

Fossil Beds celebrates 40 years

Educational events set for Saturday

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

DAYVILLE – It's a birthday for the books this weekend at the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument Sheep Rock Unit.

On Saturday, several events are planned to celebrate 40 years since the establishment of the Fossil Beds as a national monument.

It's also the sesquicentennial anniversary of the discovery of the first fossils in the John Day Basin by Thomas Condon, and the 10th anniversary of the paleontology center which bears Condon's name.

Born in Ireland, Condon arrived in the United States as a young boy. He became a missionary and a scientist, learning about the abundance of fossils in the Kimberly area in 1862 from soldiers he met at a church he started in The Dalles.

His first visit to the John Day Basin was in 1865 when



Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter

Thomas Condon Paleontology Center.

he excavated fossils which were sent for verification to eastern museums. The John Day Fossil Beds gained its National Monument status in 1975, after authorization from congress the previous year.

The anniversary will be marked by a series of educational events.

A paleontologist will lead a Blue Basin hike from 9-10:30 a.m., meeting at the trailhead a couple miles north of the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center.

Located between the towns of Dayville and Kimberly, the

Thomas Condon Paleontology Center is on Highway 19, two miles north of the junction with Highway 26. Across from the Center is the Cant Ranch where a tour will be held 10-11 a.m.

The main birthday party event includes a cake reception at 11:30 a.m. at the Center with an unveiling of a new exhibit. The new display includes "three new panels about the history of paleontology and how it has developed here at the park," said park superintendent Shelley Hall.

Other events at the Center: a presentation by a park



A paleontologist will lead a hike at the Blue Basin Trail at 9 a.m. Saturday; it will be one of many activities available throughout the day to celebrate the 40th year of the establishment of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument.

paleontologist at 1-1:30 p.m.; gallery tours with a park paleontologist, 2 and 3 p.m.; and practice fossil lab with park preparator, 2-4 p.m.

A reunion potluck for current and former park employees and volunteers will be held at the Dayville Community Hall at 6 p.m. that evening.

SWIM

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Waldner said with the progress each team member is making, she's confident the Sea Dragons will perform well at district.

"I'm really excited about this weekend," she said.

Burns Swim Meet results:

