



In SPORTS, A7

Badgers on to the state final

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Jerry Dowdy of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Free Thanksgiving dinner planned

Everyone is invited to have a free Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, Nov. 25 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist Church, Third and Broadway streets.

CASA gingerbread house contest returns this year

CASA of Eastern Oregon is again inviting local youth to decorate a gingerbread house and enter it to win prizes. To participate, decorate a gingerbread house (home-made or store-bought) and submit it to 1780 Main St. (former location of The Little Bagel Shop) on Friday, Dec. 3, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The base needs to be 12 inches by 15 inches or smaller. The house and decorations must be edible. Please include the child's name and age on the base. Winners will be displayed after 4 p.m. on Dec. 3.

Entries can be picked up on Dec. 10 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Any not claimed will be thrown away. Each entry will receive a prize, and special prizes will be awarded in these age groups: 2-4; 5-7; 8-10; 12-15; and 15-18.

For information, or to get an entry form, call Sue Richard at 541-519-7227.

WEATHER

Today

43 / 20
Rain or snow



Wednesday

41 / 25
Mostly cloudy



The space below is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

At Sunn Juice + Decor, owner Kristen Anderson has stocked products — linens, towels, soaps and more — that are eco-friendly, fair trade, and created by small businesses.

Kristen Anderson's new business combines a juice bar with home decor and more

By LISA BRITTON

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Kristen Anderson is combining some of her most favorite things at her new Baker City shop, Sunn Juice + Decor.

(Sunn is a Norwegian word meaning "healthy, wholesome and sound." It is pronounced "soon.")

She began work on her store in June 2021, and opened Oct. 20. The business is at 1917 Main St. in downtown Baker City.

Anderson brings a culinary background to her newest endeavor. She attended culinary school, has catered for 15 years,

and taught culinary arts at Baker Technical Institute for the past four years.

Opening a place like Sunn, she said, has been an idea for a while.

"It's always been a dream of mine," she said.

Her interest in opening a juice bar comes from the year she lived in Miami.

"There were juice bars on every corner," Anderson said.

Her store is divided into two distinct sections.

On the south side is a long counter and menu for various juices, smoothies, bowls and shots (as in, wheatgrass shots and ginger/turmeric shots).

She said her offerings are chosen for traits such as high antioxidants, super foods, and anti-inflammatory properties.

See, **Sunn** / Page A3



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Kristen Anderson opened Sunn Juice + Decor in October. Her shop is a combination of offerings — one half is where she prepares food items such as smoothies and juice shots, and the other side features products for "bath, body, bed and home." Sunn is located at 1917 Main St. in Baker City.

Police struggle to fill openings

By ALEX WITTWER

EO Media Group

Add law enforcement officers to the growing list of professions feeling the brunt of a labor shortage and facing hiring woes.

Police departments in Baker City, Pendleton and La Grande have had little luck finding applicants for their open positions recently, and the police chiefs are flummoxed about the reasons why.

"We've had zero applicants," said Ty Duby, Baker City Police chief.

Duby, who worked for 25 years for Oregon State Police before joining the Baker City Police in 2019, recalls a time when positions brought in hundreds of applications for a single opening, giving police departments a wide variety of potential applicants to choose from. Those numbers have dwindled over the past year — and Duby personally has had to actively pursue an ap-

plicant and ask the person to apply for the job.

The Baker City Police Department is not alone in the struggle to find qualified applicants.

"I've been with the City of La Grande for 28 years, and 20 to 25 years ago we would see 150 applications for one opening for a police officer position — and that has been trending in what I feel is a negative direction for a long time," said

La Grande Police Chief Gary Bell.

Bell's department is having only slightly better luck hiring, with nearly 15 qualified applicants vying for two positions open at the La Grande Police Department, but those application numbers are still a far cry from their previous numbers. To make matters more difficult, the number of law enforcement officers retiring or resigning has increased, Bell said.

See, **Police** / Page A3



Duby

School superintendent search begins

By JAYSON JACOBY

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The Baker School Board hopes to hire a new superintendent in March 2022.

The board discussed a timeline for its superintendent search during its meeting Thursday evening, Nov. 18.

Mark Witty, who has been superintendent since July 1, 2015, retired through the Oregon Public Employees Retirement system on July 1 of this year but agreed to continue working.

This arrangement — continuing to work for a public

agency after retiring — is possible for members of the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). They can begin to receive their pension benefits while still receiving a salary from a public employer.

In announcing his decision in June 2021, Witty said he was willing to work up to two more years as superintendent.

Under the schedule the board approved Thursday, the school district will solicit comments from the public, through an online survey running through Nov. 30, about what residents consider the most important

qualifications for the new superintendent.

The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BakerSD2021>.

The district plans to start advertising the job Dec. 14, with a closing date of Jan. 28, 2022.

The schedule also includes:

- Feb. 9-10, 2022 — interviews with candidates.
- The interview teams would include school board and budget committee members, representatives from the district's administrative, certified (teaching) and classified (nonteaching) staff, as well as student leadership.

See, **Chief** / Page A3

Herald to publish expanded issue Nov. 23; e-edition only on Thanksgiving

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Baker City Herald will not publish a print edition on Thursday, Nov. 25.

Because the Herald is delivered by mail, an issue published on Thanksgiving couldn't be distributed that day.

"It's a chance to give our employees an opportunity to spend an uninterrupted holiday with their families," said Andrew Cutler, regional editor for the EO Media Group, which owns the Herald.

An e-edition only paper will be published on Thanksgiving and will be available to paid subscri-

ers through the Herald's website, www.bakercityherald.com.

To make sure you are subscribed to the e-edition, follow these steps:

- Go to www.bakercityherald.com/users/forgot, enter your email address and click I'm not a robot, then Reset Password.
 - An email will be sent to you with a link — click on the link.
 - A website will pop up to enter your new password.
 - You're all set.
- For questions or problems, call our customer service line at 800-781-3214.



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