

Haines News

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Haines Elementary Students Start Aug. 31

Haines students registered for class on Tuesday of this week. It's expected numbers will be similar to last year at right around 100 students. However, because the fourth grade class is small, a voluntary transfer is being offered for fourth grade South Baker students to come to Haines because numbers there are expected to be higher than normal.

Jacque Kerns Cobb is the co-president of the PTCO and said the playground project remains a focus. The area which used to house the tennis courts was resurfaced. They are hoping to add additional basketball nets for kids. The PTCO provides money to pay

for school supplies for each student and also gave teachers money to offset the amount of personal dollars they use for their classrooms.

The first fundraiser of the year will be the open house and dessert auction. The first PTCO meeting will be Sept. 1 at 6 p.m. at the school.

The new modular building is in place and school officials are putting in the last touches. There will be new faces at the school including a new principal, Skye Flanagan.

Della Olmsted, age 4 was at the registration Tuesday morning with her mom, Annie and little brother. Della has been excited to go to school all summer according to her mom. The family moved from La

Grande to Haines and Mr. Olmsted works for Adam Kerns.
Haines Steak House Purchases GC Steer

Dave and Lois Johnson purchased the Grand Champion Steer at Saturday's 4-H / FFA Livestock Auction. They are always very good supporters of the fair.

Dawson McGinn exhibited a market goat this year and Riggan McGinn showed a goat (but not Dawson's because it was a little too ornery) in the Pee-Wee Show on Friday.

Rep. Bentz Comes to Haines

On Wednesday of last week, Representative Bentz came out to Haines to meet with the Record-Courier and discuss several issues. Among other matters, he wants to encourage citizens to take the time and write letters to the Oregonian and other west side papers regarding the proposed—and likely—increase to the mandatory minimum wage, to \$13.50 per hour. He said

people on the west side need to hear from people in Eastern Oregon on these types of matters.

Haines Folks Greatly Help Baker County Fair

Many thanks to the Scilacci family of the DLX Ranch which is located east of Haines and the Wogmans of LNK Ranches in North Powder for donating the delicious beef provided at the 4-H / FFA Buyer's luncheon on Saturday. Justin Nedrow of North Powder does a great job as auctioneer, which is very much appreciated. Beef Northwest provides the floor price for the steers, which this year was \$1.45 a pound. John Boyer provides the transportation for the sheep and swine after the sale as does McGinn Trucking for the beef. This behind the scene support is critical to the success of the sale and of the 4-H and FFA programs. Several individuals on the sale committee include folks from the Haines and North Powder area:

Martin Arritola, Seth Bingham, Ross Fritz, and Deryl Leggett. Cliff Schoening who was born in the Haines area also is a sale committee member. Becky Litke was the official judge for artwork at the fair.

Of course, there are many other volunteers which make the event happen, but I wanted to give a special thanks to these folks.

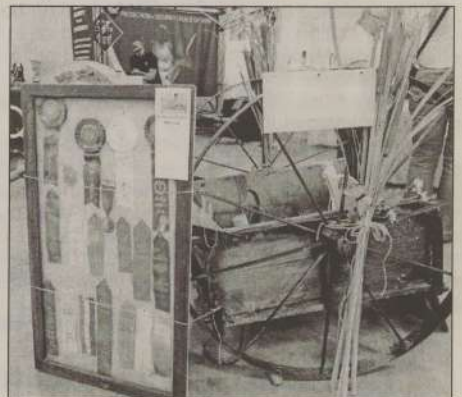
Winners of the Antique Wheelbarrow Contest

The Record-Courier teamed up with the Eastern Oregon Museum and entered the decorated antique wheelbarrow contest at the fair. They let me borrow a darling milk cart and we included two large frames which showcased lots of wonderful vintage ribbons and fair pins. I included a framed Haines Record from 1926 which featured a story on the Muddy Creek Fair. We won a blue ribbon for our efforts and hopefully gave a little reminder to folks to visit the museum in Haines this season!

See the Record-Courier website: therconline.com
E-mail: news@therconline.com

At right, Annie Olmsted and her daughter, Della, who will start pre-school this year at Haines. Annie and her husband are also expecting a baby Sept. 3.

Far right, the Record-Courier and Eastern Oregon Museum entry for the antique wheelbarrow decorating contest at the fair



'Round this Time

From the archives of the Record-Courier

Thursday, Aug. 10, 1978

Odd Twists During the 1917 Sumpter Fire

(Aug. 13 is the 61st anniversary of the fire that destroyed the downtown section of Sumpter. Here are a few incidents by a well-known Sumpter native who tells them from family recollections.)

As flames were roaring through the buildings of Sumpter on a hot August day in 1917, men rushed in from the ranches and the mines to help move merchandise and household furniture away from the uncontrollable fire.

Two huskies from the valley jumped from their sweating horses and rushed to help the local baker carry his goods to safety. A screen door with a strong spring kept batting the fellows in the head as they hurried in and out carrying heavy loads. One of the huskies decided to do away with that annoyance and, jerking the door from its hinges, he tossed it into the street. Such destruction of property threw the baker into a rage. Not caring to hear his abusive language, the two men moved on to help in other places.

The fire advanced down Mill Street faster than anyone could have predicted. The bakery was completely destroyed. Completely, that is, except the screen door. Out in the street it was run over many times, but it remained intact as a souvenir for the poor baker.

