

# Community

## New at the Library

• 2400 Resort St.

### FICTION

- "The Tale Teller," Anne Hillerman
- "Miracle at St. Andrews," James Patterson
- "Someone Knows," Lisa Scottoline
- "Sashenka," Simon Sebag Montefiore
- "Wet Trilogy," S. Jackson Rivera

### NONFICTION

- "Buried by the Times," Laurel Leff
- "The First Frontier," Scott Weidensaul
- "I Was Told to Come Alone," Souad Mekhennet
- "Checklist for the Family," Sally Balch Hurme
- "Mint Juleps with Teddy Roosevelt," Mark Will-Weber

### DVDS

- "A Dog's Way Home" (family)
- "Mirai" (animation)
- "On the Basis of Sex" (drama)
- "The Possession of Hannah Grace" (horror)
- "Welcome to Marwen" (drama)



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Violette's night vision optics and range finder also takes still photographs and videos.

## BIGFOOT

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The only requirement for vendors is that they sell at least one Bigfoot-themed item.

Throughout the day there will be several presentations on the main stage at the Powder River Pavilion, including a Bigfoot calling lesson and contest at 11 a.m., a presentation on evidence collection techniques by Violette at 1 p.m., a presentation by Meldrum at 3 p.m., and a Bigfoot "town hall" at 5:30 p.m. with a panel of Violette, Meldrum and Jeremy Scott, who hosts a three-hour radio show about paranormal and abnormal topics. Scott will also interview Meldrum live on his show from 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

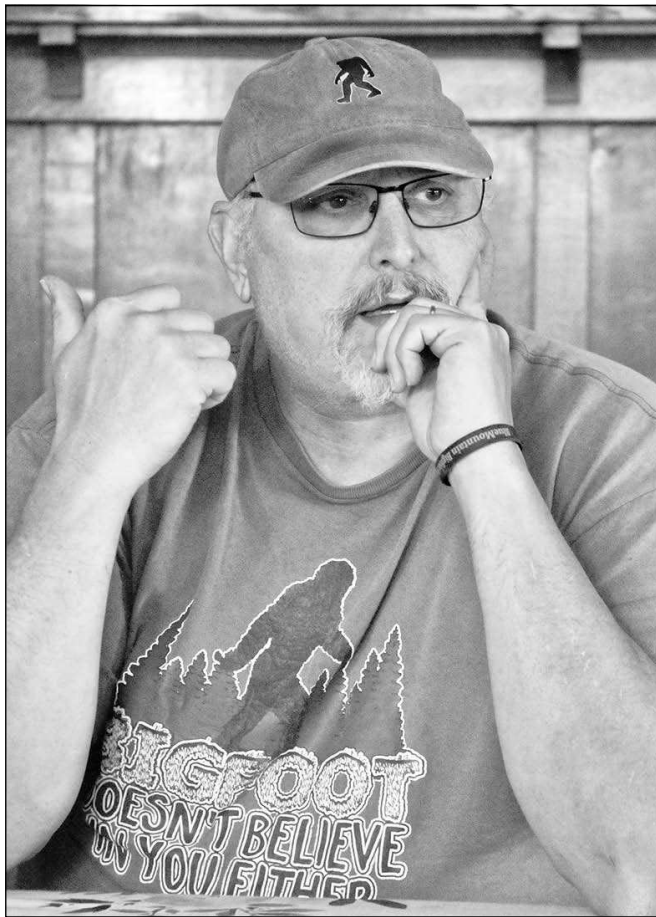
The 5K run and a question-and-answer lunch with Meldrum will cost about \$20 per person.

Violette, who grew up in Summerville but spent many summers in Baker City living with his grandmother, Donna Higgins, said he was inspired to plan the Baker City event in part by his attendance at Bigfoot festivals elsewhere in Oregon.

"Having been to these, I thought, we have a rich history here too and we need to present that to people, a lot of people don't know," Violette said.

Violette, who earned a degree in theater arts at Eastern Oregon State College (now University) in 1984 and a master's degree in anthropology from the University of California-Berkeley in 1998, dates his fascination with Bigfoot to an afternoon in the late 1960s when he watched a short film at the Elgin Opera House.

That film is the roughly minute-long clip, shot on Oct. 20, 1967, along Bluff Creek in Northern California, that's known as the Patterson-Gimlin film. Roger Patterson is the Bigfoot searcher who operated the 16-millimeter movie camera, and Bob Gimlin was his companion. Patterson died in 1972 but Gimlin, who's 87, lives in Yakima, Washington, and remains a celebrity among Bigfoot enthusiasts.



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Scot Violette says he's been an avid Sasquatch enthusiast since he was 7 years old.

The film, known as the "PGF," shows what's purported to be a female Bigfoot striding away from Patterson as he stood on a sandbar in Bluff Creek. It is by a wide margin the most famous piece of evidence in the Bigfoot mystery.

Violette's Blue Mountain Bigfoot Research, a group of Baker County residents dedicated to pursuing Bigfoot, has a website — squatchoregon.com — as well as a YouTube channel. One of his videos has more than 50,000 views.

Violette said he has received about 120 reports of sightings. He considers about 70 of these as credible.

"There is a rich history of Bigfoot here going clear back to the early 1990s when a bunch of casts were found," Violette said.

Violette says the event is not just for those who believe in Bigfoot. It will include a scavenger hunt and kids games along with the 5K run that anyone can enjoy.

He also says that he wants to present evidence to those who don't believe.

He has lined up three vendors from Washington and at least one from Idaho, as well as a plethora of local vendors.

