



LOCAL A2
Grant Co. sheriff talks
fire boss arrest



SPORTS A5
Powder football rolls
past rival Adrian



SPORTS A6
Badgers win district
volleyball title

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Steve Proebstel of Haines.

BRIEFING

Music students to perform this week

Music students at Baker High School and Baker Middle School have been practicing for their fall concerts at the BHS auditorium, 2500 E St.

The choir performance is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26.

The band concert is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27. Admission is free and the public is welcome. Children younger than 14 must have an adult chaperone.

Looking ahead, holiday performances will be held Dec. 8 (BMS and BHS band) and Dec. 15 (BMS and BHS choir, featuring the children's choir from South Baker Intermediate School).

Learn about technology in agriculture

Baker Community Sciences & Arts Lecture Series continues Thursday, Oct. 27, with "Potatoes, Cattle & Technology: Trends in Eastern Oregon Ag" featuring Will Price of the Oregon State University Extension Service and Jess Blatchford of Blatchford Farms. The discussion will center on the use of technology in agriculture and ways farms are trying to continue in the future of Baker Valley. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the talk starts at 6 p.m. at OTEC's conference room, 4005 23rd St. Attendance is free.

Baker High School color run Thursday

Baker High School's color run will be Thursday, Oct. 27, at 3 p.m. The 1.5 mile run/walk starts in the student parking lot. Entry is \$5 and proceeds will be donated to a local family.

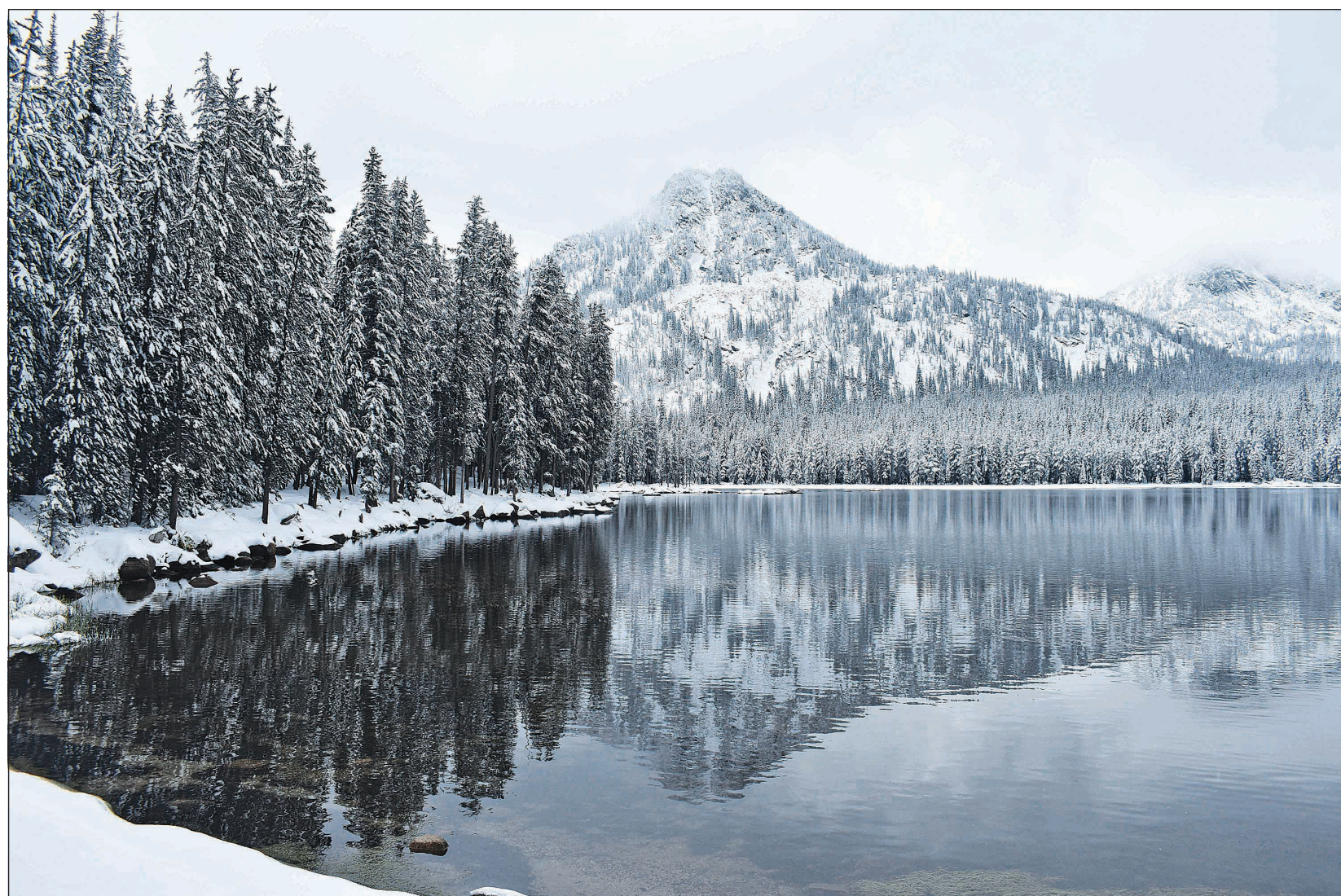
Wear white or purchase a shirt for \$5. Prizes will be awarded.