- Mickayla Coalwell (16) F
- Female 15-18, 100 Breast, 5
- Ryan Coalwell (9) M
- Male 9-10, 200 Free, 1
- Male 9-10, 100 Free, 1
- Male 9-10, 50 Breast, 2
- Male 9-10, 100 IM, 2
- Male 9-10, 50 Back, 4
- Male 9-10, 50 Fly, 4
- Male 9-10, 50 Free, 1
- Victoria Coalwell (14) F
- Female 13 & Over, 400 Free, 3
- Female 13-14, 100 Free, 1
- Female 13-14, 100 Breast, 2
- Female 13-14, 200 IM, 1
- Female 13-14, 100 Fly, 1
- Female 13-14, 50 Free, 1
- Trevyn Coalwell (12) M
- Male 11-12, 200 Free, 2
- Male 11-12, 100 Free, 3
- Male 11-12, 50 Breast, 3
- Male 11-12, 100 IM, 3
- Male 11-12, 50 Back, 3
- Trevor Gabbard (8) M
- Male 9-10, 50 Breast, 3
- Cole Graven (8) M
- Male 8 & Under, 25 Back, 4
- Male 8 & Under, 25 Free, 5
- Amelia Hall (10) F
- Female 9-10, 100 Free, 4
- Quentin Hallgarth (12) M
- Male 11-12, 100 Free, 2
- Male 11-12, 50 Breast, 1
- Male 11-12, 50 Back, 2
- Male 11-12, 50 Fly, 1
- Male 11-12, 50 Free, 2
- Travion Hall (6) M
- Male 6 & Under, 25 Free, 3
- Elexas Helmick (6) F
- Female 6 & Under, 25 Free, 3
- Female 6 & Under, 25 Back, 2
- Olive Hensley (8) F
- Female 8 & Under, 25 Free, 5
- Justin Hodge (11) M
- Male 11-12, 200 Free, 1
- Male 11-12, 100 Free, 1
- Male 11-12, 50 Breast, 2
- Male 11-12, 100 IM, 1
- Male 11-12, 50 Back, 5
- Male 11-12, 50 Free, 1
- Russell Hodge (13) M
- Male 13 & Over, 400 Free, 2
- Male 13-14, 100 Free, 2
- Male 13-14, 100 Breast, 4
- Male 13-14, 100 Back, 2
- Male 13-14, 50 Free, 2
- Sivanna Hodge (9) F
- Female 9-10, 200 Free, 3
- Female 9-10, 100 Free, 3
- Female 9-10, 50 Breast, 5
- Female 9-10, 100 IM, 5
- Female 9-10, 50 Fly, 3
- Female 9-10, 50 Free, 2
- Cayden Howard (8) M
- Male 8 & Under, 50 Free, 4
- Male 8 & Under, 25 Back, 2
- Male 8 & Under, 25 Fly, 3
- Male 8 & Under, 25 Free, 2
- Colbie Howard (6) F
- Female 6 & Under, 25 Free, 2
- Female 6 & Under, 25 Back, 1
- Andrew Hunt (10) M
- Male 9-10, 50 Breast, 4
- Male 9-10, 100 IM, 4
- Male 9-10, 50 Fly, 5
- Taylor Hunt (13) M
- Male 13 & Over, 400 Free, 3
- Male 13-14, 100 Free, 4
- Male 13-14, 200 IM, 3
- Male 13-14, 100 Back, 1
- Male 13-14, 100 Fly, 2
- Titaya Janssen (7) F
- Female 8 & Under, 50 Free, 5
- Zeri Janssen (8) M
- Male 8 & Under, 50 Free, 2
- James Johnson (17) M
- Male 15-18, 100 Free, 3
- Male 15-18, 200 IM, 3
- Male 15-18, 100 Back, 3
- Male 15-18, 50 Free, 3
- Katie Johnson (12) F
- Female 11-12, 100 Free, 5
- Female 11-12, 50 Free, 5
- Quinn Larson (10) M
- Male 9-10, 100 Free, 4
- Male 9-10, 50 Back, 2
- Male 9-10, 50 Free, 5
- Grant LeQueiu (14) M
- Male 13 & Over, 400 Free, 5
- Male 13-14, 100 Back, 5
- Thomas LeQueiu (11) M
- Male 11-12, 100 Free, 4
- Male 11-12, 50 Back, 4
- Male 11-12, 50 Breast, 4
- Male 11-12, 50 Fly, 5
- Male 11-12, 50 Free, 5
- Sierra May (7) F
- Female 8 & Under, 50 Free, 4
- Female 8 & Under, 25 Back, 2
- Female 8 & Under, 25 Free, 4
- Laken McKay (9) F
- Female 9-10, 100 Free, 5
- Female 9-10, 100 IM, 4
- Logan Namitz (11) M
- Male 11-12, 200 Free, 4
- Male 11-12, 50 Breast, 5
- Riley Robertson (11) F
- Female 12 & Under, 400 Free, 5
- Female 11-12, 50 Breast, 4
- Talon Van Cleave (9) M
- Male 9-10, 50 Back, 5
- Auna Waldner (18) F
- Female 13 & Over, 400 Free, 1
- Female 15-18, 100 Free, 2
- Female 15-18, 200 IM, 3
- Female 15-18, 100 Back, 1
- Female 15-18, 100 Fly, 4
- Female 15-18, 50 Free, 3

GAME

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Both teams went scoreless in the eighth and, at the top of the ninth, Grant County Wildfire was unable to score with the bases loaded. The game ended on a fly ball hit by Portland over Grant County's third baseman's head with Madi McKrola running hard towards the line, laying out and unable to come up with the ball allowing Portland to score and end the game, 6-5.

