



115 years in Baker County

Record-Courier

Intensely local news



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Positively Baker County

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Submitted photo
Marjorie H. Loennig (1926-2007)
in 1952 with son Derry

Est. Haines 1901 ~ Haines, Baker County, Oregon

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Chamber Honors Volunteers:

Man of the Year's New Breed of Cattle Touted in 'Witty' Tribute

By Gina Perkins

Lifetime Duty Award

Dave Banta, who passed away in November of 2014, was honored with the Lifetime Duty Award, given posthumously, for his dedication of service to Baker County during Saturday evening's Annual Chamber Awards Banquet.

Dr. Sheryl Blankenship wrote, "Dave gave countless hours to better our community and therefore, it is fitting that he be remembered in this special way."

Banta was a Baker High School graduate and received a business degree from Eastern Oregon State College. He was in the banking business for 28 years and was honored by Banner Bank which dedicated its new building to him in 2014 prior to his death.

"Dave will always be remembered and appreciated," Blankenship said.

Mary Banta, Dave's wife and high school sweetheart and their son, Matthew, received the award in Dave's honor.

"Dave truly loved Baker. Thank you for honoring him," said Mary.



Photo by Gina Perkins

Justin Nedrow, MC, Mary Banta and son Matt Banta

Legacy Woman of the Year

Joyce Badgley Hunsaker, a fourth generation Baker City native, received the Legacy Woman of the Year. She is a retired historical, living history interpreter and has written six non-fiction books. In 2001, her writing was awarded Historic Book of the Year and she was a finalist for the Benjamin Franklin Prize for History and Politics. In 2003, she was a finalist for the SPUR award for western literature.

"It's such an incredible honor to have your hometown tell you that you're doing okay," says Hunsaker. "I also can't believe that my whole family kept a secret for an entire month. I truly didn't have clue," she adds.

Hunsaker has volunteered in many capacities within the community throughout the years, most recently as the grant writer and secretary for the very successful Bandstand pavilion project located in Geiser-Pollman Park. She has served as a docent for the Leo Adler House and Baker Heritage Museum, was the executive director for the Oregon Trail Preservation Trust and served in the planning and construction phases of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. She was also a liaison between the City, County, State and Federal government for the Interpretive Center.

See **CHAMBER BANQUET** on page 2

They Hit the Jackpot



Submitted photo

Teri Osborne and her husband, Nathan, traveled to Salem last week to claim a \$100,000 prize in a recording breaking \$1.6 billion Powerball jackpot. Her ticket would have been for \$50,000, but because she selected the extra PowerPlay it doubled the winnings.

Burnt River Extension Quilt Won by Nancy Taylor



Submitted photo

The drawing for the Rambling Prairie Quilt was held Tuesday, Jan. 12 at the basketball game between the Burnt River Bulls and the Huntington/Harper Hornets. The quilt was made by the Burnt River Home Extension Ladies. All the proceeds from ticket sales go for scholarships, to the graduating seniors from Burnt River High School.

"We would like to thank everyone who bought tickets," said Joan Towell.

Upcoming Events

South Baker Spaghetti Feed
All you can eat Spaghetti Feed at South Baker Intermediate School. Thursday, Jan. 28 from 4:30-7 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$6, 12 & Under \$3 There will also be a silent auction of exciting themed baskets as well as a Book Fair in the entry way from 4:30 - 7 p.m.

Brooklyn Book Fair and Taco Feed Feb. 4
This annual fundraising event will be held at the Baker County Event Center on Thursday, Feb. 4 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Raffle tickets are on sale for a variety of prizes that will be awarded in drawings during the evening. Tickets are available from students or at the school. For more information, or tickets, call the school at 54-523-2450.

National Wild Turkey Federation / Baker County Longbeards
will hold their annual Banquet and Fundraiser on Feb. 6, 2016 at the Baker Elks Lodge. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information contact Bob Reedy at 541-403-1352.

Burnt River Snowmobile Club Poker Run Feb. 6
The total pot with guaranteed payouts and more placings is \$1200. First place-\$500; Second place-\$300; Third place-\$200 and Fourth place-\$100. Plus five \$20 cash prizes for a loser's draw. Buy in \$5 per hand and best five of seven wins. Great prizes. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Need not be present to win. Sign up is in Unity from 8-4 p.m. Cards and tickets may be purchased at Austin Junction. For more information contact Dan (541) 446-3655 snowridingfool@yahoo.com, Casey (541) 473-2073, Joe (541) 523-5223, or Jeff (208) 739-0733. E-mail: evansn@or-telco.net. Proceeds will help support food banks in Baker, Grant, and Malheur Counties.

Sumpter Valley Blue Mountain Poker Run Feb. 13
It's not too early to start making plans for the President Day weekend for Sumpter Valley Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club Annual Poker Run. There is a \$3,000 purse guaranteed. Snowmobiles, Cars or Walk - All are welcome. Ticket Sales - Friday at Schoolhouse, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. - \$10 and from 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on Sat. Tickets must be turned in by no later than 3:30 p.m. Event starts at 7 a.m. and closes at 2:30 p.m. Pay-out and door prizes at 6 p.m. Call 541-894-2217 for more information.

Halfway Panhandle Snowmobile Poker Run Feb. 14
Sign up at 9 a.m. at the Lions Club in Halfway to buy your poker hand. The poker run is 40 miles round trip. Leave your hands at the last station or turn your hands in at the Lions Hall. Raffle items will be awarded and winner will be announced at 6 p.m. Total of \$4,000 in payouts. For more information call the Blooms at (541)-742-7277.



6th Annual Casino Night
Night at Old Auburn
Feb. 27 - 6-10 p.m.
Baker Heritage Museum

New Bridge Grange Biscuit Feed
Jan. 31
12:30 - 4 p.m.
\$6 per person, kids 5 and under free

Baker County YMCA Celebration
Jan. 23
Baker County Event Center
Tickets: \$25/person \$40/couple
Available at the Fitness Center & Sam-O Swim Center



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