WEATHER

Today
49/30
rain showers

Wednesday
46/24
rain showers

Full forecast on the back of the B section.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

About 8 inches of snow accumulated at Anthony Lake over the weekend.

Skipping Seasons

Sudden shift takes weather from summer-like to wintry



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Snow sticks to leaves in Baker City on Sunday morning, Oct. 23, 2022.

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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So much for autumn.

For a couple hours on Sunday morning, Oct. 23, it seemed as though Baker County had jumped straight from summer to winter, with no pause for the intermediate season's gradual changes that give residents a reasonable time to hunt up their heavy coats and ice scrapers.

Less than two days after the temperature was above 70, a skiff of snow brightened the ground as Baker City residents awoke.

The snow had mostly melted by noon, but the day remained chilly, and with a blustery north wind besides.

Sunday's high temperature of 47 degrees at the Baker City Airport was the lowest in almost five months, since May 28, when the high was 44.

On Monday morning, Oct. 23, the temperature at the airport dipped to 21, the lowest since May 25, when the low was 15.

The situation was even more wintry, as expected, in the mountains.

About 8 inches of snow accumulated over the weekend at Anthony Lakes, elevation 7,100 feet. The temperature there was in the low 20s on Sunday afternoon.

The sudden shift in seasons actually started on Friday, Oct. 21, when a strong storm spread into Oregon from the North Pacific.

Rain started falling in Baker City in the afternoon and continued through the evening and overnight.

Friday's high of 59 degrees was a 12-degree plunge from the previous day, and Saturday dropped another 11 degrees, to a high of 48.

See **Weather** / A3

City Council to discuss housing costs in Baker City

Baker City Herald

The Baker City Council is inviting residents to participate in a discussion about housing costs during the council's regular meeting Tuesday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

According to Oregon's definition, Baker City is a "severely rent burdened city," meaning 25% or more of residents are spending more than 50% of their household income on housing.

Cities with a population of 10,000 or more — a threshold Baker City reached for the first time in the 2020 Census — are required to have a public meeting each year to discuss housing issues.

Topics to be discussed during Tuesday's meeting include:

- The causes and consequences of severe rent burdens within the city.
- The barriers to reducing rent burdens.
- Possible solutions to reduce the number of severely rent burdened households within the city.

See **Council** / A3

BAKER CITY

Official: No criminal charges warranted for police officer

Shannon Regan's attorney says she should be returned to work

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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Officials from the Oregon Department of Justice have concluded there is no basis for criminal charges against Baker City Police Sgt. Shannon Regan, who has been on paid leave for more than a year.

Police Chief Ty Duby placed Regan, a 17-year officer, on leave in July 2021 after the attorney representing a murder suspect alleged that Regan, the lead detective in the case, listened to five phone calls between the suspect and the attorney in 2020, and by doing so violated the suspect's constitutional rights.

The city has been paying Regan about \$6,000 per month while she is on leave.

See **Regan** / A3

School attendance rates fell during pandemic

Local statistics mirror statewide trends

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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Absentee rates among students in the Baker School District were higher last school year compared with the two years prior to the pandemic.

That's one of the statistics included in the annual school profiles the Oregon Department of

Education released on Thursday, Oct. 20.

State officials calculate attendance rates for all grades, but in districts they highlight the figures for figures for students in kindergarten through second grade, since those early years can have a significant influence on students' subsequent habits.

The education department compares districts, and individual schools, based on the "regular at-

tender" percentage — a "regular attendee" is a student who attends at least 90% of classes.

For Brooklyn Primary School in Baker City, which houses first, second and third graders, the regular attendee rate was 46% in 2021-22.

That's down from 74% in the 2018-19 school year — the last year before the pandemic — and 82% in 2017-18.

See **Attendance** / A3



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