"The girls worked hard

and fought back the whole time," said Coach Zach Williams. "It's always hard to lose in a big game like this, but the girls played excellent and I couldn't be more proud of the way they battled under such tough conditions."

Shaine Madden pitched eight full innings and was knocked out of the game on the last out during the eighth inning with a line drive that hit her in the leg. Brianna Zwegardt came in to pitch the ninth inning. Madden had pitched six innings earlier in the day also against Warm Springs

in the semi finals, a game in which Grant County won 12 - 5 to advance to the championship game.

"Shaine Madden pitched an amazing game," said Williams. "She was effective because she got ahead of hitters and was able to throw the change up in any count which kept Parkside/Beaumont hitters off balance all game long."

Throughout the game Madden forced the Portland hitters to put the ball in play and allow her defense to work behind her.

Williams said, "We played good defense, got hits when we needed to, we had great pitching and we stayed up in the dugout and supported each other the whole time you can ask for more than that."

During the championship game, Allen was three for five; Kaylee Wright went two for three and McKrola was two for four. During the Warm Springs game Allen and Madden were both two for four; Macy Strong was two for five and Hailie Wright was two for five with four RBIs. Halie Wright hit two home runs for the tournament one inside the park

against Warm Springs and one out of the park against Tillamook.

Parkside/Beaumont advanced to the regional Little League softball tournament in Tucson Arizona that begins this week.

"Parkside Beaumont was a tough team from the Northeast part of Portland and have been playing together all year with ASA and Little League tournaments," Williams said. "They are a well deserving team and have a good chance to go out and play well at regionals."

Coach Williams had assistance with coaching from Mike Strong, Tammy Clark and Lance Zwegardt all season.

Williams said, "I can't say enough about the help I got from my other coaches and the support from our community. It was so overwhelming to see how many people came over from John Day to watch the state championship game and were cheering us on from home."

He credited the team's success partially to adding ASA tournaments to their schedule this year for more games in the season.

Grant County Wildfire was sponsored at the ASA tournaments by Iron Triangle, Doug's Motor Vehicle Repair and Towing, Les Schwab, Ferguson Surveying, King Inc., and donations from the car wash the girls had in June.

"Our girls had a great season, they worked hard and played well together and got better every game," said Williams. "I can't wait to see what these girls can do and will do in the future."



Contributed photo

The Powder River Correctional work crew poses for the camera following the completion of the riparian enclosure project along Summit Creek.

Correctional facility crew completes forest project

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Upper Sagehen riparian enclosure fencing project along Summit Creek has been completed, the Malheur National Forest recently announced.

Through a master agreement with the Powder River Correctional Facility, the Forest will be able to utilize the

work crews on selected projects this summer. The Powder River Correctional Facility, based in Baker City, Oregon, provides low-risk inmates for community service work.

The first activity undertaken with the new agreement was the Upper Sagehen riparian enclosure fencing project. The goal of this project is to protect riparian areas by building buck and pole fencing along the creek to help protect the ecology of the area while also creating an aesthetic addition to the landscape and at the same time improving the quality of restoration.

The partnership between the Malheur National Forest and the Powder River Correctional Facility will lead to further work activities for this hardworking and willing crew.

For more information on the Malheur National Forest, please visit us at www.fs.usda.gov/malheur, follow U.S. Forest Service- Malheur National Forest on Facebook, and follow @MalheurNF on Twitter for all the latest forest news.

For additional information on how you can get involved with your forest, contact Susan Garner at 541-575-3039.

MEETING NOTICE

NORTH & MIDDLE FORK JOHN DAY RIVER AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN

The Fourth Meeting for the Biennial Review of the North & Middle Fork John Day River Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan will be held on Tuesday, July 28th, 2015 at 5:00pm at the Monument Senior Center at 269 Main Street in Monument.

Contact Steve Ussery at 541-934-2141 with any questions.

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