One local vendor, contractor Pete Nelson, plans to build a portable museum booth with the history of credible evidence, hoaxes, and Bigfoot sightings in the Blue Mountains.

Meldrum will also have a booth where he will be signing autographs in addition to the other parts of the event he will be involved in.

Meldrum is a professor of anatomy and anthropology at Idaho State University in Pocatello. He has appeared in more than 20 documentaries over the past 20 years. He also wrote a book on the subject — "Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science" — in 2007.

Violette has received approval from the city to use Geiser-Pollman Park for the Blue Mountain Bigfoot Festival.

## Police seek tips on missing woman

By Chris Collins

collins@bakercityherald.com

Members of the Baker County Major Crime Team are asking the public to help in their attempt to locate a Baker City woman who went missing on March 15.

Linda Peterson, 51, was reported missing by her daughter, Alesia Wilson, 27, of Baker City, said Police Chief Dustin Newman.



Peterson

The police department has printed posters for the family to place at various locations in the hope of generating information about Peterson's whereabouts.

The posters, which include a photo of Peterson, describe her as 5 feet 1 inch tall with brown hair and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, blue jeans and black-and-white tennis shoes. She has tattoos on her buttocks and left ankle and a scar on her right wrist. She is known to travel on foot.

Peterson had been living at 2450 Broadway St., Apartment 4, when she disappeared.

Newman said members of the Major Crime Team gathered at the apartment house Tuesday morning as part of the investigation.

An "attempt to locate" notice has been sent out to police agencies in the hope that if a police officer from another agency has contact with Peterson the officer will see that she has been reported missing from Baker City and alert local police.

"We've had a ton of leads and we're tracking them all down," Newman said.

District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff said the Major Crime Team was called because it is "the strongest use of resources to try to find her."

Information about Peterson also has been distributed in the Portland and Boise areas in case she might have traveled to those locations, Shirtcliff said.

Peterson's daughter is especially concerned because her mother has missed a few appointments that she never misses, Newman said. She also has not been able to contact Peterson by cellphone, which is unusual, he added.

Anyone with information about Peterson is asked to call Baker County Dispatch at 541-523-3644. Tips or leads also may be sent by Messenger to the Baker City Police Facebook Page or emailed to officer Shannon Regan at sregan@bakercity.com

## LOCAL BRIEFING

### Shooting competitions this weekend

A Cowboy Action Shoot is set for Saturday, April 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Powder River Sportsmen's Club's Virtue Flat range about 6 miles east of Baker City off Highway 86. Competitors are invited to bring single-action revolvers, lever-action rifles (replicas or made prior to 1896) and double-barrel or Winchester Model 97 shotguns. Shooters are also encouraged to dress in period western wear or B movie attire.

The course includes five or six stages of 25 to 30 rounds, so bring plenty of ammunition. Entry fee is \$10 per person. More information is available by calling Chuck Buchanan at 541-519-8550 or Dan McGuire at 541-212-5840.

On Sunday, April 14, there will be a steel varmint shoot at the Virtue Flat range starting at 10 a.m. Bring any nonmagnum centerfire rifle, with any sights and rest. No steel core or jacket bullets, please. Entry fee is \$10. More information is available by calling Ken Bardizian at 541-519-6772.

The course of fire:

- 5 shots at 200 meters at a steel squirrel (2x5)
- 5 shots at 300 meters at steel rabbit (3x6)
- 5 shots at 385 meters at steel chuck (6x14)
- 5 shots at 500 meters at steel coyote (16x25)

There is a time limit of five minutes for each stage.

### Baker County Democrats to meet

The Baker County Democrats will have their monthly meeting and spring banquet on Thursday, April 18, at Rogers Fellowship Hall, 1995 Fourth St. The meeting will start at 5:30 p.m., with the banquet at 6:30 p.m. The Sagebrush Swingers will provide musical entertainment. Suggested donation for the event is \$25. Please RSVP to baker.democrats@gmail.com

## COUNTY

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A civil commitment is a process where a judge decides if a person alleged to be mentally ill should be required to accept mental health treatment.

Baker County District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff said that 90 percent of the county's cases of civil commitment take place within the county, but the number they have had to deal with outside the county has been rising in recent years.

Nichols plans to meet with management for New Directions to discuss updating the contract.

## MEASURE

Continued from Page 2A

Hawkins expressed his frustration with the obstacles from the past the District continues to face despite efforts by the Board and administrators to be transparent in their actions and to provide detailed information to the public.

"The biggest problems are one, the mistrust; and one, the misinformation," he said.

"How many people said 'how was I supposed to know?' and then started talking about things we covered in a bazillion meetings we held," Hawkins said.

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MayDay Inc.'s "Strike" out Abuse  
**Pajama Bowl**  
 \$15 for 3 Games!  
**Raffle April 13th**  
 3-6:30 and 7- Close  
 Elkhorn Lanes  
 3335 10th Street Baker City  
 Special Raffle Supporting  
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 Every NEW pair of childrens PJ's gets you 1 special raffle ticket!  
**Silent Auction - 50/50 Drawing**  
**Door Prizes**  
 Money from this event will help survivors of all types of abuse in Baker County. For more information contact MayDay Inc. 541-523-9472  
 2601 Oak Street Baker City, OR 97804

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 3720 BIRCH STREET BAKER CITY  
 Academy Administrative Team  
 Pastor Brad Phillips  
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 541-523-4233

**FALL 2019 OPEN ENROLLMENT Starting in April**

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