

Baker City Herald



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IN THIS EDITION: Local • Home & Living • Sports Monday \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Margo Kenworthy of Baker City.

BRIEFING

City seeks candidates for Community Christmas tree

The Baker City Community Development Department and Baker City Downtown are in search of this year's 2019 Community Christmas Tree. Candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Within 3 miles of Court Plaza (downtown Baker City on Court Avenue between Main and Resort streets)
- Maximum height of 40 feet

If you would like to submit your tree for consideration contact Robin Nudd at 541-524-2036 or rnudd@bakercity.com by Nov. 1.

Downtown trick-or-treating set for Halloween

The annual Baker City Kiwanis Downtown Trick-or-Treat event is set for Thursday, Oct. 31 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Main Street will be closed to traffic between Auburn Avenue and Church Street. Businesses and organizations both on and off Main Street are invited to participate. More information is available by calling Debbie Poe, Kiwanis president, at 541-403-0483.

WEATHER

Today
52 / 36
Partly sunny

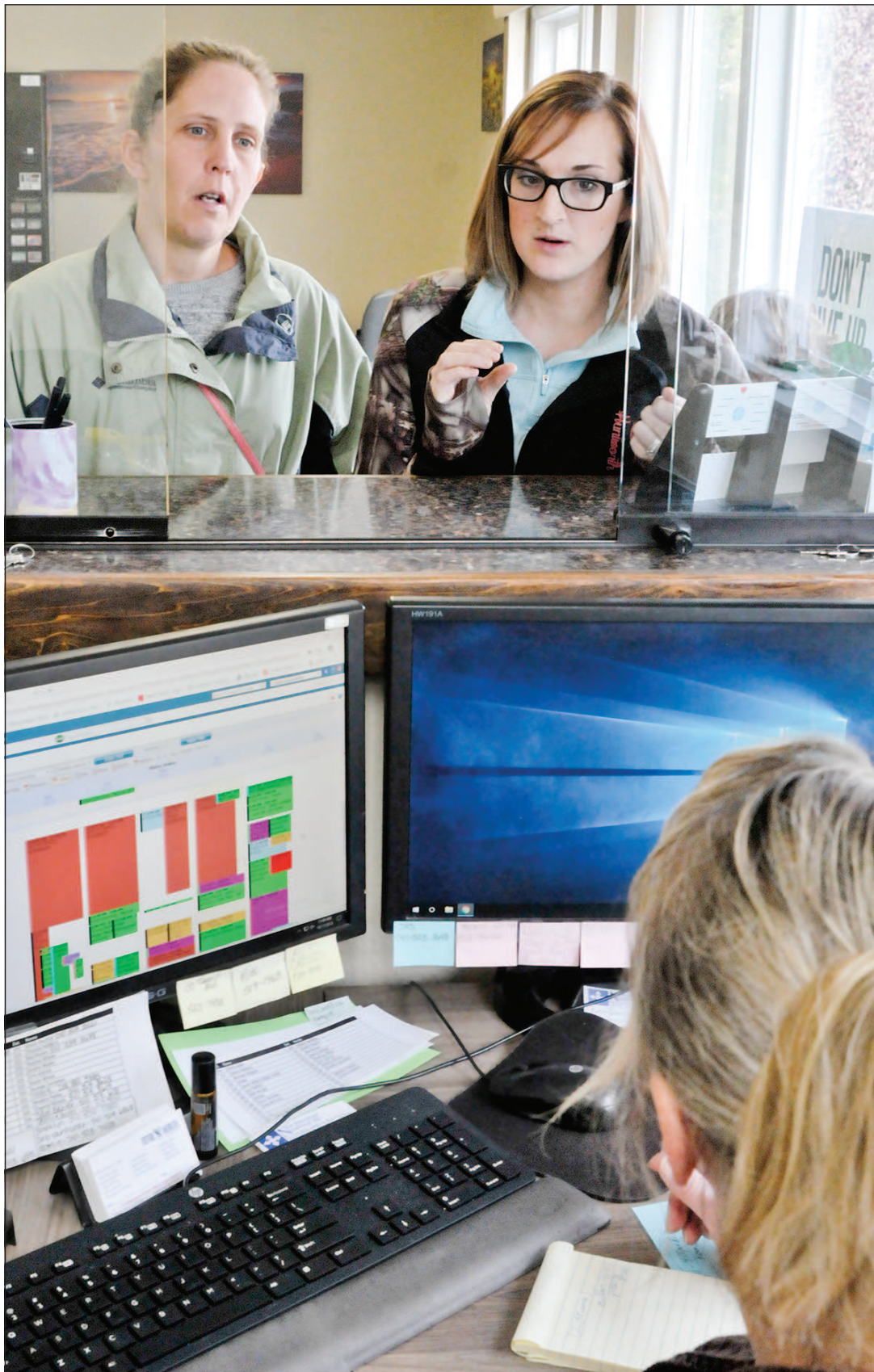
Tuesday
61 / 31
Chance of rain showers

The space below will be blank on issues delivered or sold from boxes. The space is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.

