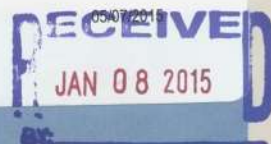




5\*1 \*\*\*\*\*ECRL0T 0074A\*\*C007  
 BAKER COUNTY LIBRARY  
 2400 RESORT ST  
 BAKER CITY OR 97814-2721



# Record-Courier

The Oldest Weekly Newspaper in Baker County

*Intensely local news*

www.theronline.com

Est. Haines 1901~Haines, Baker County, Oregon

Thursday, January 8, 2015

Volume 114, Number 2 • 10 Pages • 75 cents

## Over the Top About the Bandstand

"We are ecstatic," said Dave Hunsaker over news he and his wife, Joyce, received on Tuesday from the Ford Family Foundation. The Baker City Bandstand Committee/Soroptomist International of Baker County has received an "Over the Top" grant from the Ford Family Foundation which ensures the construction of the bandstand this spring.

The project, which began in May of 2006, is expected to be completed by Miners Jubilee according to Joyce Hunsaker.

Al Durgan and Phyllis Badgley are considered the original "Dream Team" of the project, although others certainly helped the project along the way. Currently, the board is comprised of Dave Hunsaker who serves as Chairman, Marvin Sundean as Vice Chair, Lynette Perry as Treasurer and the representative from Soroptomists, Joyce Hunsaker who serves as the grant writer and Secretary, and Cindy Endicott who is a Director and Treasurer pro-tem. Mark Johnson is the Construction Manager of the project.

"We believe this is an important asset for the whole community and it has been 40-plus years since Baker City has had a bandstand. This, along with all the wonderful playground improvements and upgrades the Lions Club has made to the horseshoe pits in the park is truly a rebirth, a resurgence, of Geiser-Pollman Park. It is the heart of the community and is where the community gathers," said Joyce.

The Ford Family Foundation was established in 1957

by Kenneth W. and Hallie E. Ford. Its mission is "successful citizens and vital rural communities" in Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif. The Foundation is located in Roseburg, Ore., with a Scholarship Office in Eugene.

"This grant, plus our recent major award from the Leo Adler Community Foundation, have ensured the project's success and will enable us to begin construction in Geiser-Pollman Park as soon as weather will allow," said Dave Hunsaker, Committee Chair.

**"It is the heart of the community and is where the community gathers"** - Joyce Hunsaker

"Ash Grove Cement Company, Pease Family Fund, the Durgan family fund, the Oregon Community Foundation, Idaho Power Company, MDU Resources Foundation (Cascade Natural Gas), and the Powder River Music Review have each demonstrated continued financial patronage for this community asset," Hunsaker added.

Long-term community support has been essential with eighteen local individuals and families gifting \$1,000 each and 350 individuals and businesses purchasing bricks and tiles. Over 4,500 volunteer hours have been given to the project along with volunteer performances by musicians, and major support by every newspaper in Baker County.

"Watch for our ribbon cutting this summer," said Hunsaker.

## BHS to Host Cheer Camp



By Emily Braswell

Do you have a child of kindergarten through sixth grade age who loves the movie "Frozen" and wants to dance, cheer, and perform?

The Baker High School (BHS) cheerleading squad will hold its second cheer camp of the school year during the first week of Feb. This performance will have an added twist: a popular theme from the movie, "Frozen," according to new head cheerleading coach, Hope Perkins.



Hope Perkins

Perkins was hired as head coach last Nov., and brings 15 years of cheerleading experience to share. This position marks the beginning of her fifth year coaching the sport she is most passionate about.

"The song is from the movie Frozen, which is super popular with kids. It should make it a lot of fun...and also attract kids to sign up," said Perkins. The camp will also feature characters from the movie as each learning station will be based on a character from the storyline. Perkins and her squad of 15 basketball season cheerleaders will teach a dance, cheers, and jumps to a slightly modified version of "Let It Go" during three, one-hour long practices. Participants will then perform during half-time of the boys basketball game against the La Grande Tigers.

Cheer camp is open to students kindergarten through sixth grade. Boys and girls are equally encouraged to participate. Registration is \$30 for each athlete who is signed up by Jan. 20. Students registered after Jan. 20 will be charged an extra \$5. The fee pays for camp tuition, one camp t-shirt, pom-poms and the participant's entry into the boys' varsity game for the performance. (Adult tickets for the game are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the door the night of the performance.)

Practices will be held in the BHS Commons Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 3-5, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. each night. The performance will be Friday, Feb. 6 during half-time of the varsity boys game. The game begins at 7:30 p.m. and participants will meet in the BHS Commons at that time. For those interested, during the practice nights, cheerleading uniforms from prior years will be available for purchase at a very discounted price.

