



LOCAL A2
Gas prices continue to rise rapidly



LOCAL A5
Creating a buzz for Greater Idaho



SPORTS A6
Baker girls win 4th place at state

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Earlinda Crider of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Baker County Library plans spring break events

The Baker County Library is planning several special events for spring break.

On Friday, March 18, youth ages 3 and older are invited to a Lego Build-Along from 10 a.m. to noon. Kids can build with Legos while watching "The Lego Movie." In the afternoon is Kids Game Day from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. for grades 5-8.

Tuesday, March 22, is a special spring-themed story-time at 10 a.m., and Friday, March 25, is Teen Game Day from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The library is at 2400 Resort St. in Baker City.

Baker County United plans rally March 17

Baker County United is planning "freedom rallies" on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Sunridge, 1 Sunridge Lane. The public is invited. The next event is set for Thursday, March 17. Sam Palmer will be a guest speaker. Palmer is a Grant County commissioner and a Republican candidate running for the U.S. Senate seat held by Democrat Ron Wyden. Debbie Henshaw of Baker City will be giving a speech on the Constitution. There will also be a question and answer period and input will be sought from the public.

WEATHER

Today
50/28
Rain

Wednesday
46/23
Rain showers

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



Heritage Museum gearing up for busier 2022

Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Lynn Weems started as director of the Baker Heritage Museum in December.

Museum, which opens April 8, adds exhibits from Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

BY LISA BRITTON
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Tour groups are starting to call the Baker Heritage Museum — something that hasn't happened much in the past two years.

Lynn Weems, who started as director of the museum in December 2021, anticipates this coming summer to be a bit more normal — closer to pre-pandemic attendance.

The museum, at 2480 Grove St. just east of Geiser-Pollman Park,

opens for the season April 8.

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$9 adults (13 and older), \$8 seniors, \$5 ages 6-12, and free for ages 5 and younger.

For \$16, visitors can tour both the museum and the Adler House, which is open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Admission to just the Adler House is the same as the museum rates.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is setting up a presence at the museum while the center on Flagstaff Hill is closed for renovation.

The Interpretive Center, which will unveil exhibits in May, will have displays in the Leo Adler Room on the first floor, and occupy about a third of the ballroom upstairs — including a full-size wagon.

See, **Museum/Page A3**

Raffle raises \$25,000 for K-9 unit



Baker City Police Department/Contributed Photo

Travis Cook won the grand prize in the Baker City Police Department's fundraising raffle to support the department's K-9 unit. Cliff's Saws and Cycles sold the ATV at a discounted rate. The department sold 474 of the 500 available tickets at \$100 each.

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
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Baker City Police Department's K-9 Unit will be able to continue for at least two more years thanks to recent fundraising efforts.

A raffle this winter brought in \$25,000 to support Capa, the department's drug-detection dog.

Sgt. Wayne Chastain, who is Capa's handler, said the raffle, with tickets selling for \$100, raised \$47,400. After paying for the ATV that was the top prize, and other costs, the department ended up with \$25,000.

The department sold 474 of the 500 raffle tickets available.

Chastain said the money pays for a variety of items needed to keep the K-9 unit operating.

"It pays for his maintenance, vehicle maintenance, my overtime, his medical stuff, his dog food, any costs associated with the dog program," Chastain said.

Capa, a male German shepherd and Belgian Malinois cross, has been working for the Baker City Police Department since 2015.

See, **Raffle/Page A3**

Commissioners to discuss 'constitutional county' resolution

Baker City Herald

The Baker County Board of Commissioners is slated to resume its discussion of a request from a local group to adopt a resolution designating Baker as a "constitutional county."

Commissioners, who have talked about the proposal from Baker County United during multiple meetings since December 2021, have added the resolution to the agenda for their Wednesday, March 16, meeting at the Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

The resolution is on the agenda for 9:30 a.m.

Baker County United, which was formed in the fall of 2021, has urged commissioners to adopt the resolution. Proponents say it would help protect the county and its residents against what they consider unconstitutional mandates from the state, including the executive orders that Gov. Kate Brown enacted during the pandemic requiring face masks in public indoor spaces and vaccinations for some employees.

