

# Local & State

## LOCAL BRIEFING



Kathy Orr/ Baker City Herald

Linda Smith's handmade sheepskin hats.

### SEWING

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Smith takes commissions for shoe sizes and offers them in two styles — slip-ons and ones with heels backs.

She also hand quilts wall hangings of animals and forest scenes.

"The reason I like to hand quilt these little wallhangings is because the muscles pop out as you're putting the stitches in and it makes the water look like it's moving," Smith said.

For her other products, Smith uses a walking foot on her sewing machine to work the leather for the shoes. She uses a natural rubber for the larger shoes. Smith runs the business and sews everything

herself.

Ruth Boyd began the business 45 years ago and owned it for 15 years. Boyd was Smith's sophomore English teacher and knew Smith for years before asking her if she wanted to take over the business.

At first Smith said no, but she changed her mind after deciding she would like to have her own business.

Smith began showcasing her products at craft shows.

Today, she only attends the 4-H Bazaar in Baker City in December and the Alpenfest at Wallowa Lake in September.

She also has products at the Geiser Grand Hotel but wants to focus on the location she moved into six years ago.



Kathy Orr/ Baker City Herald

Linda Smith makes sheepskin slippers in sizes ranging from newborn to adult extra large.

"It's a fun place to be," Smith said.

Smith moved to Baker City from Ontario in 1967 when her father helped build

Interstate 84. They had lived all over the state with her father working construction. She graduated from Baker High School.

### CARBON

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Under the law, business would buy allowances for every ton of greenhouse gas they emit more than permitted. The state would make fewer credits available over time with the intention of requiring businesses to pollute less.

Opponents argue the program would put undue pressure on Oregon's rural economies by causing higher fuel costs and lost jobs.

Dembrow is currently working on changes to the bill that would provide more clarity and certainty around investments and economic impacts "to address the wild allegations and misinformation about cost impacts that were distributed via social media," he said.

One such piece of misinformation was the claim that gas prices would rise to \$5 a gallon in the first year of the program, Dembrow said. Projections from the state analysts show gas rising by around 21 cents in the first year of the program and approximately \$3 by 2050.

The idea behind those revisions — which Democrats are holding close to the vest

for the time being — is to make more Oregonians and businesses comfortable with how the program works and its potential benefits.

Dembrow said wants to clarify how the program would actually work. He's working with "people on the ground" in rural districts to help voters to understand the harmful effects of climate change. He's hoping those open to climate action policy will then convince their neighbors and community that long-term action is needed.

Social media campaigns targeting rural voters and even a short documentary explaining how cap and trade policy works are expected to be rolled out in the coming month, according to Dembrow.

Dembrow wouldn't go into more specific detail about what industries and groups he's working with to perfect the proposal, calling it "delicate situation."

He's hopeful that getting information out to voters of the districts of the 11 Republicans who walked out in June would hold them accountable to show up to work in February and stay there.

But it seems unlikely that

Dembrow and his colleagues will find a middle ground to work with Republicans and keep them in the Capitol if cap-and-trade is on the agenda again.

Sen. Cliff Bentz, R-Ontario, said there was no change that could be made that could get him to vote for cap-and-trade.

"The reason has to do with the poisoning of the well by virtue of the unsuccessful attempt to pass it this previous session," Bentz said. "I think the focus should be on carbon policy that has nothing to do with pricing carbon, and everything to do with addressing CO<sup>2</sup> reduction using tools already available, and we have a lot of them."

He pointed out federal tax credits already exist to address some carbon issues.

Democrats worry that Senate Republicans might not show up in February, denying Democrats a quorum and from accomplishing anything ahead of what is expected to be an important election for both parties next fall.

"The walkout was only used as a vote blocking device because of the incredibly egregious nature of these bills and concepts," Bentz said. "I don't think people understand how overreaching HB 2020 was. I don't think they get it."

He said that if Democrats refer a constitutional amendment to voters changing Oregon's quorum requirement, he won't stand in the way. The Oregon Senate requires two-thirds of senators be present to act. There has been talk of changing that to a majority, which would allow the Democratic-controlled Senate

in the current lineup to proceed without Republicans.

Bentz expects a public backlash to such a change.

"That's exactly what people are supposed to do when they see the majority overreaching. They need to step up and say no," Bentz said. "Now if that tool is taken away by the people of Oregon, or a majority of them, then so be it. But there are going to be other ways people will express their dissatisfaction with the majority."

Gov. Kate Brown told reporters last week that she expects Senate Republicans to show up in February the same as she expects that from Democrats.

"They made a decision to run for the Legislature, and I expect them to show up and do their jobs," Brown said.

Senate Minority Leader Herman Baertschiger, R-Grants Pass, said Wednesday that he believes the short session shouldn't be used big policy programs like cap and trade, rather budgetary fixes and minor legislative tweaks. He also said it's too early to discuss whether Republicans would use the denial of quorum as a tactic in 2020.

For Dembrow, he's not confident that a cap-and-trade proposal in 2020 would withstand the feverish pressure Republicans will surely feel against the legislation from their base in an election year.

Although he's excited to see others take up the work he and his colleagues are pushing to get done in February, he's doubtful whether it will help Democrats in their pursuit climate action.

## NEWS OF RECORD

### DEATHS

**Jodell Hensen:** 60, of Baker City, died Oct. 25, 2019. There will be a celebration of her life from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, at the Baker City Eagles Lodge, 2935 H St. To light a candle in memory of Jodell, or to leave a condolence for the family, go to [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com)

Nov. 16, at 11 a.m. at the Baker City Christian Church, 675 Highway 7. Friends are invited to join the family immediately following for lunch, a time to mingle and share stories. Online condolences can be made at [www.tamispi-nevalleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tamispi-nevalleyfuneralhome.com)

### POLICE LOG

**Baker City Police Arrests, citations**  
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICANTS: Juan Perez Flores, 49, of 948 Valley Ave., 1:11 a.m. Sunday, on Campbell Street near First Street; jailed and later released on bail.

### FUNERALS PENDING

**Willard 'Butch' Hubert:** A celebration of his life, Saturday, Nov. 9, 2 p.m. at the Baker City Eagles Lodge, 2935 H St.

**Liz Peyron:** A celebration of her life will take place Saturday,

### Weekly Specials November 4-10

Monday	Meatloaf.....	\$8.95
Tuesday	Lasagna.....	\$8.95
Wednesday	Salisbury Steak.....	\$8.95
Thursday	Chicken Fried Steak.....	\$9.95
Friday	All You Can Eat Mini Shrimp.....	\$9.95
	Steak & Shrimp.....	\$10.95
	Pan Fried Oysters.....	\$10.50
Saturday	Prime Rib.....	\$14.95
Sunday	Baked Chicken.....	\$9.50/8.95 sr

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### BUFFETS

**Monday - Friday 11 AM - 2 PM**  
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**Sunday 8 AM - 11 AM**  
Sunday Buffet includes Chocolate Fountain

NOV 1-7

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FRI & SAT: (3:45) 6:45, 9:30  
SUN: (3:45) 6:45  
MON-THURS: 6:45

**ZOMBIELAND: DOUBLE TAP** R

FRI & SAT: (4:10) 7:10, 9:40  
SUN: (4:10) 7:10  
MON-THURS: 7:10

**MALEFICENT** PG

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MON-THURS: 7:00

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