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Haggen opens its doors

• CAMPBELL ST. ALBERTSONS NOW A LOCAL MEMORY

BY KERRY McQUISTEN
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Last Friday, the Albertsons store on Campbell Street became a thing of the past as the recent purchase by Haggen reached its final step. Thursday afternoon the Haggen sign appeared in the parking lot, with crews

arriving to install the new signage during the night. Haggen's Public Relations representative Darcy Hagin says the company is giving away money to the community in celebration. One \$1,000 nonprofit recipient has already been selected, with more details to come. Said Hagin, "Haggen will partner with four local non-profits and donate 2% of sales to four additional organizations on four consecutive Saturdays. So there are other opportuni-

ties ahead. There are a few ways your audience can reach out to Haggen about their organizations and ask for support: Visit the Haggen website and fill out the Online Partner Inquiry form at <http://www.haggen.com/grow-community/our-local-community/>; talk to the store manager about their organization. Store managers play a key role in deciding about where to allocate funds for donations; and attend the community meeting on June 30th and introduce

themselves to the members of the Haggen team that attend." That community event mentioned is Tuesday, June 30, 5-6 p.m. at the Baker County Conference & Event Center, in Baker City. The signs aren't the only changes. Crews worked into the afternoon on Friday the fifteenth to remodel parts of the inside of the store, which opened two hours ahead of schedule that day. SEE HAGGEN PAGE 9



Kerry McQuisten / The Baker County Press
Crews worked after dark to hang signs last Thursday, and continued to the interior of the store, which opened last Friday afternoon.

RENOWNED PUBLIC LANDS EXPERT SPEAKS TO FULL HOUSE



Brian Addison / The Baker County Press
Fred Kelly Grant, the Idaho attorney responsible for asserting the legal process of local coordination with federal agencies, speaks during the Forest Access for All annual banquet May 16 at the Sunridge Inn.

Fred Kelly Grant, Rep. Kerry White come to FAFA event

BY KERRY McQUISTEN
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"Thank God Baker County is finally, after all these years, at that place where you're ready to use the process (coordination) that cannot lose," said property rights attorney Fred Kelly Grant Saturday evening at the second annual Forest Access for All (FAFA) Banquet. "I've been here seven times over the years. I'm so glad that the commissioners are finally going to do what the people are entitled to—and that is to represent their interests in regard to interacting with the Federal government." He added, "I will venture to say that every other county in eastern Oregon

will be watching you." Grant addressed guests from Idaho and Montana, as well as attendees from Oregon spanning Baker, Umatilla, Wallowa and Grant counties. Montana State Representative Kerry White attended, as did Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer, Wallowa County Commissioner Paul Castilleja, Sumpter Mayor Melissa Findley, Baker County Republican Chair Suzan Ellis Jones, former Klamath County Commissioner Dennis Linthicum, and Baker County Commissioner Mark Bennett and Baker County Commission Chair Bill Harvey.

SEE FAFA BANQUET PAGE 10



Kerry McQuisten / The Baker County Press
FAFA president Tork Ballard (left) receives a \$2,500 donation from CBU members Montana State Rep. Kerry White and Ben Erickson of CBU.

Human trafficking in the spotlight

• SOROPTIMISTS HOLD SEMINAR, FUNDRAISER TO FIGHT GROWING ISSUE

BY GINA K. SWARTZ
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It is not a pleasant subject—human trafficking. "We were nervous about the turnout, hoping for a good crowd and we were pleased. Very informative," said Soroptimist Diane Bloomer. "It's not a subject we like to discuss or even think about." Last Thursday evening a crowd of over 100 met at an event hosted by Soroptimists International to raise awareness of the epidemic, which many seem to connect only to foreign countries. Human trafficking happens in the United States, too. Young girls and even boys are kidnapped or otherwise coerced into a seedy life, bought and sold for unsavory reasons. With the age of technology it happens all too often. 13 is the average age for victims. Keynote speaker Mike Stradley, a lieutenant with the West Linn Police Department who served 30 years with the Portland Police Department addressed the guests at the Elks Lodge. SEE HUMAN TRAFFICKING PAGE 5

Voters reject 1-63

• COUNTY NONPARTISAN INITIATIVE DEFEATED BY OVER 200 VOTES

BY KERRY McQUISTEN
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1-63, the initiative spearheaded by Randy Joseph and supported by the political committee "Baker County People over Politics" (Randy Joseph, Kate Rohner, Elliot Averett, Sharon Defrees, Mary Jane Guyer and Hayden Perkins) was defeated Tuesday night. 1-63 was opposed by the Baker County Republicans. The margin of 211 votes means no automatic recount will occur. The initiative, which would have converted Baker County's three County commissioner's seats to nonpartisan, received 1,842 votes in favor, and 2,053 against. About 9,900 ballots were sent out. In other election results, Andrew Bryan defeated opponent Austin Mitchell, 1,556 to 912 with 18 write-ins for the 5J School Board. Chris Hawkins and Melissa Irvine both ran unopposed for their positions, garnering 2,069 and 2,110 votes respectively. SEE ELECTION RESULTS PAGE 5

Friday

Scattered rain showers and variable cloudiness. Highs around 70 degrees, chance of precipitation is 60% Highs in the high 40s.

Saturday

Scattered clouds with the lingering chance of a shower to pop up. Highs in the upper 60s. Lows in the mid 40s.

Sunday

Partly cloudy with a chance for a thunderstorm or two, any thunderstorm will be strong. Chance of precipitation is 30%, highs in the upper 60s.

Your weekend weather forecast for Baker County.

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