Registration forms can be printed off of the bulletin board of the Record-Courier's website and BHS's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bakerbulldogs. They should also be available at each of the schools' front offices. Please return them with payment (checks made payable to BHS Cheerleading) to the BHS front office, or mail to: BHS Cheer Camp, 2500 'E' Street, Baker City, OR 97814. Questions can be answered by Coach Perkins at 541-450-1376, or by emailing: bhscheerleading@hotmail.com.

## Boy Scout Leader Alerts Family of House Fire



By Teri Brown-Johnson

It was a Happy New Year for a family who was saved from a house fire on Campbell Street in Baker City in the early morning of Jan. 3. It was very unfortunate their house caught on fire, but very fortunate a young man by the name of Markeith Reese was passing by and noticed the front of the house on fire.

"I saw flames coming from the porch of the house and noticed there was no one around. I jumped the fence and starting banging on the window, but there was no response," said Reese. He tried to reach the occupants, but he was unable to wake them. Reese said he knew the neighbor, so woke them up and he told them to call 911. He was then able to force the back door open, yelled for the occupants to wake up and helped them get the children out of the house. Reese said the lady of the house couldn't find her car keys, so he went back to his car for a flashlight and re-entered the house. He said he couldn't find the keys, but she was able to locate them after the Baker City Fire Department extinguished the fire.

Reese said the scariest part was how quickly the fire spread from the time he spotted it, until the time the residents were safely out. Reese is a Scout leader for the Boy Scout Troop 433. He was a true hero that day. He told his story to another Troop leader, David Johnson of Haines, when Johnson asked him why he looked so tired. This conversation was held when the troop members were collecting Christmas trees in Baker City that Saturday morning.

Reese grew up in Baker City and he is a 2013 graduate of Baker High School.

## Harvey Takes Helm

By Emily Braswell

After 34 years in the private sector as a home builder, Bill Harvey took his oath of office on Dec. 30 and began his first official day as the Baker County Commission Chairman on Monday, Jan. 5.

"Baker County is one of the most blessed areas to live in as far as friendships, as people genuinely still care about one another here," said Harvey, who with his wife, Lorrie, lives in the Rock Creek area. He feels very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to spend the time in Baker County living and working. They have four children, all from their first marriages, Harvey says, but they are a strong family unit. One of their daughters lives in Baker City. The other three would love nothing more than to move back, but the lack of job opportunities, unfortunately, keeps them away for now, he shared.

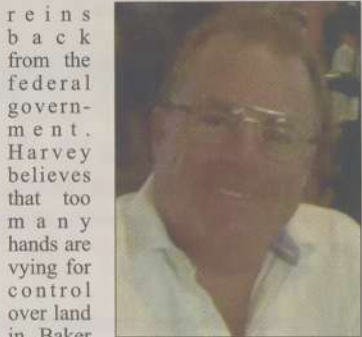
Harvey comes to his new position having previously served 12 years on the

Baker County Planning Commission, one year as co-chairman of the Baker County Nuisance Ordinance Committee, and one year on the 5-J School District Budget Board. As a building contractor he spent a majority of his time working closely with his employees, supply companies, sub-contractors, home owners and government officials, often having to make tough decisions when choosing how to complete projects within their budget and time frame.

He stated he plans to spend the first 90 days in office working side by side with county employees so he can fully understand each position. He hopes this will give him a view of the county as a whole and assist him in understanding the dynamics he will face in his new role.

"My job is to work with the other two commissioners, the best that we can, to lessen the problems by working with government agencies, helping them understand the needs in Baker County," Harvey said.

This position is a four-year term, and when asked what his long term goals are, Harvey replied, "My goal is to do whatever it takes to benefit the citizens of Baker County." This includes taking the



Bill Harvey

reins back from the federal government. Harvey believes that too many hands are vying for control over land in Baker County, and he declared, "Baker County lands need to be under Baker County control."

"42 years ago we had six mills in and around this area, and now there is nothing. The natural resources used to provide jobs, but they were taken away from us. It's time for us to get those jobs back." He also has a determined focus on keeping federal lands open and accessible in an effort to create jobs in both the timber and mining industries.

See HARVEY on page 2



**Dark Side of the Horse**  
by Sam Ford

Can you tell me how many jobs the company will cut?  
 YES. JUST ONE...

One? Oh, that's so great! What a relief! I feared it would be worse and...

... THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND FORTY JOBS.

**OREGON TRAIL ELECTRIC CO-OP**  
 405 23rd Street • PO Box 226  
 Baker City, OR 97814  
 (541) 523-3616