

CHIEF

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Baker City's Fire Department has one station and 21 employees.
Clark said that although he had offers from other departments, he was won over by Baker City's residents and the area's natural beauty.
He said Baker City has a similar feel to his hometown.
"I think people are here because they want to be here, same thing with our department," Clark said. "You get older and you believe things happen for a reason sometimes and everything just really came together."



S. John Collins/Baker City Herald
John Clark

Clark said.
Outside of his work, Clark and his wife, Gina, and his 18-year-old stepson, are living in a rental home in Baker City.
Clark hopes to build a house, and he plans to continue working for about 10 more years.
"I am committed to being here for the long run and so far it's been great," he said.
Last week Clark attended the Baker City Council meeting to introduce himself to councilors. The city plans to have an event for Clark to meet members of the public soon.
Clark has two grown children. He enjoys golf, but admits he is a terrible player.
One thing he will miss about the Midwest is college football. He was a fan of Ohio State originally, then started supporting Michigan State after both his kids attended the university in East Lansing. In Michigan he only lived 15 minutes from the

"I think people are here because they want to be here, same thing with our department."
— **John Clark, Baker City Fire chief, explaining why he was attracted to Baker City**

stadium. Here, the closest Division 1 team is Boise State, a two-hour drive away.
"I don't know if I can stand the blue field, though, I don't know if I can become a Boise fan," Clark said. "I might become an (Oregon) Duck fan."
Clark said he hopes to have a good relationship with the press and the community.
"We will look at what we can do to better serve the public with the equipment and the staff we have, but I don't see any major changes down the road, either — the system is working well the way it is," Clark said.
There are challenges, though.
For instance, Clark said employees who want paramedic training have to travel to Boise. He has spoken with the chief of the La Grande Fire Department about possibly working with Eastern Oregon University to set up a paramedic training program there.
Clark said one of his "claims to fame" was securing a grant for a new fire station, in 2011, while serving as assistant chief in Washington Township near Detroit. He hopes that experience will help Baker City get more federal grants.
"You and I are paying federal taxes all the time, so

my take on it is I am going to apply for every grant I can because it's my money and your money. We might as well bring it back to our community," Clark said.
Baker City did receive a federal grant last year that is paying a portion of the cost for the three new firefighters the city hired in January 2018. The grant is for three years.
Clark also hopes to partner with the Baker City Police Department and Baker County Sheriff's Office to create an "active violence task force." At his previous job, his department received a portion of a \$1 million grant to establish such a task force. Its purpose is to help limit and prevent loss of life in violent incidents such as a mass shooting.
Clark will have to address the expiration of the federal grant. He is committed to maintaining the current staffing level because it allows the department to have four people on shift per day, and reduces the need to call in off-duty firefighters and incur additional overtime expenses.
The department also needs to work on succession plans for replacing employees. Clark says that there is at least one firefighter who might retire next year. There is some planning being done to move people up, but not how to replace the people who are promoted.
"You got to be thinking about how do you recruit part time and how do you recruit full time on the bottom coming up," Clark said.

Bill would strip federal protection for gray wolves

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Republican-controlled House passed a bill Friday to drop legal protections for gray wolves across the lower 48 states, reopening a lengthy battle over the predator species.
Since securing protection in the 1970s, wolves have bounced back in the western Great Lakes states of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, as well as in the Northern Rockies and Pacific Northwest.
About 5,000 wolves live in the lower 48 states, occupying less than 10 percent of their historic range.
Wolves living in Oregon east of Highways 395, 78 and 95 — including those in Baker, Union and Wallowa counties — are not protected by the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).
Wolves east of those highways are managed

by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
Wolves west of those highways remain listed under the ESA, and the lead managing agency for those wolves is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
The Fish and Wildlife Service is reviewing the wolf's status and is expected to declare they've recovered sufficiently to be removed from protection under the Endangered Species Act.
The House bill would enshrine that policy in law and restrict judicial review of listing decisions.
The measure was approved, 196-180, and now goes to the Senate, where prospects are murkier.
Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., lauded House passage of the legislation.
"For years, ranchers across my district have watched as wolf populations grew, harassing and killing their livestock," Walden said in a press release. "This threatens their livelihoods."

FOREST

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The four other meeting sites are in La Grande, Wallowa, Pendleton and John Day.
The Forest Service in June unveiled the proposed management plans for the Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla and Malheur national forests.
The new plans would replace the existing documents, which were approved in 1990.
The proposed plans provoked complaints from residents on a variety of topics, including potential reductions in motor vehicle access and the amount of logging and livestock grazing the Forest Service will allow.
Chris French, the reviewing officer for the Forest Service chief, will oversee the meetings.
Their purpose, French wrote in a recent letter, is to help him better understand the public's objections.
Although the meetings are open to the public, only people who have qualified as objectors or "interested persons" based on their previous formal involvement in the review process.
Objectors and interested persons will be able to register for two two-hour breakout sessions during the meetings, each of which will focus on specific topics included in objection letters. Each breakout session will be limited to 20 objectors or interested persons.
The topics include: livestock grazing, fish, wildlife and plants, access, bighorn sheep, timber and vegetation management, wilderness backcountry, special areas, fire and fuels management, local government cooperation and coordination, and public participation.
Objectors and interested persons can register in advance or prior to each meeting.
Following the meetings, French will submit a recommendation to Regional Forester Glen Casamassa, about whether to make changes to the final version of the new forest plans.

