Baker County Commissioner Mark Bennett asked ODFW Director Curt Melcher earlier this week to allow the killing of wolves from the Lookout Mountain pack.

Bennett, who is chairman of the county's wolf committee, sent the written request on behalf of himself and the two other commissioners, Bill Harvey and Bruce Nichols, on Tuesday, July 27.

This is the first lethal take permit ODFW has issued since June 2018, for a wolf pack in Wallowa County, said Michelle Dennehy, a spokesperson for the agency.

See Wolves / Page A3

Group fights school masks

■ New Facebook group opposes mandate that students wear masks this fall

By Jayson Jacoby
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The same day Oregon Gov. Kate Brown announced that students and staff in schools will have to wear masks when classes start this fall, a new Facebook group was created in Baker County as a forum for people who object to the mask mandate.

The group is called "Baker City Parents Against School Mask Mandates."

It was started on Thursday, July 29, 2021, and by 2 p.m. on July 30, the group had 811 members.

It's a private group, meaning people who want to post comments or to read others' comments have to request admission from the group administrator.

Brown announced the mask requirement Thursday morning, citing a recent surge in cases driven by the delta variant.

See Masks / Page A6

Shrine organizers planning for busy weekend

■ Football game fundraiser for Shriners Hospital in Portland, parade, return after 2020 cancellation

By Lisa Britton
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Randy Guyer expects a larger crowd than normal for this year's East-West All-Star Shrine Football Game festivities following the cancellation of the 2020 event.

"I think we'll have an even better turnout," he said.

Everything happens on Saturday, Aug. 7.

And it all benefits the Shriners Hospital for Children in Portland.

The parade, which starts at 11 a.m., will be livestreamed by EOAlive — see it online at <https://eoalive.tv/>.

Guyer said more community parade entries are needed to complement the Shrine clubs that, in the past, have brought creative vehicles

such as motorized bath tubs or tiny ATVs.

Parade entries need to be submitted by today.

For information, contact Guyer at randy@guyercpa.net or 541-519-8866, or Fred Warner at fwarner6196@gmail.com or 541-519-6704.

Parade line up is at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 7.

Gridiron Tailgate

The Baker County Cattlewomen and Baker County Livestock Association will serve up a steak and pancake breakfast to kick off the sixth-annual Gridiron Tailgate and Grill in Geiser-Pollman Park.

See Shrine / Page A2



Kathy Orr / Baker City Herald File, 2019

Baker's Justin Miller, No. 20, at lower right in red jersey, attempts to tackle the West's Cooper Blodgett during the East-West Shrine All-Star Football Game in August 2019 at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ISSUES FLASH FLOOD WATCH FOR BAKER COUNTY THROUGH MONDAY, AUG. 2

Sizzling July could have a soggy conclusion

By Jayson Jacoby
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What's likely to be the hottest month on record at the Baker City Airport might conclude with a very different sort of record-breaking event.

A very soggy one.

The National Weather Service has issued a flash

flood watch for Baker County, in effect from Saturday afternoon, July 31, through Monday afternoon, Aug. 2.

A watch means that conditions conducive to flash flooding are possible, but flooding is not imminent.

The Weather Service notes that flash flooding is more likely in steep terrain and

on areas recently burned by wildfires, which denude the ground of vegetation that soaks up rain and slows the flow of water.

An influx of monsoon moisture from the Southwest could trigger torrential downpours — including potential thunderstorms — throughout the weekend.

"Increasing monsoon moisture and an unstable airmass will result in showers and thunderstorms with heavy rain and high rainfall rates," the Weather Service noted in the flash flood watch.

The potential for heavy rain is highest on Sunday, according to the Weather Service.

If the forecast proves out, the storms could threaten three daily rainfall records at the Baker City Airport.

- The daily records:
 - July 31 — 0.27 of an inch, 1994
 - Aug. 1 — 0.66, 1976
 - Aug. 2 — 0.25, 1968

See Soggy / Page A2



TODAY
Issue 35, 12 pages

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Crossword..... B2 & B4
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TUESDAY — STATE TO CONSIDER CHANGES TO ELK ARCHERY HUNTING