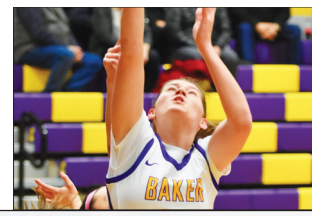


GO! INSERT
Holiday events
across the region



LOCAL A5
Baker City
snowplowing map



SPORTS A8
Baker girls, boys
basketball previews

Baker City Herald

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022 • \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Mike Sullivan of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Cookie crawl, parade, tree-lighting set for Saturday

Saturday, Dec. 3 is full of festive events in Baker City. First, head to the Baker County Fairgrounds, 2600 East St., to shop the 4-H Christmas Bazaar in the show barn (Friday, noon-5:30 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.) and visit the Saint Alphonsus Foundation Festival of Trees (inside the Event Center) on Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. This year's festival is a smaller scale than previous years, but features miniature trees on silent auction, photos with Santa courtesy of the Baker City Kiwanis Club (\$10 for prints) and free art projects with Crossroads Carnegie Art Center. Also, CASA of Eastern Oregon will again display gingerbread house creations in downtown windows. This year's theme is Christmas movies.

From 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Baker City Downtown is again hosting a cookie crawl. Purchase a box for \$10 and a map at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn Ave., and then head downtown to collect a variety of cookies. Then, at 5 p.m., gather on Main Street for the Twilight Parade (this year's theme is Santa's Workshop), followed by the illumination of this year's Community Christmas Tree at Main and Court streets.

WEATHER

Today
37/12
 Snow likely

Friday
27/14
 Mostly cloudy

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



A leaf-laden tree on the east side of the Baker County Courthouse on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022.

Leaves refusing to, well, leave

Cold snap apparently interrupted process that causes leaves to let go

BY JAYSON JACOBY
 jjacoby@bakercityherald.com
 Tommy Hayes was on leaf patrol

for weeks but his colorful quarry stubbornly refused to show up. At least not where Hayes could do anything about them. Hayes drives one of the Baker City Public Works Department's two street sweepers. It's a job he's done, at times, for the past 15 years or so.

See Leaves / A3



A line of trees along Second Street in Baker City still held most of their leaves on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022.

November 2nd-coldest here since World War II

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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November typically marks the transition from fall to winter, but this November leaned strongly toward the latter season.

There were snowstorms early in the month and again in the final four days.

And although most of the rest of November was notable for sunshine rather than for snow — there was no measurable precipitation at the Baker City Airport from Nov. 8-26 — temperatures were consistently chilly. Almost chilly enough to break a 37-year-old record. The average temperature at the airport during the month was 28.1 degrees.

That's the second-lowest November average at the airport, where temperature records date to 1943.

To calculate the average temperature, add the average daily high and low temperatures and divide by two. The only November with a lower average temperature was 1985. No other November comes close to the 1985 record of 23.6 degrees.

This November just edged out 1993 for the runner-up slot. The average temperature in November 1993 was 28.2 degrees. The overall average for November, from 1943-2022, is 34.7 degrees.

This November was also among the coldest based on average daily high and low temperatures. The average high was 39.2 degrees, ranking as the fourth-coldest. The temperature reached 50 degrees on just two days — 52 on the first, and 50 on the 24th.

See Weather / A3

Husk, Henshaw seek dismissal of lawsuit

Three Baker City Council members filed suit based on recall effort

BY JAYSON JACOBY
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A former Baker City firefighter and a Baker City resident who are the defendants in a civil lawsuit filed by three Baker City Council members are asking a judge to dismiss the suit.

Casey Husk, a former firefighter, and Debbie Henshaw are the defendants. Husk is the chief petitioner in a campaign to force a recall election for several city councilors. Henshaw has been helping to gather signatures for the recall effort since Husk filed the petitions in September.

Husk and Henshaw's attorneys, Chad A. Naso and Laura Salerno Owens of Portland, filed a motion Nov. 15 asking Judge Matt Shirtcliff of Baker County Circuit Court to dismiss the suit and award their clients reasonable attorney fees.

Husk and Henshaw have requested oral arguments on their motion. A hearing is tentatively set for Dec. 16 at 2 p.m. in circuit court.

Former Baker City Mayor Kerry McQuisten, and current city councilors Joanna Dixon and Johnny Waggoner Sr., filed the suit Oct. 7.

See Lawsuit / A3

Two places to get a photo with Santa

BY LISA BRITTON
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This weekend brings two opportunities to visit with Santa while also supporting local causes. And one stop has a "Nightmare Before Christmas" twist.

Churchill

Churchill School is another opportunity to get a photo with Santa, as well as Jack Skellington and Sally from "The Nightmare Before Christmas," on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3 and 4.

"This has been several years of collecting," said Corrine Vegter, who will be dressed as Sally.

Her husband, Brian, will appear as Jack.

Corrine said she's gathered special trees every year to build the set, along with a Victorian-style couch.

The Jack and Sally costumes were donated, and she carved the movie's dog Zero from a single piece of foam that she then covered with mortar/concrete layers.

"It took multiple days just to make him," Corrine said.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Andrew Kendall poses during a photo shoot at the Churchill School featuring Santa, along with Sally and Jack Skellington from "The Nightmare Before Christmas." This photo opportunity is Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3 and 4, at Churchill. A portion of the proceeds will benefit CASA of Eastern Oregon.

Mike Meyer built Zero's doghouse, and bows were donated for the wrapped gifts from Baker Floral and Botanicals.

The photo shoot is \$10 per group, and includes a digital

download. A portion of the proceeds will support CASA of Eastern Oregon.

Times are 6-8 p.m. Saturday and 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday.

See Santa / A3



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