LAWSUIT

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Addison claims that the City and Lohner retaliated against him after he wrote an editorial published in 2008 criticizing the police department. Addison was a reporter for the former weekly newspaper, The Record-Courier, at the time.
Addison alleges that the City and Lohner retaliated against his right to freedom of speech, interfered with his job opportunities, defamed him and deprived him of due process in retaliation for what he had written.
The complaint was set to go to trial in April of this year, but was postponed after Lohner appealed the ruling of U.S. District Judge Michael H. Simon, who denied Lohner's claim of qualified immunity.
The Appeals Court panel affirmed Simon's decision that Lohner violated Addison's First Amendment rights after Addison published the editorial and that Lohner "engaged in a campaign of harassment" against Addison because of it.
Addison is represented by Clifford S. Davidson of the Sussman Shank law

firm in Portland.
"We're very pleased with the court's ruling, and we look forward to resolving the case either through trial or otherwise," Davidson said today.
Lohner could not be contacted in time for this story.
In affirming the ruling, the judges found that Lohner is not protected in his role as a police officer to use his authority "to retaliate against individuals for their protected speech."
The panel also affirmed the lower court ruling that Lohner "engaged in a campaign of harassment over a period of years against Addison, which included contacting two of Addison's employers (the Baker County Press and New Directions Northwest), manipulating Addison's local law enforcement 'fact file' for the purpose of frightening Addison's employers, and directing police officers to cite and ticket Addison."
The judges pointed out that as a result of the harassment, Addison was fired from his job at New Directions.
"We agree with the district court that this is sufficient to create a genuine dispute of material fact regarding whether there was adverse action against Ad-

dison," they stated.
The Appeals Court also agreed that Lohner's argument that his speech was protected when he contacted Addison's employers "mischaracterizes the scope" of his protection.
"While it is true that public employees are entitled to First Amendment protection ... this constitutional protection does not give them license to engage in a 'campaign of harassment and humiliation' against another person in response to that person's exercise of the right to speak," the judges stated.
Although Lohner argued that he did not direct his officers to "ticket Addison, produce Addison's fact file to the employers, or manipulate Addison's fact file," the Appeals Court again affirmed the lower court ruling.
"The district court concluded that Addison presented sufficient evidence to raise a genuine dispute of material fact as to whether Chief Lohner knew about the alleged retaliation and acquiesced to it, and as to whether Chief Lohner directed the actions of his subordinates."
The Appeals Court also affirmed that Addison's claims were made within the two-year statute of limitations period.

TRAINER

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She did some research, and decided athletic training was her path of choice.
"I got interested in PT because I ended up in physical therapy with a shoulder

injury (in high school)," she said. "They got me back better than I was before. I wanted to help other athletes."
Raley applied for BSU's athletic training program her sophomore year. She was one of 13 accepted into the three-year program, going through

an application, exam and interview.
During the program she worked with the university's football and volleyball teams.
"The football experience I got there prepares you for a lot of things," she said.
During her senior year, she

traveled to games with the football team.
"It's pretty extensive," Raley said. "They immerse you in it, which is how I like to learn."
For athletes who suffer a concussion, Raley helps them through the "return to play"

protocol. Sometimes this takes educating an athlete on the importance of healing before heading back on to the field or court.
"Knowing what they're risking," she said.
This fall found her even attending football practices to support players in their return-to-play plan.

"There are so many ways you can keep them involved but protected so they can heal," she said.
She said she's enjoyed working with the high school athletes.
"When you get to know the kids it's really fun," she said. "You celebrate their victories."

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS
Patricia "Patty" Zennie: 90, of Baker City, died Nov. 17, 2018, at her home, surrounded by her family. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

FUNERAL PENDING
Gloria A. Grammatico: Memorial service will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, 2018, at Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St. Pastor Karl Wittich of Calvary Baptist Church will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to Calvary Baptist Church through Coles Tribute

Center, 1950 Place St. Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Gloria's memory, go to www.colestributecenter.com

POLICE LOG
Baker City Police
Arrests, citations
VIOLATION OF RELEASE

AGREEMENT: Kenny Lee Hellman, 49, 3220 14th St., 4:39 p.m. Sunday in the 2400 block of Birch Street; jailed.
VIOLATION OF RELEASE AGREEMENT: Lonnie Mae Opstrup, 40, 2787 Third St., 5:27 p.m. Saturday in the 2700 block of Second Street; cited and released.

\$4.99

Rancho

ANCHO

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All-white chicken cooked to golden perfection, Mexican Fries, cheddar and pepper jack cheese, yellow corn, green onion, ancho sauce, and sour cream.

The family of Daniel "Boone" McLean thanks you most sincerely for your kind expression of sympathy in their recent bereavement. We would also like to thank everyone for all the kind words, hugs, cards, phone calls, food, beautiful flowers and for attending his memorial service. - Boone's Family

Our recent loss of our loved one leaves us with grateful hearts toward neighbors and friends. Their comforting expressions of sympathy and thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

- The Family of Ida Sue Baisley

Thank You

We will forever be grateful for the love of the friends at Baker City Church of the Nazarene, the Baker City Police, for the tender care given by the professionals at Heart 'N' Home Hospice, and by the expert guidance from Gray's West. Thank you all very much.

- The Family of Edith Richerson