



**HOME B1**  
**Make the most of the blueberry bounty**



**LOCAL A2**  
**Public dig set for July at Kam Wah Chung**



**STATE A5**  
**Survey: Wet spring eased fire fears**

# Baker City Herald

IN THIS EDITION: LOCAL • HOME & LIVING • SPORTS

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## QUICK HITS

### Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber William Johnson of Baker City.

## BRIEFING

### Entries sought for Miners Jubilee parade

There's still time to enter a float in the Miners Jubilee parade, which happens Saturday, July 16.

The theme is "Honoring Our Heritage." The entry fee is \$25. Find a registration form at minersjubilee.com.

Floats must check in by 9 a.m. at Baker Middle School. The parade starts at 11 a.m.

For more information, call the Baker County Chamber at 541-523-5855.

### Miners Jubilee Fun Run/Walk July 16

The Miners Jubilee Fun Run and Walk, a fundraiser for the Baker High School track and field and cross-country teams, is set for 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 16. The event includes 10K and 5K runs, and a 5K walk. Cost is \$25 per person, or \$10 for those 10 and younger. The course starts at Kicks Sportswear, 1801 Main St., and runners and walkers who aren't pre-registered can sign up at Kicks starting at 7 a.m. on July 16.

### Volunteers needed to help at library book sale

Friends of the Baker County Library need volunteers to help sort books and to work as cashiers during the book sale July 14-17. Volunteers can sign up at the library, 2400 Resort St., or by calling Jen at 541-519-7828.

## WEATHER

**Today**  
 96/57  
 Sunny

**Wednesday**  
 87/53  
 Storms possible

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



A protester holds a sign supporting Roe v. Wade, the recently overturned Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, during a walk on Saturday, July 9, 2022, on Main Street in downtown Baker City.

## Residents protest Roe v. Wade reversal

BY CLAYTON FRANKE  
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A group of about 20 people walked through downtown Baker City on Saturday, July 9 in protest of the Supreme Court's recent decision to reverse 50 years of federal abortion rights for women.

The June 24 decision overturned Roe v. Wade, a 1972 Supreme Court case ruling that guaranteed abortion as a constitutional right.

The High Court's decision, which means individual states will determine regulations, if any, over abortion, has spurred protests across the country. Emily Simko, 32, of Baker City organized Saturday's event and led the group from Central Park to Geiser-Pollman Park and back.

Simko led chants of "keep your bans off our bodies" and "my



Fern Bruck (center, with hat) and Morgan Hall, both 16 walk through Geiser-Pollman Park on Saturday, July 9, 2022, with a group supporting abortion

body my choice." "We had a lot of cars driving by and people in town giving us support, clapping and giving thumbs up," Simko said. "I think it went really well."

Simko is a founding member of the Baker Community Justice Project, a group that has hosted several social activism events since its inception in 2020.

See **Protest** / A2

## County updates park ordinance

### Commissioners hope to curb disruptive behavior

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR  
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Police will be able to cite people for trespassing in Baker County parks if they fail to comply with park rules based on a change to the parks ordinance that county commissioners approved last week.

The ordinance applies to the county's larger parks, Hewitt and Holcomb, adjoining parks on the Powder River arm of Brownlee Reservoir a few miles east of Richland. Those are the only parks where overnight camping is allowed.

The rules also affect county properties open from dawn to dusk, including the Hells Canyon Information Wayside and East Pine near Halfway, Wingville Cemetery in



Holcomb Park is on the north shore of the Powder River arm of Brownlee Reservoir about three miles east of Richland. Baker County owns and operates the park along with its neighbor, Hewitt Park.

Baker Valley, and the Bishop Springs Rest Area along Highway 86 near Richland.

Doni Bruland, the county's parks coordinator, said the parks ordinance hadn't been updated since 2005, and in the ensuing years there have been

occasional problems with some park visitors.

"After that many years, I felt that it was necessary to also update the ordinances to deal with those changes," Bruland said.

See **Parks** / A3

## Hermiston man stabbed to death in Hells Canyon

BY BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

**HELLS CANYON OVERLOOK** — A 64-year-old Hermiston man was stabbed to death at the Hells Canyon Overlook in southeastern Wallowa County on Friday, July 8, according to a press release from the Wallowa County Sheriff's Office.

Dan Ridling got into an altercation with an Albany man and was stabbed in the torso, Sheriff Joel Fish said Monday, July 11. Ridling died at the scene.

"They got in an altercation in the parking lot," Fish said. "It was a fight between two guys and he ended up stabbed."

The Hells Canyon Overlook is along Forest Road 3965, which leads east from Road 39, also known as the Wallowa Loop Road.

Road 39 branches off Highway 86 about 10 miles east of Halfway. The overlook is about 21 miles north of Highway 86.

See **Stabbing** / A3

## City talks limits on psilocybin shrooms

### 2020 measure allowed use of 'magic mushrooms' for therapy but not retail; cities, counties can ban use

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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Baker City councilors will discuss during their meeting Tuesday, July 12 whether to ask city voters to ban the production, processing and therapeutic use of psilocybin, the psychoactive ingredient in "magic mushrooms," within the city limits.

Councilors will meet at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

The psilocybin issue arises from Measure 109, which Oregon voters approved in November 2020.

The measure legalizes the use of psilocybin, in designated "service centers," for purposes such as treating people 21 and older who are suffering from psychological trauma, addiction and other ailments.

The measure does not allow the retail sale of psilocybin, which makes it different from marijuana.

See **Mushrooms** / A3

## County preps for westside earthquake aftereffects

BY CLAYTON FRANKE

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People who live west of the Cascades, where seismologists say a massive earthquake is looming, have been preparing for the damages the great quake will cause.

Those in Northeastern Oregon, however, might not be so seismically inclined.

"The Big One," a product of the Cascadia Subduction Zone off of the Oregon coast — could cause unprecedented damage along the coast, where a catastrophic tsunami is likely, and in the Willamette Valley.

But emergency management officials say it's time, regardless of its distance from that quake's epicenter, for this part of the state to prepare, too.

See **Quake** / A3

## Enthusiasm abounds over Miners Jubilee

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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Sunshine and seasonably toasty temperatures are forecast for Miners Jubilee, and Shelly Cutler's outlook for Baker City's signature summer festival is also bright.

"I think it's just going to be a great weekend," Cutler said on Monday morning, July 11. She's executive director of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, which organizes Miners Jubilee. The festival is set for Friday through Sunday, July 15-17.

Cutler said Geiser-Pollman Park will be loaded with vendors, including food booths, through the weekend.

The National Weather Service is forecasting sunshine this weekend, with high temperatures in the low 90s on Friday and Saturday, cooling slightly to the upper 80s on Sunday.

See **Jubilee** / A3



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