Preacher Lee was a round, energetic little man who very much disliked the location of his church. The Methodist Church of Sumpter had been built in an area surrounded by residences several blocks from the center of town. The good preacher worked tirelessly to acquire a more favorable location and to convince the members of his congregation to move the large building.

Several months of hard volunteer labor put the church proudly on its new corner where its spire could be seen from all over the town. About two years of improved attendance and increased community use of the church proved that Preacher Lee had taken the right course. Then in the summer of 1917 came the terrible fire that leveled all of the buildings in the center of town, including the newly moved church.

Fortunately, not all of the houses in Sumpter were burned, and among those saved were the residences that surrounded the vacant lot from which the Methodist Church had been moved.

Haines Area Storm Friday Was Severe; Two Residents Hit

The electrical storm last Friday was particularly severe in Haines. Kay Rood, while taking clothes off the line, was knocked down. The same fate happened to Roger Barns, a block down the street! Thankfully, no serious injuries resulted from these mishaps.

A week ago, the Richard Stephens were working cattle south of Pleasant Valley on one of our 90 to 100 degree-days. When it was time to return home, their little Dingo dog was conspicuous by its absence. Three trips back to try to find him proved fruitless. However, early one morning, as Nina opened the back door, there was "Munkers" safe and sound after a LONG walk!

Flock Wild Geese Spotted, Halfway

A most unusual happening occurred early on Sunday morning when a flock of wild geese flew over the town with loud "honking" drawing attention to their flight. Usually these birds are seen only in spring and fall so this attracted attention.

Cornet Fire Near Hereford Caused by Lightning Burns 243 Acres

As of Tuesday morning, a lightning storm that came through the area on the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 10, has ignited several fires in the Northeast Oregon District. The largest of the fires was the Cornet Fire burning near Hereford.

This fire has burnt approximately 243 acres. Tough terrain has made firefighting difficult. The fire is burning in grass, brush and juniper on private lands. The fire is 50 percent contained this morning.

Suppression efforts are being led by ODF, although assistance has come from several of the Baker County Fire Departments. On scene today are a North Powder Rural engine, a Sumpter engine and a Baker Rural tender. There are also three 10 person hand crews from Snake River Correctional Center, one 10 person hand crew from Powder River Correctional Center, two Type 2 contract hand crews with 20 people each, a contract dozer and two contract skidgers on scene.

"This is a good example of the fuel conditions right now. Things are very dry. It's important that folks that are out and about are paying attention to the restrictions that are in place. We need to prevent the human caused fires that could add to our workload," said Steve Meyer, Wildland Fire Supervisor, Baker ODF.

Much of Northeast Oregon is under Red Flag Warning today for thunderstorms with abundant lightning. Highs today are expected to be near 96 degrees with winds from the southeast.

The public is reminded that ODF is currently in Regulated Use Closure in Northeast Oregon. Fire managers recom-

mend that recreationists check the fire regulations before heading out to enjoy the forest. Contact a local Oregon Department of Forestry office for more complete information on ODF Restrictions. La Grande Unit (541)963-3168 Baker City Sub-Unit (541)523-5831 Wallowa Unit (541) 886-2881 Pendleton Unit (541)276-3491 Please check with your local National Forest for public use restrictions on National Forest land. You can visit the Umatilla NF

website at www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla or the Wallowa-Whitman NF at www.fs.usda.gov/wallowa-whitman or contact them by phone at Umatilla 541-278-3716; Wallowa-Whitman 541-523-6391.

<http://bluemountainfireinfo.blugspot.com/> is your spot for current fire information in the Blue Mountains. To report a fire, call Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch at (541)963-7171 or dial 9-1-1.

Please join us for fellowship & worship Sunday mornings at 10:45.



Haines United Methodist Church

721 Robert Street, Haines, Oregon
Sally Wiens, Lay Minister • 541.963.6991 (home phone)

This will bring a smile!



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Postal Particulars

with Krista Dennis

It seems strange to think of snow in August...but here I am thinking of cool, crisp snow falling...and mail delivery with dog sleds. I have a photo in my office of a dog sled titled "Lake Superior Mail Delivery Service" from Green Bay, Wis., to Marquette, Mich. The photo was taken in Houghton, Mich., around 1875. After doing a little research I found that most mail delivery by dog sleds were in Alaska. There was little need for mail service in Alaska prior to the gold rushes of the 1880's and 1900's. Prospectors were highly literate, wrote letters and demanded regular mail service to communicate with friends and loved ones that they left behind. Sled dog mail carriers were a tough lot...they traveled during dangerous weather conditions, not to mention the wildlife, on the trails between mail cabins and roadhouses. Many could travel between 20 to 30 miles a day, however that was if the weather conditions were just right and the mail loads were light. Mail carrying sled dogs were much larger than the dogs of the famous Dog Sled Races of today. They weighed between 75 to 100 pounds with thick fur coats to keep them warm during the frigid temperatures which could dip as low as 60 degrees below zero. The dogs wore handmade booties (usually made by the wife of the mail carrier) and ate dried fish. The last dog sled route in Alaska ended in 1963.

Our Priority is: YOU!



Maggie-B and Charlie are two little kittens looking for forever homes. Maggie-B is the older gray kitten and is about 10 weeks old. Charlie is the little black and white and about 6 weeks old. They are being fostered together and have become good friends. They will have their first vaccinations prior to adoption and spaying and neutering will be required as part of the adoption. If you would like to meet these two sweet little kittens, please call Carmen at 541-519-4530 or Best Friends of Baker, Inc. at 541-519-7387.

Best Friends of Baker, Inc.

541-519-7387

