

# Baker City Herald

March 1, 2019

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QUICK HITS

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscriber Diane LeMaster of Baker City.

BRIEFING

**Farm labor rules seminar Tuesday**

An Oregon Farm Bureau official will explain new labor rules during a seminar Tuesday, March 5, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Nazarene Church Fellowship Hall, 1250 Hughes Lane.

Cost is \$35 for Farm Bureau members, and \$150 for nonmembers, which includes a membership. People planning to attend should RSVP by emailing to kdiamondlogan@gmail.com

**Garden Club meeting March 6**

The Baker County Garden Club will meet March 6 at 10:30 a.m. at the Sunridge for a meeting and lunch. Master Gardener David Cowan will give a presentation on how new plants are evaluated and chosen for local retailers.

WEATHER

Today

36 / 20



Partly sunny

Saturday

37 / 17



Partly sunny

Sunday

33 / 14



Partly sunny

**Correction:** A story on Page 5A of Wednesday's issue about Baker City's chronic nuisance ordinance contained an error. Christopher Christie was described as a proponent, but he opposes the ordinance.

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.

February Storms Bolster Northeastern Oregon Snowpack

## Disappearing Pole



Jayson Jacoby / Baker City Herald

Luke Albert, Baker County assistant watermaster, plunges a hollow aluminum pole into the snow near Anthony Lakes on Wednesday afternoon, with Gunsight Mountain looming above. This meadow has been a snow survey site since 1936.

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Luke Albert strides into the meadow and his snowshoes disappear so rapidly that it seems something more than plain gravity is at play.

Albert gazes across the unblemished surface, which glitters in an eye-watering way under the unique blue of an alpine sky, and he reconsiders.

"I think we're going to need another section of pole," he says, sounding much like the police chief in "Jaws," who, having seen the shark, distrusts the diminutive boat he's on.

The pole Albert referred to is a hollow aluminum tube used to measure snow.

To spare snow surveyors the potentially painful indignity of lugging an object of considerable length through forests, the tube is thoughtfully divided into sections of about 2 feet, which fit snugly into the sleeves of a nylon pack that wraps into a manageable size.

See Survey / Page 2A

Jayson Jacoby / Baker City Herald

Luke Albert collects a core sample of snow that will be weighed to determine the water content.



## Trail Ride will go on despite trailer theft, fire

■ Baker County Mounted Posse, which puts on annual ride for kids, had its trailer stolen and burned

By Chris Collins  
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The Baker County Mounted Posse is asking community residents to help police solve a crime that will make it difficult for them to provide their annual Youth Trail Ride this summer.

But the ride will go on, Posse Capt. Jodie Radabaugh assures everyone who is looking forward to the event.

Radabaugh is hoping witnesses might be able to provide police with information that will help solve the crimes of theft and arson.

The theft took place about Feb. 19, according to Baker City Police. A 16-foot cargo trailer belonging to the posse was taken from the parking area of Step Forward Activities Inc., 3720 10th St., where it has been stored when not in use for more than 10 years, Radabaugh said.

Radabaugh, who works as director of operations/production supervisor at Step Forward, was home sick when the trailer went missing and its disappearance went unnoticed.

See Trailer / Page 3A

## Baker leading in contest for playground

By Casey Crowley  
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If the Moda Assist contest ended today Baker City would receive a grant of more than \$30,000 to pay part of the cost for an all-abilities playground, but residents shouldn't be complacent, said Joyce Bornstedt, who oversees the city's parks department.

That's because the online contest continues through March 20.

As of this morning, Baker City had 21,024 votes, giving it a lead over its two competitors — Prineville, 14,744 votes, and Independence, with 7,773.

With the size of the lead, Bornstedt and other city workers have begun planning for the possible addition of an accessible play structure at Geiser-Pollman Park.

The winning city will likely receive between \$35,000 and \$40,000. The amount is based on the number of assists the Portland Trail Blazers have this season. Moda Health is donating \$20 for each assist.

See Play / Page 3A

## OTEC's new safety video to use virtual reality

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative workers will continue to visit local schools to talk to students about being safe if power lines fall, but OTEC crews are getting ready to put on a

more exciting show for kids than in the past.

A virtual reality show, to be specific.

OTEC is partnering with several national groups to produce a video of a mock accident drill that can be

viewed on a traditional monitor, or through a 3-D virtual reality headset.

But the latter is definitely the more enticing option, and the one likely to interest students, said Lea Gettle, OTEC's manager of administration and strategic services.

"I can really see the kids being excited to put one of the headsets on," Gettle said. "You're really inside the safety video, you're not just viewing it. It makes it more memorable."

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MONDAY — BAKER GIRLS, BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYOFF GAMES