



LOCAL A2
First ice, then fire
closes Interstate 84



SPORTS A6
Baker softball
romps past Marsing



LOCAL A6
BMCC plans deep
cuts to faculty

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Ronald Webb of Baker City.

BRIEFING

County commission candidates invited to April 23 debate

All five candidates for the Baker County Board of Commissioners have confirmed they will participate in a debate on Saturday, April 23, at 6 p.m. at the Sunridge Inn, 1 Sunridge Lane. The public is invited to attend the event, which is sponsored by Baker County United. The primary election is May 17.

Candidates will be responding to questions submitted in advance, and also taking questions from the audience.

Three candidates are vying to replace Bill Harvey as commission chairman, the only full-time position — Shane Alderson, Dan Garrick and Joe Johnson. There are two candidates for commission position 2, a part-time position held by Mark Bennett — Kody Justus and Christina Witham. Neither Bennett nor Harvey is seeking reelection.

In both commission races, if one candidate receives more than half the voters, that person would be elected. If no candidate receives at least half of the voters, the top two candidates in both races would advance to a runoff in the Nov. 8 general election.

WEATHER

Today
 43/22
 Snow showers

Sunday
 48/31
 Mostly cloudy

Monday
 56/34
 Cloudy

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald
 Donna Goodwin, second from left, chats inside Clark Auto Electric on April 14, 2022, with her daughter, Marie, second from right, and Marie's husband, Kevin. At left is Jerry Hansen, who works at the business that Goodwin and her husband, Jerry, have owned for 50 years.

HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE

Jerry and Donna Goodwin are selling Clark Auto Electric, an iconic Baker City business



Donna and Jerry Goodwin, owners of Clark Auto Electric in Baker City, have been married since 1956.

Contributed Photo

By JAYSON JACOBY
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When your carburetor came up lame or your alternator stopped spinning or your battery balked, Jerry Goodwin was the guy you wanted to show up.

And for half a century, like as not, he would. In the black of night on a remote road in a snowstorm, if that was necessary.

And always with a smile. Quite often Jerry wasn't alone when he arrived to rescue a stranded motorist.

His wife, Donna, was with him. For 50 years the Goodwins' business, Clark Auto Electric, has been a Baker City fixture.

An icon, really, with its brick building, its lighted "Carburetor Repairs" sign high on the west wall, and perhaps most memorable, the white jackets that Jerry and his crew of mechanics wore.

See, Clark/Page A3

Police chief proposes limits on camping

Ordinance is designed to curtail homeless camping

By SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
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Baker City Police Chief Ty Duby is asking the City Council to approve an ordinance limiting where and when people can camp in parks and other public property.

Duby, who presented ordinance 3383 to councilors during their Tuesday, April 12, meeting, said the document is intended to address problems with homeless people camping on public property.



Duby

Because the complete proposed ordinance wasn't available Tuesday, councilors will continue their discussion of Duby's proposal April 26.

The ordinance states, in part: "It shall be unlawful for any person to set up tents or any other temporary shelter or to use house trailers, campers or automobiles for the purpose of overnight camping in any city park, nor shall any person remain in any city park after closing hours; provided, however, organized youth groups under competent adult supervision may be permitted overnight camping privileges."

The ordinance defines parks as including the Leo Adler Memorial Parkway. The ordinance also prohibits camping in several other specific public

See, Camping/Page A5

City's new well could be ready this fall

By SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
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Baker City has connected its new drinking water well to a supply pipe, but the well probably won't start delivering water to residents until August.

City crews recently installed a 10-inch-diameter ductile iron pipe to connect the well to the existing 16-inch mainline that runs beneath Indiana Avenue.

The well, which was drilled in 2020, is at the east end of the parking lot for Quail Ridge Golf Course.

The connecting line was laid in a trench crossing under Indiana Avenue.

Michelle Owen, the city's public works director, said the trench was filled with gravel and a temporary metal covering allows traffic to pass.

"We will patch it when we get some hot asphalt," Owen said.

See, Well/Page A5

Baker chess players compete at state event

By IAN CRAWFORD
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Baker City students involved in the Chess For Success club attended a state tournament April 8 and 9 at the Portland Expo Center with advisor Ian Wolfe.

Wolfe, who's also the pastor at Baker City's First Lutheran Church, has been teaching chess to students from kindergarten through eighth grade for three years.

There are nearly 70 players on the roster, and Wolfe plans to start a chess club at Baker High School next year.

Wolfe said he was impressed by the Baker players' performance at the state tournament.

"This is the first time that our kids have had the opportunity to go to state and face some really tough competition," he said. "What amazed me the most was their determination to keep playing despite some tough losses. We're continually working on all sorts of chess tactics throughout our practices — forks, pins, skewers, and various checkmating patterns. The kids all were able to



Ian Wolfe/Contributed Photo

Members of Baker City's Chess for Success team compete at the state tournament in Portland.

work these into their games. It was great to see."

Wolfe said Sylvia Rich, a third grader and the only elementary school student to compete for Baker in the tournament, showed great poise.

"She wasn't intimidated at all by it, nor with riding with a bunch of middle schoolers on a 10 hour bus ride home," Wolfe said.

Jace Whitford won all four of his games on Friday, April 8, and Dallin Stocks, who won three of

five rounds, placed fourth in his group.

"These kids are really going to continue to improve if they stick with it and I can't wait to see what they all accomplish next year," Wolfe said. "All of these kids have made such great improvement over their chess skills since we began way back in October."

Wolfe said he encourages players to remember the fundamentals of chess, especially when they're playing in a higher-pressure

environment such as a state tournament.

"Slow down, look for a move, find a better one, and then find the best one and only when you've done that make your move," he said.

Wolfe said Chess for Success has benefits beyond competitions such as the state tournament.

"One of the great things that I've loved getting to see about the chess program is how it is permeating the homes and families of our community," he said. "It naturally makes intergenerational connections in so many homes when kids bring the game home, they immediately want to teach their siblings, play with mom or dad, grandpa or grandma."

Wolfe said he's pleased to see that chess can compete with flashy video games.

"Who would have thought a 1,500-year-old game may be the best way to get people off their screens for a few hours and connect with their loved ones over a 64 square checkerboard?" he said. "It's pretty amazing."



TODAY
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