

Business & Ag

Hansel and Gretel's House of Sweets to open

• OCTOBER DEBUT PLANNED

BY SUNNY WERNER
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One pretty much has to be an old-timer to remember saving up pennies for a trip to the candy shop.

Now, however, two of Baker's newer residents plan to give new generations the experience of standing in a candy store, trying to decide which sweets they want most.

"Hansel and Gretel's House of Sweets" is slated to open downtown, directly across from the Geiser Grand Hotel on Main & Washington.

Tricia Maher and Christina Dudley-Scott, cousins, decided they wanted to offer Baker "something different," as they tell their story.

"We wanted to be super-careful not to step on any toes," says Maher, "so we did a lot of market research and met with lots of store owners."

They settled on a candy store, as that is something Baker doesn't have.

"And who doesn't love candy?" Maher said.

In their efforts to respect the niches different stores have carved for them-

selves, they won't be offering fudge, for example.

"Sycamore Tree already is famous for their fudge. We wouldn't compete with them," Dudley-Scott explained.

The women have been avidly gleaning information from all the sources available, and reiterate frequently their delight in the warm reception they have received.

They have worked with business advisors and the various Downtown Business groups.

The plan is to open in early October. "We are hoping for the first," said Maher.

The store will offer a variety of candies, both sugar and sugar free. They will have the old-fashioned candy bins as well as display cases.

They also plan to showcase some local producers' goods, such as regular and gluten-free breads.

The women are also planning to make smoothies and have comfortable seating areas.

"We really want people to feel welcome to come and relax, to sit and visit," Dudley-Scott explained. "The store is not going to be just for kids."

"We have so many plans; it's just so exciting!"



Sunny Werner / The Baker County Press

Tricia Maher and Christina Dudley-Scott are slated to open their new candy store soon.

said Maher. "We plan to offer kids' birthday parties. We have so much room in here and we can use one of the semi private rooms."

"And we are going to have our own Santa here in the weeks before Christmas!" Dudley-Scott added.

Both women have small children, and the store currently has space devoted to the kids. They can play, color and entertain themselves as their mothers paint and decorate the store.

The store itself is light and cheerful, with large windows on two sides.

At present, much of the decorations consist of bright and colorful children's toys "donated by

our kids!" said Maher.

There is a large display counter seen immediately after entering, and big open spaces which will be filled with tables and shelves. Toward the rear are several more rooms and areas that the cousins will put to good use. There is also a kitchen, with a pass-through bar area where the smoothies will be made and served.

As they progress toward opening day, the cousins are excitedly exchanging ideas. They are very welcoming toward suggestions, and invite Baker folk to stop by the store, even before they open, with ideas, comments, thoughts and suggestions.

Jeff Kleck: tales in watercolor

BY GINA K. SWARTZ
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Jeff Kleck has been creating art since he was very young. Now, his art is on display at the Baker City Saddle Shop on Church street.

The 1974 Baker High graduate who grew up on cattle ranches in the Medical Springs area said of his work, "I'm trying real hard to let the paint paint the picture. That's hard for people that do watercolors, not mess with it too much when you're letting the paint paint the picture."

He added, "Everything I paint has a story, has a tale. There is something behind every painting, it has a story within itself, as much as anything I try to tell a story. Behind that story I try to use different techniques, a splash technique or a drip technique. Instead of even worrying about what the color is, use any color but make sure the value is correct, so it doesn't matter the color—say I see a shadow on a neck and it's a dark shadow. It doesn't matter that the neck has a flesh tone to it what matters is that area is dark. A lot of people don't realize how much green is in skin. So a good dark green you put it into a portrait and you look at it and say, 'Holy cow, it is amazing what all that color does.'"

As far as a defined style, Kleck doesn't specifically identify with anything.

"It is kind of mixed," he said. "I've done a few bronzes before. With watercolor, I use a splash technique where you drip paint onto the paper and blow it around with a straw. It gets you this interesting coloration and then you can go back over it with the details you want. I don't do photographic



Gina K. Swartz / The Baker County Press

BHS grad Jeff Kleck shows off his art at the Baker City Saddle Shop.

realism. For me, I'm experimenting with different styles but at the same time every time I'm putting something together, I'm telling a story. If there is anything that would define a style it's more about the story but I like to say it is 'tales in watercolor.'"

He smiled. Kleck was influenced at young age by Duke Sundt, well-known western artist and sculptor.

"He showed me how to draw my first bucking horse and I've been drawing or painting ever since," Kleck said. "I also give a lot of praise to my old art teacher in High School, Mr. Miller. I went through three years of art right here at Baker High School. I had one class of design in College and I can tell you I learned more from Mr. Miller in High School as I did in that college class. The rest of it is studying, reading, watching, trying, experimenting and seeing what happens."

