

Business & Ag

Cattlemen hold summer potluck in the park

• FIRE OFFICIALS ALSO ATTEND

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Between 50 and 60 people, including local livestock producers, attended a Baker County Livestock Association (BCLA)-hosted Summer Social potluck, including beef, salads, desserts and beverages, last Thursday evening, August 20, at Geiser-Pollman Park in Baker City.

Attendance included representatives from the Oregon Cattlemen's Association (OCA), Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Jake Bingham, BCLA President, said, "Thank you to everyone who's contributed to this meeting tonight," and then mentioned a display table with items such as Oregon Beef Producer magazines, Oregon Cattlemen's Association (OCA) membership forms, flyers, pamphlets, and information about making hay donations, monetary donations, and transportation services donations on behalf of providing wildfire relief to ranchers.

He introduced the new Oregon State University Extension Service Livestock Agent for Baker and Union counties, Leticia Valeras. She said, "I grew up in southeastern New Mexico ... I'm really excited to be here. I'm really excited about the staff that's in the office I just wanted to let you guys know that, if there's anything I can do to help out, give me a call. I really look forward to building that relationship with you guys."

Bob Parker, Extension Service County Leader/Forestry Agent, said, "We're awfully glad to have Leticia on our staff."

Bingham introduced the new agricultural teachers in the area, Viviana Giff for Baker High School, and Seth Bingham for North Powder High School.

Giff introduced herself and her family, and said, "... We just moved here from Crane, so, we were in Crane for five years, and then before that, we were in Bend. I'm really happy to be on this side of the state, and I'm really excited to be a part of the community..."

Seth Bingham introduced himself and his family, and said, "For the last two years, I've been (teaching) in Baker. I've had a good experience there, and I'm excited to go to North Powder, as well. Exciting things happening there, and I'm really proud of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) program. That means a lot to me... I look forward to serving your youth, and promoting agriculture..."

Bingham spoke about the Shrine steer, which was purchased from Cody Belveal and provided by the BCLA and the Baker



Todd Arriola / The Baker County Press

BCLA President Jake Bingham addresses the crowd at the park.



Todd Arriola / The Baker County Press

Fire officials, faces now familiar after several local town halls, discuss the perimeter of the Cornet-Windy Ridge Fire, pointing out privately owned land.

County Cattlewomen (BCC), sold through auction during halftime of the East-West Shrine game earlier this month. The steer raised \$17,750 for the Shrine Hospital in Portland.

Carole Smith, Extension Service Regional Administrator, said, "... I appreciate being invited tonight, and the chance to get to know people in this community a little better." She spoke about supporting Parker and other staff, and people in the local community.

Kate Rohner gave some totals for different fundraisers, including the Shrine breakfast (\$1,571 plus a \$500 donation), and the Gridiron Tailgate party (\$2,300), for a combined total of \$4,371.

Mary Ellen Anderson spoke in more detail about the success of the first annual Tailgate party, held the same day as the Shrine football game. "We had so many people that helped us... We're going to help for it next year, and the plan is to move it here (to the park), so we can follow the breakfast, and get it in some shade."

Representatives from

the Southwest Incident Management Team were present to give an update on the Cornet/Windy Ridge wildfire situation, using a large map of the area.

OCA Executive Director Jerome Rosa spoke to the crowd, first mentioning an internet page on OCA's website, set up for those wishing to donate for the purpose of relief for ranchers affected by the wildfires, and for those wishing to request assistance.

"Out outreach has been very successful thus far, and we're seeing email every day that is increasing," Rosa said. He said the OCA has been having monthly drought meetings for the last three months with the Governor's office

Rosa explained that the OCA has been attempting to coordinate a tour of the wildfires situation in eastern Oregon with Governor Kate Brown, but, "The response hasn't been great," he said.

Among other things, Rosa said that, this week, he would be meeting with several individuals, agencies, and groups in The Dalles to discuss current grey wolf issues. "We

have some hope," he said, noting that at least for now, there is more of a discussion, as opposed to total opposition from certain groups previously.