See, **Resolution/Page A3**

Huntington man arrested for using fake money

Baker City Herald

A Huntington man was arrested on Friday, March 11, after using a counterfeit \$10 bill to make a purchase at the T&T Country Store in Huntington.

Baker County Sheriff's Office Deputy Bo Hansen responded to a call from the store after an employee received the suspicious-looking bill. The bills are used as props in movies, as noted in wording on the bills.

Hansen contacted the suspect, Michael Owen Small, 64, of Huntington, who had five other counterfeit bills with him, in \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$50 denominations, Baker County Sheriff Travis Ash said.

Hansen seized the bills and arrested Small on a charge of first-degree forgery, a Class C felony. Small was taken to the Baker County Jail.

Ash said Small told the deputy that he found the bills among several free items in front of a home in Huntington. Ash said he thinks that's likely the case.

Small's daughter, Leanne, who lives in Washington, said in a phone interview Monday afternoon, March 14, that her father did find the fake bills in a sack of free items. She said her father relies on Social Security and a disability income, and that he sometimes fixes items he can get for free and sells them.

See, **Money/Page A3**

Baker City Police detective remains on paid leave

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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Baker City Police Detective Shannon Regan remains on paid administrative leave more than seven months after Police Chief Ty Duby removed her from active duty.

Duby made that decision in July 2021 after Jim A. Schaeffer, the La Grande attorney representing Shawn Quentin Greenwood, who was accused of first-degree murder in the January 2020 shooting death of Angela Parrish in Baker City, claimed that Regan had violated Greenwood's constitutional rights by listening to five phone calls that Greenwood, who was in the Baker County Jail, made to Schaeffer's cellphone in 2020.

On June 25, 2021, Schaeffer filed a motion seeking to

dismiss all charges against Greenwood.

After hearings in Baker County Circuit Court on Aug. 13 and Aug. 24, Judge Matt Shirtcliff ruled that Regan, the lead detective in investigating the fatal shooting of Parrish, would not be allowed to testify during Greenwood's trial due to the phone call issue.

Although Shirtcliff denied Schaeffer's motion to dismiss all charges against Greenwood, the judge did prohibit Baker County District Attorney Greg Baxter from using at trial any evidence that Regan collected after Sept. 14, 2020, the day that her computer was used to access and listen to the five phone calls, according to a forensic investigation by the Oregon Department of Justice.

Baxter did not contest the claim that Regan listened to the five calls.

Greenwood, then 50, ended up pleading no contest to three lesser charges on Sept. 3, 2021, five days before the trial was scheduled to start.

The no contest plea had the same effect as a conviction. Shirtcliff sentenced Greenwood to a total of 90 months in prison on the three convictions, which include criminally negligent homicide, a Class B felony, first-degree burglary, a Class A felony, and attempting to elude law enforcement, a Class C felony.

None of the three charges for which Greenwood was convicted carries a mandatory minimum sentence, so he will be eligible for a reduction in sentence based

on good behavior and other factors.

Duby said the city can't keep Regan on paid leave "indefinitely."

"It's a tough situation," Duby said. "At some point the city is going to have to move."

He said Regan, a 17-year Baker City Police officer, is at the top of the salary schedule for detectives, which has a monthly salary of \$6,066.

Duby said he has not heard anything from the Oregon Department of Justice about its investigation of Regan resulting from the phone call issue.

Baker City Manager Jon Cannon said the city is working with its attorney on how best to handle the situation with Regan.

"It's a personnel matter

so I'm limited on what I can say about it," Cannon said on Thursday, March 10. "We don't want it to be an indefinite time period to have an employee in this status. We want to respect all parties that are involved, and to talk whatever actions are appropriate to resolve the matter."

Duby said Dan Thenell, a Portland attorney, is representing Regan.

Thenell had not returned a phone message by press time for this story.

In Regan's absence, Zach Thatcher is working as the department's major crimes detective, Duby said.

Duby is now looking to replace Chris Sells, the department's other detective, who left recently to take a police job in Ada County, Idaho.



TODAY
Issue 128
14 pages

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