



**GO! INSIDE**  
Country music fest returns to La Grande



**LOCAL A3**  
Update on hail damage in Wallowa



**SPORTS A8**  
Volleyball ready for season opener

# Baker City Herald

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**QUICK HITS**

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscribers Louis and Marie Marks of North Powder.

**BRIEFING**

**West Nile virus found in more mosquitoes**

West Nile virus has been found in more mosquitoes trapped in Baker County, including some about 2 miles south of Baker City.

Over the past month or so, the virus, which mosquitoes can spread to people through bites, has been detected in 15 "pools" of mosquitoes in the county, according to the Baker Valley Vector Control District.

A pool of mosquitoes generally consists of 10 to 50 bugs collected in one of the district's traps, which are distributed around the 200,000-acre area. The district includes most of Baker and Keating valleys, and Bowen Valley just south of Baker City.

A single pool of mosquitoes trapped about 2 miles south of Baker City was positive for the virus.

The 14 other pools were all trapped in the Keating Valley about 15 miles east of Baker City.

Most people who are infected with West Nile virus never have symptoms. But the virus can cause serious neurological issues, and in rare cases it can be fatal.

There have not been any confirmed human infections in Baker County this year.

**WEATHER**

**Today**  
90/50  
Sunny

**Friday**  
90/54  
Sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



Archery hunting for elk starts Aug. 27, 2022, in Northeastern Oregon. For the first time, hunting in most units is controlled, meaning hunters must have applied for and drawn a tag.

Gary Lewis/  
Contributed Photo, File

## Big change for archery hunters

Season changes from general to controlled for most elk hunts



BY JAYSON JACOBY  
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The archery hunting season will start as usual on the last Saturday in August, but this year is anything but ordinary in one respect.

For most of Northeastern Oregon, the archery season for elk is a controlled hunt for the first time.

In August 2021 the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission decided to change archery hunting for elk in 13 units and parts of three others from a general hunt — meaning there's no limit on the number of tags sold — to a controlled hunt, with a limited number of tags that hunters

have to apply for through the state's lottery system.

The general hunt system had been in place in Eastern Oregon since 1979 for both elk and deer.

Since 1983 the archery season for both species has lasted about a month, from late August to late September. This year the season runs from Aug. 27 through Sept. 25.

But in 2020, officials from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) announced a proposal to change archery hunts from general to controlled for deer and elk, starting in 2021.

See **Archery** / A5

Background photo from 123rf.com

**BAKER CITY**

## Maverik wants to open 2nd store

Existing store on Campbell Street would stay open

BY CLAYTON FRANKE  
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Maverik wants to open its second gas station and convenience store in Baker City.

The company, which opened its current store, at 1520 Campbell St., in November 2011, has applied to build a second location just east of Interstate 84 near the North Baker City interchange, exit 302.

The property is just southeast of the freeway overpass.

Cassie Younger, planning project manager at Maverik, said the company plans to continue operating the Campbell Street store.

She said the company wants to expand its presence in Eastern Oregon.

See **Maverik** / A5



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

A new home in the Silver Birch subdivision between Birch Street and Interstate 84, north of Campbell Street.

## Recent survey highlights housing shortage in area

New Directions Northwest receives \$1.4M grant, plans to apply for more

BY CLAYTON FRANKE  
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New Directions Northwest has pinpointed the need for affordable housing, and in particular for those with behavioral health issues, as a significant problem in Baker County.

New Directions, the non-profit that provides mental health counseling and other services, in coordination

with the Baker County Behavioral Health Housing Task Force recently submitted its final report to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) detailing results from a housing survey conducted in May of this year.

New Directions serves 1,199 Baker County Medicaid behavioral health clients, which accounts for approximately 7.1% of the county's

population.

Andi Walsh, public relations and grants manager for New Directions, said that submitting the report puts New Directions in a position to pursue grants, in addition to a \$1.4 million state award it received in June, to try to address the housing issue.

"We're hoping to be eligible to be able to go after those additional grant opportunities," Walsh said.

See **Housing** / A5

## Baker City councilors could still face recall election

Former city firefighter wants to replace council, potentially leading to city manager's firing

BY JAYSON JACOBY  
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A former Baker City Fire Department employee still wants to give city voters a chance to recall at least six of the seven city councilors, and possibly all seven, for not blocking City Manager Jonathan Cannon's proposal to remove ambulance service from the department's duties and cut its workforce.

Casey Husk, who resigned his Baker City position earlier this summer and now works for the Hermiston Fire Department, said he's been busy with training for his new job over the past month or so.

But Husk said he still intends to try to gather sufficient signatures from registered voters to force a recall election later this year.

About 50 people attended a meeting that Husk scheduled July 14 at the Baker Community Events Center where he explained that he hopes to have councilors recalled and replaced with councilors who would fire city manager Jonathan Cannon.

Cannon, who has worked as city manager since January 2021, initially proposed in late March 2022 that the city end its ambulance service.

Councilors talked about the situation during several meetings, but they didn't block Cannon's proposal.

Baker County commissioners, who under Oregon law are responsible for ensuring ambulance service within the county, on June 8 voted to hire Metro West Ambulance of Hillsboro to replace the city fire department.

See **Recall** / A5

## Council gives Cannon a 1.7% raise

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR  
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Baker City Manager Jonathan Cannon will receive a 1.7% salary increase after the City Council discussed his performance during an executive session prior to the regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 23.

Cannon started as city manager in January 2021.

His annual salary for the fiscal year that started July 1 was set at \$112,200.

The executive session was closed to the public under Oregon's Public Meetings Law, which allows councilors to discuss certain matters, including the performance of a city manager, during a closed session.

See **Cannon** / A5



Cannon



**TODAY**  
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36 pages

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Classified.....B3-B6	Crossword.....B3 & B5	Lottery Results.....A2	Senior Menus.....A2	Turning Backs.....A2
Comics.....B7	Dear Abby.....B8	News of Record.....A2	Sports.....A8	Weather.....B8