

# Baker City Herald

May 8, 2019

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Baker's Caden Long was 2nd at district

**IN THIS EDITION:** Local • Business & AgLife • Go! magazine \$1.50

### QUICK HITS

#### Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Holly Miller of Baker City.

### BRIEFING

#### Baker FFA opens plant sale with ceremony for new greenhouse May 10

The Baker FFA's annual plant sale begins May 10 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. The greenhouse, located in the field near Baker Technical Institute, will be open weekdays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., as well as Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This is a major fundraiser for the Baker FFA Chapter to support fees, registration and travel costs for members.

#### Baker County Garden Club to travel to Eagle Cap Nursery May 15

Members of the Baker County Garden Club will travel to the Eagle Cap Nursery in the Keating area for their May 15 meeting.

It will begin at 10:30 a.m. Participants are asked to bring a sack lunch.

Those who need a ride or directions to the nursery should meet at the Baker County Library at 2400 Resort St., at 9:30 a.m.

### WEATHER

#### Today

70 / 38



Mostly sunny

#### Thursday

72 / 36



Mostly sunny

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.

### Gary Ball & Other Volunteers Keep Local Food Bank Operating

# Feeding Families



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Gary Ball, right, has worked at the food bank since its beginnings. He relies on his volunteers, like Hal Long, left, and others to have boxes ready for pickup or to be delivered to people who aren't able to come to the food bank.

By Samantha O'Conner  
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Gary Ball has donated his time and his money to Baker City's Bread of Life Food Bank for nearly two decades, but he's worried about its future.

Ball, who has been a food bank volunteer since 2002 and is the last of a group that helped start the organization, said it's been challenging to recruit new members.

He has four or five regular vol-

unteers helping him assemble food boxes twice a month. The volunteers range in ages from 65 to over 70. Ball is 80.

"We're all getting up in age and it's very difficult to find younger people to come in and take our place," Ball said.

The Christian Church started the food bank but after the church moved to a new building, Ball said he, along with Glenn Perkey and other volunteers, decided to assume responsibility for the operation at a new location.

They started at a house on 10th Street with six or seven volunteers.

Ball said that in 2005 he was one of five people who each donated \$10,000 to buy the current building where food boxes are put together.

When they bought the building it was just a warehouse. Ball and other volunteers installed insulation, a door, a new roof, a food drop box and other additions.

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# Ready for more restoration



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Carol Phillips reviews the history of the Haskell Building, which she owns on Main Street. A recent grant award will help her renovate the second floor.

Carol Phillips is excited about a \$200,000 state grant to help restore the Haskell Building

By Samantha O'Conner  
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Carol Phillips smiles as she walks through the empty second story of the historic Haskell Building, gesturing to each room, describing its history and how she wants to preserve the Main Street structure and "get it back to life as it was originally set up."

Phillips has owned the 124-year-old building, on the east side of Main between Washington and Court avenues, since January 2017.

She learned last week that she had received a \$200,000 state grant, through the Oregon Main Street program, to continue restoring the building.

Phillips, who won a statewide award for best facade renovation in 2018 for her work on the Haskell Building, plans to use the money to restore its 5,000-square-foot second story, a space that once served as the Baker Elks Lodge.

See Building / Page 7A

# Baker teachers don't walk out

Thousands of Oregon teachers planned to walk out today to protest lack of school funding

Rather than walk out today, Baker School District teachers chose, instead, to wear red as they walked into their classes.

Dawn O'Grady, Baker Education Association president, said staff at South Baker Intermediate, where she teaches reading and math, dressed in red and gathered together in front of the school carrying signs for a photo at 7:10 a.m. before students arrived.

See Teachers / Page 3A

ON PAGE 5A: Oregon teachers plan to walk out today, forcing some schools to partially close

# Tourism spending continues to rise

By Jayson Jacoby  
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Tourism is on a decade-long growth trend in Baker County, and Timothy Bishop is working to maintain that momentum.

So is Linea Gagliano. Bishop, who is Baker County's contract tourism marketing director, and Gagliano, director of global communications for Travel Oregon, met Tuesday morning on the fifth floor of the Baker Tower to sift through the latest reports showing how much visitors contribute to the economies of Baker County, Eastern Oregon and the state.

They gathered in the office of Greg Smith, Baker County's contract economic developer, along with Jamie Porter, industry communications content editor for Travel Oregon, and Alana Garner Carollo, who was in just her second day as executive director of the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association.

Smith participated by phone.

The reports from Dean Runyan Associates show that since a drop during the Great Recession, travel spending has increased every year since.

See Tourism / Page 6A



TODAY  
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FRIDAY — TRAIL BLAZERS TRY TO FORCE GAME 7 IN PLAYOFF SERIES