Baker City Herald October 30, 2019



64-page special section included with today's issue

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Marcy Haines of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Winter clothing drive Saturday

The Baker City Rotary Club and Sorbenots are planning a winter clothing drive Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Sorbenots, 1270 Campbell St. Anyone who donates a gently worn coat or boots will receive a free drink up to 24 ounces. The items will be donated to Marla's Mall at the North Baker School, 2725 Seventh St.

Learn about health insurance options Nov. 12 at Baker **City Senior Center**

Community Connection of Baker County will host the Northeast Oregon Network on Nov. 12 for a free event at which officials will help answer questions about health insurance coverage options. The event will run from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St.

WEATHER

Today 39 / 13

Mostly sunny

Thursday

46 / 13

Mostly sunny

Correction: A story on Page 5A of Friday's Baker City Herald about the **Baker Charter Schools** being honored as No. 1 among the top 100 large nonprofit organizations to work for in Oregon contained an error. The Oregon Business Journal

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presented the award.

Who replaces Walden?

■ With his decision not to seek re-election in 2020, some fear loss of Oregon's only GOP-held seat

Walden

By Jayson Jacoby jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Suzan Ellis Jones is happy for her friend, Greg Walden, who announced Monday he won't seek a 12th term in Congress representing Oregon's 2nd Congressional District.

But Jones is worried about the 2nd District, which covers all of Oregon east of the Cascades and parts of Jackson and Josephine counties in the state's southwest corner.

Jones, who is chair of the Baker County Republican Party and has worked on Walden's campaigns since he was elected to Congress in 1998, believes Walden's retirement

could open the way for a Democratic candidate to win the House seat for the first time in almost 40 years.

The last Democrat to represent

the 2nd District was Al Ullman of Baker City, who served 12 terms before losing his bid for a 13th term in 1980.

"If we get the wrong nominee out of the May primary we could lose the seat to the Dems," Jones said on Tuesday. "I'm very concerned."

Walden is the only Republican among Oregon's congressional delegation.

Both the state's U.S. senators, Ron

ON PAGE 3A: State Sen. Cliff Bentz says he will seek the GOP nomination for Walden's seat; other possible candidates include Knute Buehler

Wyden and Jeff Merkley, and the representative for each of the four districts west of the Cascades, are Democrats.

See Walden/Page 3A

Charter

schools

buying building

Baker Charter

Schools, which encom-

emy and Baker Early

College, is pursuing the

acquisition of the former

The sale of the building at 3000 Broadway

Ellingson Lumber Co.

St. is expected to close by Nov. 15, said Daniel

Huld, Baker Charter Schools superintendent.

final inspection and other details are com-

The property,

which includes an

8,664-square-foot office

building constructed

in 1990, is valued at

\$329,240, according to

said Monday that Baker

Charter Schools expects

to take possession of the

building in February.

Baker County Assessor's Office records. Huld

pleted.

He declined to announce the sale price until the

office building.

passes Baker Web Acad-

Preparing For Day of the Dead Event Friday



Lisa Britton/For the Baker City Herald

Ma'lena Wirth, right, is the ESL family liaison for Baker School District. She has organized assemblies about Hispanic Heritage Month during October, including one about foods that are traditional for Dia de los Muertos. Alma Rodriguez and her daughter Nathely delivered special bread (pan de muerto) during one of the assemblies.

Colorful Celebration

By Lisa Britton

For the Baker City Herald

Luiz Rosales, his face shaded by the brim of a sombrero, gave a shy smile and shook his head.

But soon the chant of "dance!" filled the gym at South Baker Intermediate School and Rosales relented to the request from his classmates.

Stomping across the floor, his spurs

accenting each step, Rosales demonstrated a traditional dance from Mexico — and soon, in a riot of colorful dresses, he was joined by Maripaz Gonzalez, Lupita Macias, Glendi Luna, Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez, and Iriana Rosales.

This is how South Baker celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month. The sixth-grade classes have

studied Hispanic culture and traditions in October for several years. This year, thanks to grants and a partnership with Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, the school district's ESL family liaison Ma'lena Wirth could expand assemblies and end the study with a community celebration.

See Celebrate/Page 5A



Lisa Britton/For the Baker City Herald

Luiz Rosales demonstrates a traditional dance during an assembly for Hispanic Heritage Month at South Baker Intermediate School. Also presenting about traditional dresses were, from left: Iriana Rosales, Mariana Rosales (playing the music for the song), Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez, Maripaz Gonzalez, Glendi Luna, and Lupita Macias.

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INSIDE, PAGE 2A — FOUR LOCAL STUDENTS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

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Judge denies Nilsson's request

By Chris Collins ccollins@bakercityherald.com

Judge Greg Baxter on Monday denied a former Baker City Council member's request that the judge reconsider a third-degree criminal mischief conviction against him.

Adam Nilsson, 48, told the judge that he was misled into accepting a plea agreement for which he was sentenced on Nov. 20, 2018.

"It was so difficult for me to lie to the court by pleading guilty," he told Baxter.

See Denied/Page 5A