The group discussed the various types of donations associated with wildfire relief, including methods of delivery and storage, and the associated issues.

Bingham said, "I've had people talk to me about wanting to donate hay and straw... Things (donations) are going to go to John Day, until we start seeing a need here... If there are people that have needs here, we want to help our local producers in Baker County. If you guys know of a neighbor, or know of someone who needs, who is going to be short, get a hold of somebody. Let me know, or someone within our organization know, so we can help fill those needs."

For more information about the John Day/Canyon City hay drive, Mike Williams can be contacted at 541-519-8718. The collection point is Wards' Cellar, on Highway 30, Baker City.

— WEEKLY HAY REPORT —

Friday, August 21, 2015 — Eastern Oregon

Prices trended generally steady compared to week ago prices. Trade activity declined slightly compared to a week ago. Many producers have decided to hold on to their hay for now, in hopes for higher prices.

Tons	Price Range	Wtd Avg
Alfalfa / Grass Mix	— Standing	unknown
Timothy Grass	— Large Square	
Premium 580	180.00-185.00	182.50
Last week:		
Alfalfa/Timothy Mix	— Large Square	
Premium 200	210.00-210.00	210.00
Meadow Grass	— Small Square	
Good 22	175.00-175.00	175.00

USDA Market News Service—AMS.USDA.gov

— CATTLE MARKET REPORT —

Wednesday, August 19, 2015

Vale, Oregon

Cattle sold through the auction: 613

Steer Calves

300-400#	Bulk 271.00 - 293.00	Top 299.00
400-500#	Bulk 240.00 - 256.00	Top 260.00
500-600#	Bulk 218.00 - 230.00	Top 232.00

Heifer Calves

300-400#	Bulk 263.00 - 281.00	Top 292.50
400-500#	Bulk 209.00 - 256.00	Top 260.00
500-600#	Bulk 214.00 - 222.00	Top 230.00

Yearling Steers

600-700#	Bulk 197.00 - 224.00	Top 226.00
700-800#	Bulk 178.00 - 196.00	Top 198.00
800-900#	Bulk 171.00 - 177.00	Top 178.00
900-1,000#	Bulk N/A	Top N/A

Yearling Heifers

600-700#	Bulk 198.00 - 224.00	Top 226.00
700-800#	Bulk 178.00 - 195.00	Top 198.00
800-900#	Bulk 163.00 - 174.00	Top 176.00
900-1,000#	Bulk N/A	Top N/A

Thin Shelly Cows 77.00 - 93.00

Butcher Cows 97.00 - 107.00

Butcher Bulls 98.00 - 126.00

Stock Cows Yng. 1925.00 - 2600.00

Younger Hfrts. 128.00

Stock Cows - 1175.00 - 1585.00

ProducersLivestock.com

541-473-3136

— LOG PRICE REPORT —

Price per 1,000 board feet: Northeast Oregon

Doug Fir is \$415.00/mbf

White fir is \$365.00/mb

Ponderosa Pine is brought sold on diameter splits

6 to 11 inch dib \$300 to \$310/MBF

12 to 17 inch dib \$350 to \$375/MBF

18 to 23 inch dib \$400 to \$430/MBF

24 inch plus dib \$450 to \$500/MBF

DIB is diameter inside bark at small end of log.

MBF is thousand board feet lumber, net scale.

People interested in selling logs should call and get specific quotes from saw mills.

Courtesy of Arvid Andersen, Andersen Forestry Consulting

— PRECIOUS METALS REPORT —

Price per ounce, USD

Gold: \$1137.30

Silver: \$14.64

Platinum: \$977.57

Palladium: \$540.28

Bloomberg.com

— AG COMMODITIES —

Corn: \$377.00/bu/USD

Wheat: \$500.25/bu/USD

Soybeans: \$880.75/bu/USD

Oats: \$219.50/bu/USD

Rough Rice: \$11.62/cwt/USD

Canola: \$479.60 CAD/mwt

Live Cattle: \$142.00/lb./USD

Feeder Cattle: \$195.33/lb./USD

Lean Hogs: \$67.63/lb./USD

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