

RECEIVED
MAY 28 2015

5*1 *****ECRLOT 0074A**C007

BAKER COUNTY LIBRARY
2400 RESORT ST
BAKER CITY OR 97814-2721

Exp 05/07/2015



Huntington, North Powder and
Pine Eagle Graduates inside!

Record-Courier

Thank You for Supporting this Family Owned, Weekly Newspaper

Intensely local news

www.theronline.com

Thursday, May 28, 2015

Volume 114, Number 22 • 10 Pages • 75 cents

Est. Haines 1901 ~ Haines, Baker County, Oregon



Special Memorial Day Service Held at Mt. Hope

Commissioner Bill Harvey was the guest speaker at the special service held on Memorial Day at Mt. Hope Cemetery to honor veterans and military, especially those who paid the ultimate price.

"We thank them with all of our hearts. Our freedom must not be taken for granted," Harvey said in speech to the crowd.

Kathleen Cathey from Senator Wyden's office, was present at the ceremony and read a letter from the Senator who stated that we honor the service of Oregon vet-

erans everyday, not only on Memorial Day.

Eight new flags were dedicated in honor of the following who had served and passed away: Dr. Menzie McKim, Melvin Cox, Melvin E. Hauser, Marshal Cornett, James McClellan Wright, Kenneth W. Sturgill, Raymond Radabaugh and Gerald Gene Hesseltine. Following the dedication, Taps was played by Duncan Pierce, Ret. 1st Sgt. of the Army.

Shortly after the closing prayer by Austin Coates, Chaplain, a National Guard F16 flew over the crowd.



Photos by Gina Perkins
Above, Commissioner Bill Harvey was the guest speaker at Monday's event

At far left, "Taps" being played by Duncan Pierce

At left, the flag being unfurled in preparation for dedication

Host Families Needed for Three Week Summer Chinese Exchange Program

Baker High School is very proud and excited to welcome 11 Chinese Students in 11th grade and two Chinese Teachers from Xian China to Baker City for three weeks this summer from July 19- Aug 8. There will be activities for the students to do during the weekdays Monday through Thursday. Baker High School is looking for host families who would consider a three week placement for a foreign exchange student. Families would immerse the students in their family as one of their own.

"We are trying to place Chinese students in pairs but if you can only host one, contact me. The goal is to eventually send a group of Baker students back to Xian in the following year to establish an ongoing cultural exchange," said Ben Merrill, BHS Principal.

Host families can earn \$150 to donate towards a club or activity of their choice.

All interested families will be invited for a parent information meeting to learn more.

If you are interested, please contact Ben Merrill at Baker High School by calling 541-524-2600.

Ten New Prehistoric Rodent Species Discovered in Oregon's John Day Basin

Kimberly, Ore. - Paleontologists are pleased to announce the discovery of 10 new prehistoric rodent species found at the National Park Service (NPS) John Day Fossil Beds National Monument and nearby public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

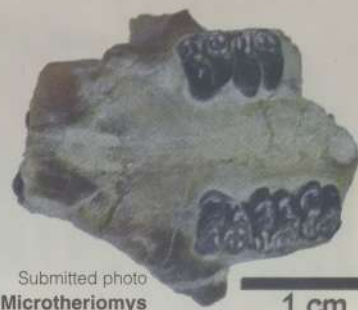
As reported in the current issue of the Annals of Carnegie Museum, Dr. Joshua Samuels (John Day Fossil Beds National Monument) and Dr. William Korth (Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Rochester Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology) examined newly discovered and previously undocumented fossil specimens from the John Day Formation. Their study describes 21 species of rodents in all. The new species include: an early beaver, *Microtheriomys brevirhinus*, which may be the distant ancestor of living beavers; a dwarf tree squirrel, *Miosciurus covensis*, smaller than any living in North America today; a primitive pocket mouse, *Bursagnathus aterosseus*, a possible ancestor of these abundant desert rodents; and a birch mouse, *Plesiosminthus fremdi*, named for retired John Day Fossil Beds paleontologist Ted Fremd.

"This study fills some substantial gaps in our knowledge of past faunas, specifically smaller mammals. Some of the new

species are really interesting in their own right, and will ultimately help improve our understanding of the evolution of beavers and pocket mice," said Dr. Joshua Samuels. "These finds show that despite this area being studied for well over 100 years, new discoveries continue to be made. Each new discovery helps to give us a fuller picture of Oregon's past."

This study allows better reconstruction of Oregon's past ecosystems and improves understanding of how faunas in the region have changed through time. Some of the new rodents are closely related to species from the fossil record of Asia, and help document the dispersal of species across the Bering Land Bridge in the Oligocene. Several of the new species, like the beaver *Microtheriomys* and pocket mouse *Bursagnathus*, will help inform studies of how living rodents have evolved.

Oregon's John Day Basin contains one of the most complete and well-known fossil records on Earth, with nearly 50 million years of time preserved. These fossil beds record the history of ancient ecosystems, changing climate, and plant and animal evolution during the 'Age of Mammals.' For 150 years, paleontologists have been visiting the area to collect fossils and study geology. As a result of this research, the



Submitted photo
Microtheriomys brevirhinus

John Day Formation boasts an incredibly diverse fauna with over 100 recognized species of mammals, including saber-toothed nimravids, early dogs, three-toed horses, and giant 'hell pigs.'

These new rodents were collected through decades of collaborative work throughout the John Day Basin by paleontologists from John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, the BLM in Oregon, the University of California - Berkeley, and the University of Washington. While the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument includes many of the important and best studied sites, the majority of fossil localities in the region were found on BLM managed public lands.

"The National Park Service and BLM have worked together to manage fossil resources in Oregon under an agreement for nearly 30 years," said Shelley Hall, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument Superintendent. "The collaboration between federal agencies has allowed each agency to fulfill their mission of preserving resources for future generations while facilitating important scientific research."

The new study can be found in the current issue of the Annals of Carnegie Museum: www.carnegiemnh.org/science/default.aspx?id=9998

Additional information about John Day Fossil Beds National Monument is available online at: www.nps.gov/joda

Additional information about the BLM's paleontology program is available online at www.blm.gov/or/resources/heritage



Submitted photo
Bursagnathus aterosseus



Dark Side of the Horse

OH YEAH! NOTHING LIKE
HIKING TO TAKE MY MIND
OFF THE ECONOMY...



4005 23rd Street • PO Box 226
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-3616