



**SPORTS A5**

**Baker boys can't hold leads against Junction City, Philomath, bow out of state tourney**



**SPORTS A6**

**Baker girls rebound from loss to Corbett to beat Cascade, will play for 4th-place trophy**

# Baker City Herald

IN THIS EDITION: LOCAL • OUTDOORS & REC • SPORTS

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## Spring forward

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday:



### QUICK HITS

#### Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber David McCoy of Baker City.

### BRIEFING

#### Fair Board meeting March 15

The Baker County Fair Board will have its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, March 15, at 6 p.m. at 2600 East St.

#### Baker County United plans rally March 17

Baker County United is planning "freedom rallies" on the third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Sunridge, 1 Sunridge Lane. The public is invited. The next event is set for Thursday, March 17.

#### Workshop on trimming, pruning fruit trees

The OSU Extension Master Gardeners program will offer a workshop on trimming and pruning fruit trees on Saturday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Baker County Event Center, 2600 East St.

### WEATHER

**Today**  
51/33  
Sunny



**Sunday**  
45/27  
Rain showers



**Monday**  
46/37  
Rain showers



Full forecast on the back of the B section.



Ranchers gathered in the sale barn at Harrell Hereford Ranch near Baker City for the annual spring sale on Monday, March 7, 2022.

Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

# BIDDING on beef

## Harrell Hereford Ranch has its 43rd-annual spring sale

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR  
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The Harrell Hereford Ranch had its 43rd-annual spring sale on Monday, March 7, 2022, at the ranch along Salmon Creek Road northwest of Baker City.

Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald

**W**ith sunshine bringing a bit of late winter warmth to Baker Valley on Monday morning, March 7, it was a perfect day for the 43rd-annual Harrell Hereford Ranch sale.

The lowing of cattle and the whinnying of horses was joined by the eager chatter of ranchers from all over the country as they mingled together, examining the bulls, heifers and horses that would go on the auction block.

The sale includes bulls, heifers and, for the 24th straight year, Harrell-Mackenzie quarter horses.

The aromas of fresh hay and wood chips mingled with the smoky scent of barbecued tri-tip greeted the Harrells' visitors. Laughter and comments of "such a nice day" drifted among the gates and barns as a couple hundred people enjoyed a lunch prior to the sale.

Mingling among the distinctively colored red-and-white Herefords, Dan Forsea, a rancher from Richland, was looking for a bull or two.

"They've got good quality cattle. Keep getting better all the time," Forsea said of the Harrells' offerings.

See, **Herefords**/Page 2

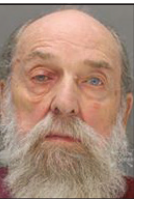
# Sex abuse suspect might not be able to attend trial

## Bill David Gonyer is being treated for cancer

BY JAYSON JACOBY  
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

A trial has been set for May for a Baker County man arrested more than two years ago on charges that he sexually abused a child.

But Bill David Gonyer, 75, is undergoing treatment for cancer and it's not clear whether he will be physically able to attend a trial.



Gonyer

Gonyer's attorney, Damien Yervasi of Baker City, wrote in an email to the Baker City Herald on Thursday, March 10, that "it's hard to tell at this point" whether Gonyer could participate.

"It all depends on how he's doing between now and then," Yervasi wrote.

Baker County District Attorney Greg Baxter said on Thursday, March 10, that he will be prepared for a trial in May, but that he's aware of Gonyer's medical situation.

"I know Mr. Gonyer is ill and is getting treatment," Baxter said.

See, **Suspect**/Page A3

# Man gets 56 months for burglary, thefts

BY JAYSON JACOBY  
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A Baker City man who was arrested in November 2021 and accused of stealing items from outside Baker City homes and from several unlocked vehicles has pleaded guilty to several crimes and been sentenced to more than four years in prison.

See, **Prison**/Page A3

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

# Council concerned about N. Baker street plan

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR  
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The Baker City Council has concerns about the North Baker Transportation Improvement Project after hearing from a local farmer who would lose part of his field based on a proposed redesign of the intersection at Pocahontas Road and 10th Street.

Councilors were scheduled to approve the first reading of an ordinance for the project during their meeting Tuesday night, March 8.

But councilors declined to do so.

Instead, they scheduled a work session on the topic before their regular meeting on March 22.

During a public hearing Tuesday night, Jim Ingram, who owns farmland that starts at the northeast corner of the intersection, told councilors he doesn't want to lose any of his property due to the intersection redesign.



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

This view from a drone shows the intersection of 10th Street, Hughes Lane (to the right) and Pocahontas Road (to the left). Jim Ingram, who owns the field at the upper right of the photo, is concerned about losing some of his property due to a redesign of the intersection.

"I'm perfectly happy with what's inside my boundary and I farmed it for 40 years and I don't want to mess with it. I don't think it's necessary," Ingram said.

It's not clear based on the proposal how much land Ingram would lose.

He said he's not opposed to the construction of a right turn lane for traffic turning onto Highway 30 northbound, but he thinks there's enough space if the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), which is spearheading the project, would use

land to the south, on the lot occupied by the Oregon Department of Forestry and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"They've got enough room," Ingram told councilors.

He also suggested the city consider adding a traffic signal at the intersection, at an estimated cost of \$600,000.

"You get somebody hurt or killed and there's a lawsuit, \$600,000 will look pretty cheap," Ingram said.

He said there are cyclists, people jogging, and traffic that doesn't need to be there on Hughes Lane, as there are other places people can go to jog or walk.

He said when commercial vehicles and kids and people share a road, somebody is going to get hurt.

"And as far as that intersection, it needs a light, and then you'll still be taking a life in your hands, even with the lights. Because no matter how

many lights you put up, or how much stuff, or how many margins, people aren't paying attention and somebody's going to get hurt," Ingram said.

The proposal doesn't call for a traffic light at the intersection.

Rather, the existing stop signs (for east-west traffic crossing 10th Street) could be replaced with stop signs lined with flashing red lights (similar to ones at several other intersections in town) or a crosswalk with user-activated flashing lights similar to the one on Campbell Street at the Powder River.

Councilor Joanna Dixon asked Ingram how much it would cost to move his irrigation system if part of his land was used in the redesign.

Ingram said it would cost thousands of dollars, as he would have to move a section of a buried irrigation pipe.

See, **Street Plan**/Page A3



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