

Friends of Badger Mountain

News Update

June 22, 2008

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TODAY'S TOPICS

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The only way we acquire land is to raise the money for purchase at the appraised market value from a willing seller.

Countdown to June 30

We had a banner week! Over \$33,000 was raised bringing our total to \$147,000 with \$45,000 more in pledges. (Some of the pledges came in, reducing our total from last week.)

The highlights of the week: members of the [Fun, Fit and Over Fifty Club](#) met the first \$5,000 challenge from an anonymous member and are over halfway to meeting the additional \$5,000 challenge from another member. The [Benton Conservation District](#), responding to an FOBM proposal, made a contribution of nearly \$7,575 in support of their interest in preserving special open space land for public access. We've got one more week. Can we reach \$300,000? Let's go for it! ("Countdown" is [continued below](#).)

Save the View -- Donate Now!

Summer Solstice Hike

Over 200 people hiked to the summit for Summer Solstice — the longest day of the year. We were rewarded with views of Mt Hood, Adams and Rainier and a gorgeous sunset.



Skyline Trail Parking Lot

The Skyline Trail Parking lot (off of Dallas Road) was graded and finished with 3 to 6 inches of gravel on Friday, June 20, thanks to the generous support of construction contractor DelHur Industries (John Doyle) and gravel provider American Rock (Darren Moore), assistance from Benton County, and a grant from the REI Kennewick Store. Dave Comstock from FOBM put it all together and did yeoman's work to get the job done. Thank you Dave!

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Who Owns the Mountain?

Friends of Badger Mountain raised the money to purchase 574 acres of Badger in 2005. By prior arrangement we ceded the land to Benton County to hold forever as a preserve for non-motorized recreational access. FOBM see ourselves as its steward, organizing the public -- those of us who hike or bike or love the mountain -- to build and maintain trails, restore habitat, develop projects to enhance recreational use, and preserve further ridge land ...for the enjoyment of all. As we raise the money to purchase additional ridge land we will again cede the land to the jurisdiction in which the land is located.

“Countdown” Continued

On one hand, we've raised an amazing amount in a short period of time. Thank you! On the other, we haven't raised the money we expect to from the business community...because we haven't asked yet. FOBM is an all volunteer organization and doing a campaign of this size in this short of time has been a daunting challenge. We are starting to solicit businesses and are finding a receptive audience. Although we won't reach our original \$1 million goal, June 30 is still a critical date. At that time we need to assess the amount we estimate we can raise and revise our proposal accordingly.

We are motivated because with development pressures this could be the last chance we have to save any of the remaining ridge land in the City's jurisdiction (the north side of Badger and all of Little Badger).

So we're "going for broke" to raise as much as we can -- in cash and pledges -- by the June 30 date so as to accurately assess our ability to raise the full match for the \$1 million RCO grant.

The level of support from the community — grassroots and business — will both give us confidence about how much we can raise...and the highest score in the RCO proposal's "Project Support" category. See [“Answers to Fundraising Questions”](#).

This is *“The Week!”* Donate or — increase your donation or — pledge contingent on our receiving the RCO grant. Please give as generously as you can.

Can we reach \$300,000? Let's go for it! Thank you!

Sharon Grant, Editor

(Email: sharon@friendsofbadger.org)

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