

# Baker City Herald

April 12, 2019

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Wild tom turkey

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Health & Fitness • Outdoors • TV \$1.50

QUICK HITS

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscriber Mark Delong of Baker City.

**Community, 3A**

Baker City Police seeking tips on missing local woman.

BRIEFING

**Brockman awarded Vivan Crawford Scholarship**

Crystal Brockman of Baker City has been awarded the \$500 Vivan Crawford Scholarship from P.E.O. Chapter C.J. Brockman will graduate in June from Eastern Oregon University with a master's degree in education.

Vivan Crawford taught elementary school in Oregon, Idaho and Washington for 25 years. The scholarship was established by Ken Crawford and Vivan's P.E.O. sisters and friends to honor her memory.

Brockman's background aligns with the scholarship's goal of promoting women in education, according to a press release. Brockman was active with Mothers of Preschoolers, has served as a Sunday School teacher, story-time reader and school and library volunteer.

WEATHER

**Today**

54 / 30



Showers early

**Saturday**

60 / 38



A shower possible

**Sunday**

51 / 31



Rain showers

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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.

**Baker City Man Organizing Bigfoot Festival For June 15**

## Best Foot Forward



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Scot Violette of Baker City explains how and where he made a plaster cast of a 15-inch-long footprint that he believes was made by a Sasquatch.

**By Casey Crowley**

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On June 15 Baker City will become a center for Bigfoot enthusiasts.

Scot Violette, a Baker City resident and dedicated searcher for evidence of the huge, hairy bipeds that he and others believe roam mountain forests nearby and in other parts of the Northwest, is planning the inaugural Blue Mountain Bigfoot Fest.

The event, centered at Geiser-Pollman Park, will include a variety of Bigfoot-themed activities.

Among the highlights, said Violette, who started Blue Mountain Bigfoot Research in 2017, is an appearance by Dr. Jeff Meldrum, one of the more prominent accredited scientists who believes Bigfoot is a real species.

"What I wanted to do is a festival, just kind of a fun day, but also present some scientific evidence to our community," said Violette, 56.

He expects between 2,000 and 3,000 people will attend the event. The Oregon Bigfoot Festival in Troutdale has attracted about 5,000 people.

"A lot of people don't realize the popularity of Bigfoot stuff right now, it's crazy," Violette said.

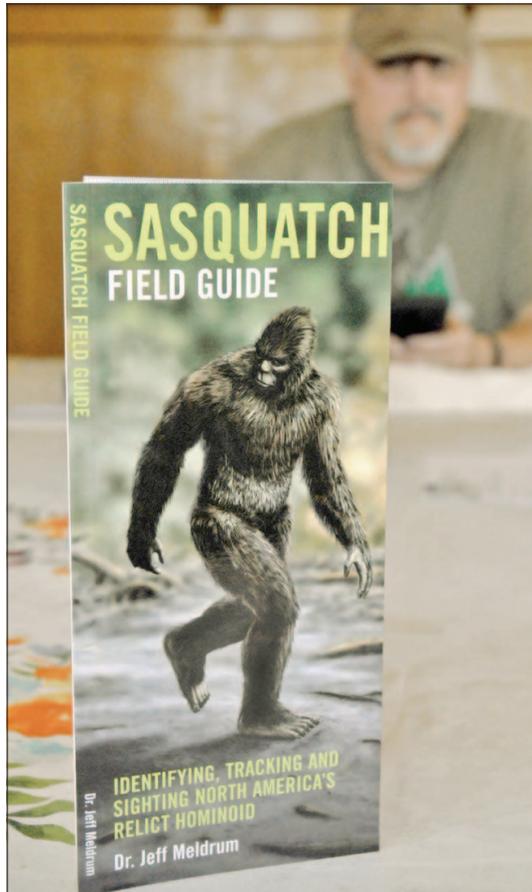
The day starts with a Squatch-Scramble 5K run at 8 a.m., one of just two events that aren't free.

From 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. there will be vendors with food, souvenirs and information at Geiser-Pollman Park.

See **Bigfoot** / Page 3A

S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Brochures depict the possible, physical appearance of the elusive Sasquatch.



## 5J digs into bond defeat

■ Board reviews analysis of votes from November bond measure

**By Chris Collins**

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Baker School Board directors last week learned more about the voters who in November soundly defeated a \$48 million bond issue that would have paid for a new elementary school and other school improvements.

Analysis by a contractor shows that the key demographic is voters age 45 and older.

The measure went down by a vote of 4,760 to 2,221 in the Nov. 6, 2018, election.

See **Measure** / Page 2A

## Fair lures job seekers

**By Casey Crowley**

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More than 25 local employers, and dozens of prospective workers, gathered Thursday at the Baker County Event Center for a Job Fair.

WorkSource Eastern Oregon, part of the Oregon Employment Department, coordinated the event that included booths from both public and private sector businesses looking to fill more than 100 positions, including Baker City, the BLM, the Geiser Grand Hotel, Grocery Outlet and more.

The event started with a youth job fair in the morning (see story on Page 5A), followed by an afternoon session from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., with veterans having priority for the first 15 minutes.

See **Jobs** / Page 5A

## Commissioners discuss disputed road

**By Casey Crowley**

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Baker County commissioners met for an executive session as well as a work session on Wednesday.

The executive session, closed to the public as allowed under Oregon law, was to discuss the county's ongoing legal dispute with a property owner about the locked gate the owner installed on a road near Lookout

Mountain in eastern Baker County.

Though at this point of the year the road is inaccessible due to snow, the county wants Todd Longgood, the landowner, to remove the gate, which he installed about two years ago.

The county had previously filed a legal claim for relief to get the gate opened, but no official notice has been submitted to Longgood, so the claim has not moved forward.

On Wednesday commissioners didn't take any action on the matter and only discussed possible next steps.

Commissioner Bruce Nichols left the session around 11 a.m. The executive session had started at 10 a.m. and was over before 11:30.

Prior to the executive session the commissioners, meeting in a public work session, discussed updating the county's contract with New Directions

Northwest for mental health services. The current contract renews automatically every year and has not been updated since 2014.

The commissioners discussed a need for the contract to specify who would pay for civil commitments for Baker County residents who have to be sent outside of the region.

See **County** / Page 3A



TODAY  
Issue 145, 14 pages

Calendar ..... 2A  
Classified ..... 4B-7B  
Comics ..... 3B

Community News ..... 3A  
Crossword ..... 5B & 7B  
Dear Abby ..... 8B

Health ..... 2B  
Jayson Jacoby ..... 4A  
Lottery ..... 2A

News of Record ..... 2A  
Opinion ..... 4A  
Outdoors ..... 1B

Senior Menus ..... 2A  
Sports ..... 6A  
Weather ..... 8B

MONDAY — BAKER HIGH SCHOOL WEEKEND SPORTS ROUNDUP