

Echo to get new coffeehouse and store

By **JADE McDOWELL**
Staff Writer

Echo residents will be able to buy groceries locally starting in March.

Dana and Pam Reese plan to open the Buttercreek Coffeehouse and Mercantile on March 10 in the former Wheat and Barley Pub space on Main Street. They plan to serve locally sourced coffee, food and wine but also to offer a selection of basic groceries and fresh, seasonal produce.

"The community hasn't had a grocery store in decades," Dana said.

The couple said they want to tailor the coffeehouse to the community's needs, and to create a friendly gathering space that complements rather than competes with other local businesses.

Adjustments will be made as needed, but for now

the plan is to be open from 5:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with special openings during downtown events or when people want to rent out the space.

Pam said eventually she would like to see the shop offer a selection of books for sale as well, and they plan to add outdoor seating during the summer. She said the menu will include breakfast foods such as muffins, breakfast burritos and bagels while lunch will include soup and pepperoni rolls.

"We'll mostly be about grab-and-go," she said. "People are welcome to eat it here but we want it to be convenient."

She teaches middle school and high school English at Echo School, and said her students have served as volunteer taste testers for

the menu.

The Reeses plan to use coffee from Buckin' Bean Coffee Roasters in Pendleton, wine and beer from the local wineries and sell produce in the grocery store from local growers.

The building at 201 W. Main St. was built in 1920 and still has much of the original brickwork and hardwood flooring. It was originally a butcher shop, then a grocery store. Dana said they have enjoyed working on the historic building.

They plan to do a trial run opening with a limited menu on March 4 during the Red 2 Red bike race, then open officially on March 10. For more information call 541-376-5540 or email buttercreek10@gmail.com.

Contact Jade McDowell at 541-564-4536.



Dana Reese, left, and Pam Reese stand near a historic photo of the building they are renovating to create the Buttercreek Coffeehouse and Mercantile.

STAFF PHOTO BY JADE McDOWELL



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