Kleck has a couple paintings that are near and dear to his heart one of those is called *Dad's Sombrero*. It is a depiction of what Kleck has in his mind of a hat his dad had complete with a horseshoe print on

the back rim.

He explained, "It's like any cowboy hat that anybody has ever worn it has gone with that cowboy a lot of places and there are a lot of stories to tell. If that hat could only talk."

Which is coincidentally is the name of another painting he has done of a cowboy hat.

He tells of another painting that tells the story of when he was young working on his family ranch in Medical Springs. "I was the one that rode a lot of the colts and I would ride them out to the back of the ranch, the painting is called *Two Empty Stirrups*," he said. Kleck explained, "It illustrates when it is an hour ride, but a two and a half hour walk back, holding on for dear life seems to be the best option at that point."

When asked about the selling of his art, Kleck said, "Years ago I had a friend see some of my paintings and said I know a guy that would love those, would you sell them? So I sold a couple, they were just hanging in my house. And then at one particular time I had

a bunch of paintings and I had just been enjoying them myself. I had a yard sale, because I was moving, so I just set them out with everything else and sold them there. The ones I remember I will probably repaint again. One was of George Fletcher, the first black man to win the saddle bronc completion at the Pendleton Roundup. He was denied his saddle until 1965 or something but he was a good rider and it's not to emphasize any particular issue it was just to honor somebody who was a good cowboy."

Kleck's wife Barbara said, "Recently Jeff found a newspaper clipping about it and said 'I want to paint this again.'"

Kleck said, "Philosophically I have thought about this for a while, people paint for a number of reasons. I have decided that when people start coming to see and buying your art then you really have a partnership. You may buy something you like for your home or whatever but my share of the partnership is to continue to grow as a painter.

SEE JEFF KLECK PAGE 5

— WEEKLY HAY REPORT —

Friday, September 11, 2015 — Eastern Oregon

Prices trended generally steady compared to week-ago prices. Export sales have seemed to slowly pick up compared to past few weeks. Many producers have decided to hold on to their hay for now, in hopes for higher prices. Some producers are having their water rights cut off due to the drought.

Tons Price Range Wtd Avg

Alfalfa — Large Square, Supreme
300 210.00-210.00 210.00

Alfalfa — Large Square, Premium
100 140.00-140.00 140.00

Timothy Grass — Large Square, Good
800 170.00-170.00 170.00

Last week:

Orchard Grass — Small Square, Premium
30 195.00-195.00 195.00

Timothy Grass — Small Square, Premium
10 195.00-195.00 195.00

USDA Market News Service—AMS.USDA.gov

— CATTLE MARKET REPORT —

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

Vale, Oregon

Cattle sold through the auction: 991

Steer Calves

300-400# Bulk 279.00 - 292.00 Top 316.00
400-500# Bulk 247.00 - 285.00 Top 289.00
500-600# Bulk 209.00 - 251.00 Top 252.00

Heifer Calves

300-400# Bulk 241.00 - 261.00 Top 265.00
400-500# Bulk 229.00 - 253.00 Top 258.00
500-600# Bulk 207.00 - 225.00 Top 226.00

Yearling Steers

600-700# Bulk 201.00 - 216.00 Top 218.00
700-800# Bulk 169.00 - 191.00 Top 196.00
800-900# Bulk 163.00 - 177.00 Top 178.00
900-1,000# Bulk N/A Top N/A

Yearling Heifers

600-700# Bulk 173.00 - 192.00 Top 198.00
700-800# Bulk 168.00 - 180.00 Top 181.00
800-900# Bulk 166.00 - 177.00 Top 179.00
900-1,000# Bulk 151.00 - 164.00 Top 164.50

Thin Shelly Cows 73.00 - 89.00

Butcher Cows 94.00 - 106.00

Butcher Bulls 102.00 - 119.00

Stock Cows Yng. 1590.00 - 2300.00

Younger Hfrts. 113.00 - 132.00

Stock Cows - 1310.00 - 1535.00

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: \$1120.20

Silver: \$14.86

Platinum: \$974.55

Palladium: \$607.38

Bloomberg.com

— AG COMMODITIES —

Corn: \$385.50/bu/USD

Wheat: \$487.00/bu/USD

Soybeans: \$887.75/bu/USD

Oats: \$234.20 bu/USD

Rough Rice: \$12.84/cwt/USD

Canola: \$472.50 CAD/mwt

Live Cattle: \$139.90/lb./USD

Feeder Cattle: \$189.40/lb./USD

Lean Hogs: \$62.83/lb./USD

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