



The Baker County Press

75¢

TheBakerCountyPress.com

All local. All relevant. Every Friday.

Friday, August 28, 2015 • Volume 2, Issue 35

Workshop teaches protection of the western way of life

• FRED KELLY GRANT LEADS 3-DAY BAKER CITY COORDINATION SEMINAR, COMMISSIONERS FROM 3 OREGON COUNTIES ATTEND

BY BRIAN ADDISON
Brian@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Fred Kelly Grant and his

panel of expert grassroots advocates came to Baker City August 20-22, teaching what has proven to be the best method of protecting local interests against ever-increasing federal agency regulations and projects.

Grant offered "Coordination 101," a 20-hour course held at the Baker County Events Center and attended by about 30 citizens.

Several county commissioners, including event organizer and chair of

the Baker County Board of Commissioners Bill Harvey, Baker County Commissioner Tim Kerns, and Wallowa County Commissioner Paul Castilleja, attended the workshop. Baker County Commissioner Mark Bennett collected the seminar's materials, but had to leave to tend to his cattle in the wake of the El Dorado Fire. Another commissioner from Lake County and one from a county in Washington State also at-

tended.

Grant was first asked, 25 years ago, to help ranchers in Owyhee County, Idaho protect grazing interests from increasing regulations proposed by the Bureau of Land Management.

At first glance, Grant told the ranchers he could tie up the court system through administrative procedure and guarantee the ranchers only 18 months of grazing at historical levels.

SEE WORKSHOP PAGE 10



Brian Addison / The Baker County Press

Famed lawyer Fred Kelly Grant conducts the Coordination 101 Workshop in Baker City, Aug. 20 - 22, with organizer and chair of the Baker County Commissioners Bill Harvey in the background.

BAKER CITY POLICE SEARCH FOR OWNER OF HIDDEN 'TREASURE'



Photo courtesy of the Baker City Police Department.

Two photo albums were among the items found in a bag, with photographs inside spanning much of the Victorian era, some dating back to the 1870s.

Victorian-era photos, books from 1900s found

• BOOKS HIDDEN IN A TREE REMAIN MYSTERY TO LOCAL POLICE

BY KERRY McQUISTEN
News@TheBakerCountyPress.com

"Somebody wanted to keep these safe," said Officer Shannon Regan. "We just want to be able to find the rightful owner and return these items."

Regan says back on July 7th, she was out on a call when a resident mentioned she'd heard a "ruckus" in the alley behind her home.

When Regan went to investigate behind the 1545 Sixth Street address, she was surprised, by chance, to spot a bag stuffed in a tree alongside a fence.

"The bag was originally one of those cloth bags from a grocery store up in Seattle, but the bag really could have come from anywhere at this point. Inside it, the books were wrapped up in plastic ziplock-type bags," Regan said.

SEE VICTORIAN PHOTOS PAGE 9



Photo Courtesy of the Baker City Police Department.

Several books found in the bag date back to the mid-1900s, and the photo albums to the late 1800s.

Local fire chiefs train for chopper fires, 'hard landings'

• PILOTS WALK AWAY FROM JUST SUCH A LANDING DURING THE EL DORADO FIRE

BY TODD ARRIOLA
Todd@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Last Wednesday, August 19, at about 7:15 p.m. pacific time, a Sikorsky S-61A helicopter working on the El Dorado fire eight miles southeast of Unity, carrying pilot Gary Wilttrout, 67, of Boise, and co-pilot Scott Talada, 65, of Baker City, experienced a hard landing due to engine failure.

The landing occurred on the west portion of the fire near King Creek, near a medical unit serving firefighters on the line, according to Oregon Department of Forestry Incident Commander Link Smith (the aircraft was under operational control of the ODF).

Smith said, "When the helicopter came to rest, both (pilots) exited the helicopter and signaled that they were unhurt by waving to the medical unit. While no significant injuries were apparent, both individuals were transported by ambulance to St. Alphonsus Ontario Medical Center for further evaluation."

SEE HELICOPTER TRAINING PAGE 11

Local rancher organizes hay donations

• BAKER COUNTY HAY IS ON ITS WAY TO JOHN DAY

BY MEGHAN ANDERSCH
Meghan@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Local rancher, Mike Williams, recently added his name to the list of individuals throughout eastern Oregon and beyond who have come together to provide support to livestock owners in the John Day area, after the Canyon Creek wildfire decimated grazing lands and burned feed.

The "Hay for John Day" drive has garnered donations from all over the state. Kristen Currin of Elgin coordinated with Jim Hamsher of Prairie City to set up online donations and information.

SEE HAY DONATIONS PAGE 5

Friday Cloudy with patchy areas of smoke, highs in the upper 80s. Patches of smoke leading to cloudy skies overnight. Lows in the mid 50s.

Saturday Partly cloudy with a chance for showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s. Chance of precipitation is 30%. Lows in the upper 40s.

Sunday Sunny and mild with highs near 80. Partly cloudy at night with lows in the mid 40s.

Your weekend weather forecast for Baker County.



Official weather provider for The Baker County Press.

Our forecast made possible by this generous sponsor:



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Eagle Complex fire takes cabin	Page 4
Sumpter Mayor likely recalled	Page 5
Huntington's food bank vandalized	Page 5
City passes new pot ordinance	Page 7
Career profile: Police Chief	Page 8
Local women start horse rehab	Page 8

