

Baker City Herald

October 21, 2021

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GO!
EASTERN OREGON

With: **Wood** **Design** **Trail** **Ecological** **Heritage** **Forest**

Eastern Oregon Film Festival returns
Oct. 21-23

GO! Magazine
Your weekly guide to arts and entertainment events around Northeast Oregon

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine \$1.50

DROUGHT 2021
Taking a look at the aftermath of this year's unprecedented weather

AgriBusiness

INSIDE TODAY:

24-page special section examines the effects on farms and ranches in Northeastern Oregon of a year marked by severe drought and record-setting heat.

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Charles Carey of Baker City.

BRIEFING

BHS senior class planning party

The Baker High School senior class is raising money for its drug- and alcohol-free party. Find more information at bhs-seniorclass.com.

Woodland owners planning field tour

The newly revitalized Northeast Oregon chapter of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association is planning a free field tour at the Defrees Ranch in Sumpter Valley on Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Although admission and lunch are free, participants are required to register online at <https://beav.es/UYC>. The link also includes directions to the Defrees ranch and other details.

WEATHER

Today

66 / 48
Mostly sunny



Friday

56 / 34
Rain showers



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



CUSTOM Creations

Patrons can use two 3D printers at the Baker County Library to make a variety of items

Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

This pangolin took about 8 hours to finish on the 3D printer.

Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

A 3D printer uses melted plastic filament and a heated plate to build creations like this octopus.

By LISA BRITTON

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The machines are so quiet they're easy to overlook.

But on any given day, chances are the pair of new 3D printers at the Baker County Public Library are building something — an octopus, a ghost, maybe even a dragon.

Earlier this month, the library opened its new 3D printing service. The printers, which cost about \$160 each, were funded from the Maker's Club budget, said Heather Spry.

"This is a big thing that a lot of libraries are offering now," she said. The service is free to patrons.

A 3D printer works by using molten plastic filament to draw an image on a heated plate. It builds layer upon layer to create a shell and a honeycomb-like infill to lend strength to the structure.

Prior to opening the printers for public use, Spry experimented with projects to familiarize herself with the machines.

She's made a ghost-themed chess set, a pangolin that rolls into a ball, and a dragon with a long tail and wings stretched in flight.

But 3D printing isn't just for decorations.

When the library ran short on plastic hangers to secure the collection of DVD sleeves, Spry made some on the 3D printer.

"I designed my own and printed them," she said. "It took a lot of trial and error."

So far she's only had four patrons submit images to be printed.

Instructions are located near the machines, secure in a book-shaped container created on the 3D printer.

There are several options to find designs.

The website thingiverse.com has hundreds of free designs. Simply find the one you want and jot down the number.

For those who want to create an original design, Spry suggests the website tinkercad.com — a free 3D modeling program that has tutorials to help users learn the process.

Files need to be in the STL format and submitted on a USB drive at the library or by email to 3D@bakerlib.org.

The library also has a form to fill out for each submission.

The size of a project is limited by

the printer's area, and total print time can't exceed 10 or 11 hours. The reason for this, Spry said, is she wants to print when the library is open and staff are available in case the printer has a problem.

"I don't want to get halfway through someone's print and have it not work out," she said.

Signs warning people to not touch the printers are due to the heat, she said. The filament melts at nearly 400 degrees Fahrenheit, she said, and the printer bed is about 140 degrees.

She's ordered several colors of filament. Right now, one printer has a bronze-colored plastic, and the other is rainbow.

For more information about the 3D printer, stop by the library, 2400 Resort St., or call 541-523-6419.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Library patrons can browse ready-made designs or create their own on the 3D printers at the Baker County Library. For details, visit the library at 2400 Resort St. in Baker City.

Soggy stretch could relieve drought

By JAYSON JACOBY

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Baker County's weather forecast for the next several days is loaded with four-letter words.

One word in particular.

And it's a word typically more conspicuous by its absence in the local forecast than by its prevalence.

Rain.

Starting Thursday afternoon, Oct. 21, and continuing through at least Tuesday, Oct. 26, there's a chance of rain each day and night in the forecast from the National Weather Service.

And for several of those periods it's a pretty good chance, at 70% or 80%.

The Weather Service is calling for slightly more than one inch of rain in Baker City from Thursday through Tuesday, with higher amounts in the mountains.

For farmers and ranchers, a damp conclusion to October would be a most welcome interruption in the severe drought that plagues Baker County and all of Eastern Oregon.

One storm, even an unusually soggy storm, won't end the drought, said Jay Breidenbach, warning coordination meteorologist at the Weather Service's Boise office, which issues forecasts for Baker County.

See, Rain / Page A3

Bi-Mart pharmacist reflects on 21 years at Baker store

By JAYSON JACOBY

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Helen Loennig was there the day the pharmacy in the Baker City Bi-Mart store opened.

And she'll be there when it closes, more than 21 years later.

Loennig, a pharmacist and the pharmacy manager, said the store opened in August 2000.

See, Pharmacy / Page A3

Student singers return to the stage

Choirs performed Wednesday, and BHS band has concert set Oct. 28

By SAMANTHA O'CONNOR

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Some of Baker City's best young singers have returned to the stage for the first time

in more than a year and a half.

And their instrument-playing classmates will be performing soon as well.

With the pandemic having a major effect on choirs and bands in Baker schools, a concert on Wednesday evening, Oct. 20 featuring both the Baker High School and Baker

Middle School choirs, the first such performance since March 2020, brought a welcome sense of normalcy, said choir teacher Tanner Denne.

The students were also entertaining their families and friends without donning masks while on stage at the Baker High School auditorium.

"We've been rehearsing wearing masks all along and this is one of those exceptions that OHA and OSAA has made and, for the moment, when they're up there singing on stage they can have their masks off and we can see all those — hopefully — smiling faces," Denne said.

Audience members were

required to wear masks.

Denne said the student singers have been able to perform at graduation and smaller school events, but Wednesday's concert was the first in which students were encouraged to invite their family and friends.

The BHS band also has a concert scheduled for Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.



TODAY
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SATURDAY — CATCHING UP WITH BAKER'S WORLD SERIES CHAMPION