



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

# Baker City Herald

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**QUICK HITS**

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscribers Dan and Renece Forsea of Richland.

**BRIEFING**

**Benefit dinner, auction set for Anthony Leggett**

**NORTH POWDER** — A dinner and auction has been set for Thursday, Nov. 11 to help with medical expenses for Anthony Leggett and his family as he recovers from a severe case of COVID-19. The fundraiser is set from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the North Powder fire station. Auction items can be dropped off at AmeriTitle in Baker City. Call Wendy at 208-850-3803 or Eris at 541-403-4694 with questions.

Leggett, who is married with five children, contracted COVID-19 in August and, after collapsing at his home on Aug. 22, was taken to Saint Alphonsus Hospital in Boise. He was initially paralyzed from the neck down and was on kidney dialysis. He will soon be transferred to an ICU physical therapy facility in Boise.

**Holiday festival and bazaar set Nov. 20 at Halfway**

**HALFWAY** — A holiday festival and bazaar is planned for Saturday, Nov. 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Halfway Lions Club. There will be food, drinks and fun for all, with kids games and activities. For vendor space information, call Liz McCullough at 541-742-7892.

**WEATHER**

**Today**  
57 / 32  
Rain showers

**Friday**  
53 / 37  
Rain showers

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

## THE TOWNS THAT DROWNED

By **LISA BRITTON**

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Bob Reinhardt's master's thesis is growing into a full-fledged endeavor that he says will take years to complete.

Probably until he retires.

"It's a long-term project," he said.

It's also a project that involves a Baker County village that disappeared.

Reinhardt's work started 15 years ago at the University of Oregon when he began researching the old town of Detroit, along the North Santiam River in the Cascade foothills east of Salem.

Detroit disappeared beneath its namesake reservoir after a dam was built in the early 1950s.

While studying the history of Detroit, Reinhardt discovered more towns that had the same fate — including Robinette, at the eastern edge of Baker County.

"I had advisors who said there are dozens of these places in the American West," he said.

Reinhardt learned more about the topic during a stint as executive director at the Willamette Heritage Center in Salem.

"It gave me the opportunity to return to the topic," he said.

He's now in his fifth year at Boise State



Pete Basche/Baker County Library Historic Photo Collection

Robinette School classroom. From left: Charlene Whitely, Joan Robinette, Loretta Pollard, Petey Basche, Earl Robinette, Karen Whitely, Linda Buchanan, Betty Basche.

University, where he is an associate professor in the department of history.

He has named his project "The Atlas of Drowned Towns."

In 2020, he received a "digital project for public" discovery grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to help "recover and interpret the history of these towns that were displaced or disappeared," he said.

See, **Towns** / Page A3



Pete Basche/Baker County Library Historic Photo Collection

A view of Robinette looking south up the Snake River. The town at the eastern edge of Baker County was inundated by Brownlee Reservoir in 1958.

## Red Cross seeks donors for blood drive

By **JAYSON JACOBY**

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Baker County residents have been generous recently in donating blood, but Jake Reines said there's plenty of room for more.

Reines, a representative for the American Red Cross, said about 40 appointments are available for donors for a blood drive on Tuesday, Nov. 9 in Baker City.

"Tuesday has not filled up like I thought it would," Reines said.

Next week's blood drive is a two-day event — Monday, Nov. 8 and Tuesday at the Nazarene Church, 1250 Hughes Lane.

Monday's drive will run from noon to 6 p.m., and Tuesday's appointments are available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To schedule an appointment online, go to redcrossblood.org. Donors can also call Myrna Evans, the Baker City blood drive coordinator, at 541-523-5368.

Reines said the Red Cross added a second day in part because two October blood drives in Baker City, one at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and one at Baker High School, had such good turnouts.

The drive at the church yielded 55 pints of blood, and the BHS event collected about 50 pints, Reines said.

"Overall we are seeing more donors at Baker City drives," Reines said. "That's why I felt comfortable adding a second day."

The Red Cross' goal is to collect 130 pints during the two-day drive in Baker City, Reines said.

Donors and others participating in blood drives are required to wear face masks, regardless of their vaccination status.

Reines said false claims distributed on social media, that people who are vaccinated against COVID-19 can't donate, haven't seemed to diminish interest among donors.

Although the Red Cross previously tested donors' blood for COVID-19 antibodies, so their plasma could potentially be used to treat COVID-19 patients, those tests aren't being done now, Reines said.

## Motorcycle riders seek to help local residents

■ Patriot Hope Riders a new nonprofit group

By **JAYSON JACOBY**

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Whether it's an elderly resident who needs someone to chop firewood, or a military veteran with questions about benefits, the Patriot Hope Riders are ready to help.

The newly created organization of Baker County residents seeks to "fill in the gaps" when it comes to helping residents, said Joelene Griffin of Baker City, one of the founders.

The nonprofit's name reflects its members beliefs and interests, Griffin said.

"Our motto is basically faith, family and country," she said. "We're all very patriotic, and most of us are veterans."

See, **Riders** / Page A3

## Mother of missing teen: 'It's devastating'



Michelle Gately/Contributed Photo

Kaitlyn Gately

By **JAYSON JACOBY**

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Michelle Gately just wants to hear her daughter Kaitlyn's voice.

Even if Kaitlyn says she won't come home.

"I just want to know she's safe," Gately, of Baker City, said Wednesday morning, Nov. 3, five days after she last saw her 17-year-old daughter, Kaitlyn Rose Gately.

That was at Baker High School on Oct. 28.

Michelle said she was at the high school to talk with her daughter about an appointment. Michelle said that while she was waiting near the office, her daughter walked by, talking on a cellphone that was not her own.

Michelle said she asked her daughter for the phone, but Kaitlyn refused to give it to her.

Michelle said Kaitlyn didn't show up for a class later in the day.

She hasn't seen, talked to or had any contact with her daughter since.

"I know nothing," Michelle said. "It's devastating to not have one word. I was out until 9:30 last night, driving around looking for her."

Baker City Police posted a notice on the department's Facebook page Monday, Nov. 1 asking for information about Kaitlyn, describing her as "missing and endangered."

Kaitlyn was wearing blue clothing with the Disney character "Stitch" and was carrying a black backpack. She is 5-foot-4 inches tall and weighs about 135 pounds. She has brown hair with purple tinting and wears black-framed glasses.

See, **Mother** / Page A3



**TODAY**  
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**SATURDAY — TAMARACKS BRIGHTEN THE FORESTS OF AUTUMN**