Linda Peterson Of Baker City Has Been Missing Since March 15

Hope For Linda

■ Peterson's daughter and sister say she always tried to help others



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Mary Lane, left, and Alesia Wilson finalize details Thursday with Sheila Baker to set up a donation collection site at New Directions Northwest at Baker City.

By Chris Collins
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Alesia Wilson has been missing her mother, Linda Peterson, since the Baker City woman disappeared on March 15.

Wilson's aunt, Mary Lane, tears up at the thought of her last meeting with her older sister, Linda, the night she went missing.

Wilson and Lane, who are closer in age to sisters — Wilson is 29 and Lane is 35 — share a love for the 52-year-old Peterson that is overshadowed by the trouble that came with the problems Peterson's addiction and mental illness brought to their lives over the years.

Wilson is the younger of Peterson's two children. Wilson's older brother, Anthony Mailman, lives in La Grande.

Lane is the second youngest in a family of six children in which Peterson was second from the oldest.

"She had a lot of demons she was running from," Wilson says of her mother's inability to

"She always wanted to help people. This is our way of keeping her going."

— Mary Lane, talking about her sister, Linda Peterson

remain clean and sober despite several successful efforts over the years. "She had a lot of crappy things that happened to her in her lifetime."

But that didn't stop Peterson from reaching out to help others try to overcome similar struggles themselves.

And that's what Wilson and Lane want to focus on as police continue their efforts to find their beloved mother and sister.

The two women are starting a project they've titled "Linda's Hope," that will emphasize Peterson's outreach to others.

"She always wanted to help people," Lane said. "This is our way of keeping her going."

District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff announced in April that members of the Baker County Major Crime Team were taking

over the investigation of Peterson's disappearance. The team has searched the apartment at 2450 Broadway St. where she'd been living, and a \$2,000 reward has been offered to anyone who provides police with information that leads them to Peterson.

What had been a missing person search was transformed into a full criminal investigation with the belief "that there is a strong possibility of foul play," Shirtcliff said.

Baker City Police officer Shannon Regan is leading the investigation. Police are continuing to follow-up on all information that comes to their attention, Police Chief Ray Duman said last week.

While her family members wait for resolution, they have decided to take action to help those who, like Peterson, have found themselves without food and shelter and maybe even looking for a good book as they try to get by on limited resources.

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Elks Lodge hosts major event

■ For the first time in its 123-year history, the Baker Elks Lodge was the site for a statewide fall conference

By Jayson Jacoby
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From their lodges scattered across Oregon, from the Coast to the high desert to the mountains and the valleys, the Elks were all headed to one place — Baker City.

The Baker Elks Lodge No. 33 played host this weekend to officers from 52 lodges who traveled here for one of Oregon Elks' two major annual events.

The three-day event, which started Thursday, is a training seminar for incoming exalted rulers, said Morgan Brinton of Baker City, lecturing knight for the Baker Lodge and public relations chairperson for the Elks Northeast Oregon District.

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Widow files suit in hunting accident death

By Chris Collins
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The wife of a Baker City man who died in a February hunting accident near Unity has filed a \$960,000 wrongful death lawsuit against her husband's hunting partner.

Vicki VanCleave of La Grande filed the lawsuit Oct. 14 in Baker County Circuit Court.

VanCleave claims Richard Toubeaux, 71, of Baker City, was negligent in causing the death of her 76-year-old husband, George Sherman VanCleave. He died on Job Creek Road in the Unity area on Feb. 19.

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Richland fire station bids exceed budget

By Samantha O'Conner
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Baker County Commissioners will have to re-evaluate their options after the four bids for building a new fire station in Richland exceeded the cost estimate.

The county's budget for the project, which is funded by a federal grant, is \$1,118,700.

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WEDNESDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE