



INSIDE
Go! Magazine
 Arts & entertainment magazine



SPORTS A6
Baker softball routs Marsing, improves to 3-0

Baker City Herald

IN THIS EDITION: LOCAL • BUSINESS & AG LIFE • SPORTS Serving Baker County since 1870 • bakercityherald.com THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022 • \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Carl and Nancee Heath of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Ladies golf and bridge season starts April 13

The Ladies Golf and Bridge Association at Quail Ridge Golf Course in Baker City has been active for more than 50 years, and its opening day for 2022 is set for Wednesday, April 13.

The event features golf in the morning, a noon luncheon cooked by Terrie Boettcher, and bridge in the afternoon. Ladies can participate in any or all of the activities.

The one-time membership fee is \$10, and lunch is \$9 per week. Those planning to have lunch are asked to make a reservation, by the day before the event, by calling Dianne Ellingson at 541-519-4703 or Jennifer Godwin at 541-519-2060. Organizers said they look forward to meeting new neighbors and enjoying fellowship and friendship.

Quail Ridge Golf Course is at 2801 Indiana Ave. The course's phone number is 541-523-2358.

Lenten Retreat at St. Francis de Sales Cathedral

St. Francis de Sales Cathedral Parish is presenting a Lenten Retreat with Fr. Bailey Clemons, starting with Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 1 at 5 p.m. and continuing on Saturday, April 2 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEATHER

Today
 49/23
 Mostly sunny

Friday
 58/35
 Partly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

Hands-on learning

Group tours Baker Technical Institute

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
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A rainy day didn't deter the Baker Technical Institute from welcoming state legislators, county commissioners, Blue Mountain Community College representatives, and company representatives from around the region for a tour on Monday morning, March 28.

State Sen. Lynn Findley, R-Vale, whose district includes Baker County, had visited BTI, which is based at the Baker High School campus, a couple years ago.

Findley, along with BTI President Doug Dalton, worked with the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board to plan the tour showcasing what BTI has to offer students and adults. About 20 people participated in Monday's event, including another legislator, Sen. Bill Hansell, a Republican from Athena, in Umatilla County.

"I toured BTI about two years ago and was so impressed with this facility and what you guys do up here," Findley said.

The facility, which started about eight years ago in the Baker 5J School District, offers a heavy equipment operator school, a truck driving school, a health care

program, training in agriculture, natural sciences and natural resources, and it recently partnered with Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative to start a utility worker training center.

Sandy Mitchell, program coordinator for BTI, explained that BTI is a technical college.

"We contract back with the Baker School District and provide all of the (grades) 7-12 CTE (career technical education) programs and then we also are licensed as a technical college in the state of Oregon through HECC, Higher Education Coordinating Commission," Mitchell said.

She said BTI partners with industries across the Pacific Northwest to take BTI training programs to other communities.

"Right now, we're in Eastern Idaho. In Idaho Falls, we have 20 students that we're training in construction," Mitchell said. "So, last



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald
State Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena, tries his hand at a truck-driving simulator at Baker Technical Institute on Monday, March 28, 2022.

week they actually poured concrete and they're learning concrete masonry at a rest area. We do community projects and our instructors will go in and teach them."

She said all 20 of the students learned skills in blueprint reading, construction math, how to find the volume, what you need for concrete, and how to order it.

Mitchell said BTI instructors also set up at remote location mobile classrooms with trailers that contain simulators that students use to learn how to operate heavy equipment such as backhoes and excavators.

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Findley



Samantha O'Conner/Baker City Herald
Doug Dalton, president of Baker Technical Institute, inside the greenhouse at Baker High School where FFA students raise plants for fundraising sales.

Presbyterian Church begins raising money to help Ukraine



Wally Skalij/Los Angeles Times-TNS
A man comforts his wife in Lviv, Ukraine, before she boards a train to Przemysl, Poland, on March 19, 2022.

BY LISA BRITTON
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 First Presbyterian Church in Baker City has committed to raise money during April to help humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

The local church Session, the Presbyterian's governing body, launched the fundraising effort through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which is already working in Ukraine and bordering countries to provide shelter, meals, medicines and hygiene products following the invasion of Russian military forces on Feb. 24.

According to the UN Refugee agency, nearly 4 million refugees have left Ukraine since the invasion.

But not everyone can leave — men between the ages of 18 and 80 are required to stay to defend the country.

See, Church/Page A3

Blood drive slots filling up

Event scheduled for April 4 in Baker City

Baker City Herald
 Baker City's next American Red Cross blood drive is set for Monday, April 4, and Myrna Evans, the local coordinator, said it's going to be one of the bigger one-day drives here in many years.

The Red Cross will bring more machines and phlebotomists than usual to accommodate more donors, including those who don't sign up in advance, although that's recommended, Evans said.

See, Blood/Page A2

Police called to disturbance during GOP forum

No one arrested during governor candidate event March 25 at Baker Elks Lodge

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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 Two Baker City Police officers responded to a complaint about audience behavior during a forum featuring several Republican candidates for Oregon governor Friday evening, March 25, at the Baker Elks Lodge.

Officers Justin Prevo and Jonathan Parsons responded to the Lodge, at 1896 Second St., around 6:09 p.m., according to the dispatch log.

They escorted a few people from the Elks Lodge early in the forum, which started about 6 p.m. Police didn't make any arrests and no charges were filed, Police Chief Ty Duby said.

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Monday interrupted March's dry stretch

It was the wettest day in Baker City since October 2021

Baker City Herald
 It was hardly a deluge of Biblical proportions, but by recent Baker County standards it was a significantly soggy day just the same.

An early spring storm dropped 0.22 of an inch of rain on Monday, March 28, at the Baker City Airport.

That was no record-setter (the most rainfall recorded at the airport on that date is 0.32, in 1989), but it was the most moisture to accumulate in the airport's rain gauge in a single day in more than five months.

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