



GO! INSERT
Previewing Taste of Baker's return



SPORTS A6
Baker girls soccer tops Weiser



SPORTS A6
Bulldog volleyball sweeps Vale

Baker City Herald

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 • \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Dave Boucher of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Libraries as First Amendment sanctuaries event set for Thursday

The Baker County Public Library will host a community discussion, "Libraries Are First Amendment Sanctuaries: FAQ on How the Constitution Keeps Censorship in Check" on Thursday, Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the library, 2400 Resort St.

Perry Stokes, library district director, will lead the discussion, which will include common misconceptions about the First Amendment, censorship trends in the country, and Supreme Court decisions that guide library policies. Participants will also be invited to register for a "Banned Books Club" the library plans to launch in October.

Powder River clean up set for Saturday, Oct. 1

The Powder Basin Watershed Council is partnering with North 7 Brewing in Baker City and SOLV to coordinate a volunteer clean up along the Powder River through Baker City on Saturday, Oct. 1. Volunteers will meet at Geiser-Pollman Park at 10 a.m. The event will continue until 1 p.m. Volunteers can register at www.solveoregon.org. Snacks and water will be provided. All volunteers will receive a free drink certificate from North 7 Brewing. More information about the Powder Basin Watershed Council is available at www.powderbasin-watershedcouncil.org.

WEATHER

Today
 63/42
 Chance of showers

Friday
 71/38
 Mostly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



A sailor talks with Kenneth Anderson, a World War II Navy veteran from Baker City, at the World War II Memorial during his Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C.

Photos by Dave Cross/Contributed Photo

Highest Honor

Kenneth Anderson, a World War II veteran from Baker City, toured Washington, D.C. on an Honor Flight

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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In the whole of his 95 years, Kenneth Anderson had never experienced a moment like it. He clutched a wreath.

He was preparing to place it on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National

Cemetery.

The silence marking the solemnity of the ceremony was interrupted only by the soft shuffle of the soldiers as they went about their precise movements.

"It was an impressive moment," said Anderson, a

World War II veteran from Baker City.

But hardly the only one on a trip that Anderson will always cherish.

He was among 29 veterans — and one of just two who served during World War II — who traveled to Washington, D.C., last week as guests of the Honor Flight program.

The nonprofit organization provides all-expenses-paid trips to the nation's capital for military veterans.

"I was very honored to be picked," Anderson said on Tuesday morning, Sept. 27. "I'm very proud and thankful. I know why they call it an Honor Flight. It was something special."

Anderson, who grew up in Duluth, Minnesota, enlisted in the U.S. Navy in November 1944, just before his 18th birthday.

He moved to Baker City in 1989.

He had never been to the nation's capital.

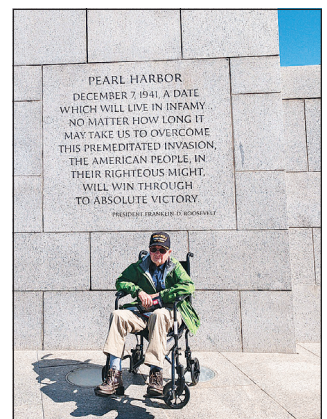
Anderson was accompanied on his Honor Flight by Dave Cross, who lives just across the street from Anderson's home.



Kenneth Anderson beside the grave of Audie Murphy, a highly decorated soldier during that war who later became an actor, at Arlington National Cemetery.



Kenneth Anderson at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Kenneth Anderson at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

"I was very honored to be picked. I'm very proud and thankful. I know why they call it an Honor Flight. It was something special."

— Kenneth Anderson, 95, World War II veteran from Baker City

Cross, 61, who served in the U.S. Army for 27 years and has lived in Baker City for three years, learned during conversations with Anderson that his neighbor had served in the Navy during World War II.

Cross was familiar with Honor Flight.

This past winter he got in touch with Honor Flight of Central Oregon, one of 130 regional hubs for the nationwide program. And although Honor Flight of Central Oregon's one annual trip was

already booked, the organization made room for Anderson, since World War II vets — the youngest of whom are, like Anderson, well into their 90s — have first priority.

Cross, who went along as Anderson's guardian, drove Anderson to Redmond on Sept. 20. They, along with 28 other veterans, each of whom also had a guardian, spent Sept. 22 and 23 touring Washington, D.C. They returned to Redmond on Saturday, Sept. 24, where the veterans were greeted with a ceremony that included the Ridgeview High School marching band playing military hymns.

Touring the capital

Anderson said the visit to Arlington National Cemetery was an emotional experience.

He said he was awed by the sight of thousands of white crosses, all perfectly aligned.

See Anderson / A3



Kenneth Anderson visits the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

McCarty charged with theft and trespassing

Charges connected to claims made in a civil lawsuit against McCarty

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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David Michael McCarty, who installed a locked gate two years ago on the road that runs through his property along Pine Creek northwest of Baker City, has been charged with aggravated theft in connection with allegations in a civil lawsuit in which he is a defendant.

McCarty, 56, was cited by Baker County Sheriff's Deputy Chad Mills at 6:51 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26 at McCarty's home on Ben Dier Lane near

Pine Creek.

McCarty is also charged with first-degree criminal trespassing and second-degree criminal mischief in a Baker County Circuit Court warrant.

In late July, two couples who own property along Pine Creek — James and Sharen Sanders, and Thomas and Betty Ann Lager — sued McCarty, claiming McCarty and his partner, Joelleen Linstrom, who is also a defendant, have infringed on their ability to enjoy their properties by installing the gate, setting up cameras "to monitor the attempted use of Pine Creek Road," and "attempted privatization of Pine Creek Road."

See McCarty / A3



The Pine Creek Road through David McCarty's property is extremely rocky and rough.

Contributed Photo, File

State GOP invalidates vote to suspend Baker County GOP executive committee

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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The Oregon Republican Party has invalidated a vote by Baker County Republicans during a July 28 meeting in Baker City to suspend the county Republican executive committee for 60 days and investigate county chair Suzan Ellis Jones.

Jones and other members of the executive committee had contended that votes during the July 28 meeting at the Baker County Library were not official.

The reason, they said, is that there was not a quorum of the six-member executive committee present, and per the Baker County GOP by-

laws, no decisions could be made.

The bylaws require at least three executive committee members be present for any official action to be taken during a meeting.

Two executive committee members, including Jones, attended the July 28 meeting.

See GOP / A3

Unity area to get high-speed internet thanks to federal aid

Baker City Herald

A \$10.26 million federal grant to Oregon Telephone Corporation, and the same amount in a federal loan, will help the company, based in Mount Vernon, expand high-speed internet to parts of southern Baker County and to parts of Grant and Malheur counties.

Oregon's U.S. senators, Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, announced the \$20.5 million package through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

"Quality of life in rural Oregon requires quality Internet connections that link children reliably and quickly to educational opportunities as well as small businesses and farms to their customers," Wyden said in a press release. "I'm gratified that Baker, Grant and Malheur counties will benefit from this federal investment, and I'll keep battling to ensure all of rural Oregon gets the topnotch Internet access that's so vital to everyday commerce and convenience."



Wyden



Merkley

See Aid / A3



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