

# Baker City Herald

November 23, 2018

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Opinions differ about how to manage cougars in Oregon

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Health & Fitness • Outdoors • TV \$1.50

QUICK HITS

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscriber Carolyn Kulog of Baker City.

BRIEFING

**Food Bank focus group meeting set for Nov. 29**

Local residents who have used food stamps or a food bank, or who have worried about running out of food, are encouraged to attend an event set for Thursday, Nov. 29 in Baker City.

The food bank focus group will meet from 5:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St.

Food and drink will be provided. Those who RSVP and attend will receive a \$10 Safeway gift card.

To RSVP call 541-523-7532 or email to carolina@ccno.org

**Photos with Santa Dec. 1**

The Baker City Kiwanis Club will have its annual photos with Santa event, in partnership with the Festival of Trees Family Day on Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Baker County Events Center, 2600 East St.

Cost is \$10 per setting and includes two 5x7 or three 4x6 prints. Proceeds benefit community service projects, South Baker Intermediate School K-Kids, and the Baker Middle School Leadership Club.

**K9 police fundraiser set**

The third-annual drug prevention K9 fundraiser for the Baker City Police Department's drug-detecting dog program is set for Saturday, Dec. 8 at the Baker Community Events Center, 2600 East St.

Social hour starts at 4 p.m., with a K9 demonstration by Capa, the department's drug-detecting dog, at 5 p.m., dinner at 5:30 p.m. and live auction at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the police department, 1768 Auburn Ave., at Barley Brown's Tap House and Thatcher's Ace Hardware.

WEATHER

**Today**  
42 / 26

Overcast, snow showers

**Saturday**  
42 / 16

Partly sunny

**Sunday**  
39 / 18

Mostly cloudy

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

**Crews Replacing Boat Ramp On Phillips Reservoir Near Mason Dam**

## Ramping It Up



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

Workers from HP Civil, a construction company from Stayton, worked Nov. 16 at the boat ramp at Phillips Reservoir near Mason Dam. The \$275,000 project will build a new concrete ramp to replace an asphalt ramp. From left are Travis Lovell, Jared Witty and Jason Broadfoot.

**By Jayson Jacoby**  
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The pothole was a problem.

But it wasn't the only potential pratfall for boaters using the only year-round access ramp at Phillips Reservoir.

The asphalt ramp near Mason Dam, built about half a

century ago, was in pretty poor shape, said Dave Plummer, engineer for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, which is responsible for the ramp.

"The existing ramp had potholes, and one, right in the middle, was more than a foot deep," Plummer said. "We were

getting a lot of complaints about it."

So was the Oregon State Marine Board. Officials from that agency encouraged the Wallowa-Whitman to apply for a grant to replace the ramp.

See **Boat Ramp** / Page 3A

## Lawsuit in 2013 murder settled

■ Carlotta Piete settles for \$1 million in the \$9.2 million suit she filed in 2015 after her husband, Michael, was killed by their foster son, Dillan Easley, in a cabin near Granite

**By Chris Collins**  
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A Baker City woman has been awarded \$1 million in an out-of-court settlement of her claim of negligence and wrongful death in a lawsuit filed in 2015 against the Department of Human Services and four other agencies, including Mountain Valley Mental Health Services in Baker City.

The complaint was filed in 2015 by Carlotta Piete, the personal representative of the estate of her late husband, Michael Piete, who was shot and killed by their foster son, Dillan Dakota Willford Easley, in October 2013.

Easley shot and killed Michael Piete, 43, and Piete's uncle, Kenneth Gilliland, 64, during a hunting trip in the Granite area. The Pietes had taken Easley into their home on Dry Creek Road near Baker City in 2012 when he was 13.

See **Lawsuit** / Page 2A

## Burglary investigation continues

**By Casey Crowley**  
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Items valued at more than \$15,000 were stolen from Baker Gold and Silver over Veterans Day weekend.

Store owner Garry McLin is offering a \$1,000 reward to anyone who helps police gain a conviction.

See **Burglary** / Page 5A

A MULTI-PART SERIES ABOUT THE MCCARTY GANG BY BAKER CITY HISTORIAN GARY DIELMAN

# Baker County's Outlaw Family

Many years ago I heard about what seemed to me a mythical "McCarty Gang" of outlaws that had a "hideout" east of Haines. Recently I found out the McCarty Gang is no myth. I was enlightened by reading "In Pursuit of the McCartys," 2001, 340 pages, including 121 photos and six maps, written by Jon and Donna Skovlin. Reading their book did not happen by chance.



Dielman



Photo by Gary Dielman

See **McCarty** / Page 5A McCarty Bridge over the Powder River is just west of Interstate 84.

**TODAY**

Issue 85, 14 pages

Calendar.....2A  
Classified.....4B-8B  
Comics.....3B

Local & State.....3A  
Crossword.....6B & 7B  
Dear Abby.....10B

Horoscopes.....6B & 7B  
Jayson Jacoby.....4A  
News of Record.....2A

Opinion.....4A  
Outdoors.....1B  
Senior Menus.....2A

Sudoku.....3B  
Sports.....6A  
Weather.....10B

**MONDAY — DUCKS, BEAVERS BATTLE IN CIVIL WAR FOOTBALL**



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