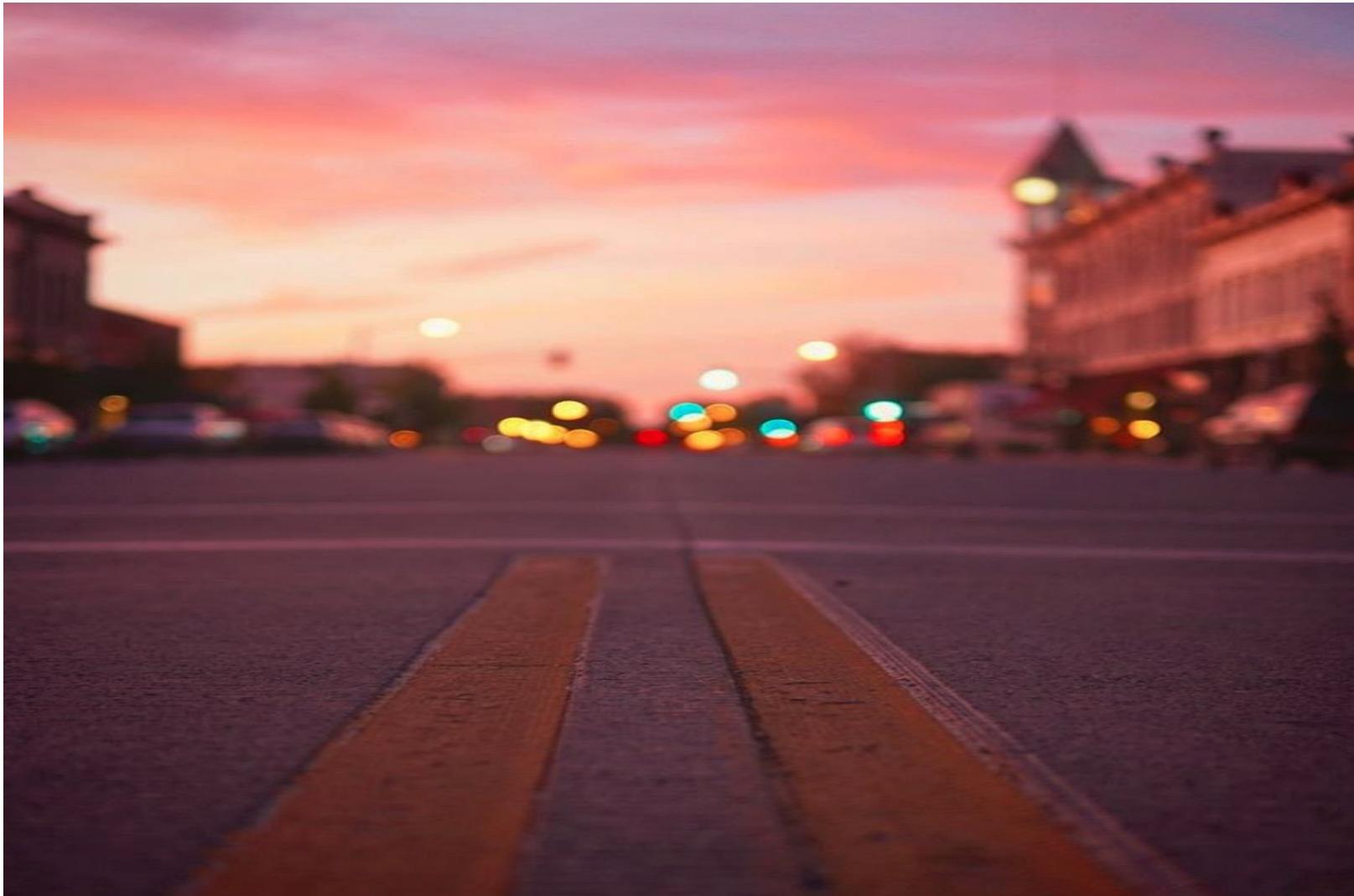




NEWSLETTER

October- December 2019



Baker City Downtown Quarterly Newsletter

This newsletter is targeted to business owners and downtown patrons to inform and excite about past and upcoming events that Baker City Downtown is hosting.

Events

October

- 4th- First Friday Art Walk
- 5th-Taste of Baker
- 9th-Business After Hours: Hosted by *Michele's on Main*
- 17th- Wine Walk: Community Force
- 17th- Opening night of *Gaslight* by Eastern Oregon Regional Theater
- 19th- Crossroads Oktoberfest
- 31st- Trick or Treating Downtown
- Baker City Farmers Market every Wednesday Court Street Plaza
- TBD Business After Hours announcements coming soon.

November

- 1st- First Friday Art Walk
- 21st- Wine Walk: Special Olympics Baker County
- 28th- Turkey Trot

December

- 6th- First Friday Art Walk
- 7th - Christmas Parade, Tree Lighting, Cookie Crawl
- 19th- Wine Walk: Soroptomist International of Baker County

Committee Updates

Organization

- **Oregon Main Street Revitalization Awards:** This year we nominated more people for Oregon Main Street Revitalization Awards than we have ever nominated. This was a learning process for us but we were so happy to have so many worthy projects and businesses to nominate for this year. We were told that all of our nominations were in the top of the considerations and this year we won the award for Best Special Event for the 2018 Taste of Baker. There are quite a few Oregon Main Street Associations and they said this was a record year for nominations. So thank you to all our volunteers who helped make last year's Taste of Baker so great and for making this year's even better!
- **Art Roamers Pop Up Installation:** In appreciation of Jeff and Susan sharing Samuel's art work on the streets of downtown Baker City here is a clip from their blog: *Samuel was approached to do a commissioned piece of art. He was asked to sculpt Jesus on the cross. When Samuel talks about*

creating the piece, he says that everything went perfectly and what he made was perfect. It was then that he knew that art is what he is meant to do. He has been creating art for ten years, since 2008. When you see his pieces, knowing that they are metal and seeing the scale that he makes them is impressive, alone. But then as you learn more about where they come from, the pieces are made from 55 gallon steel drums. It's not like he can get sheet metal and then start working with it. To be an artist living in the Kibera slum has so many challenges. He works with what he has and what he can get. When describing Samuel and the people living slum in general, Jeff often says, "They just do so much, with so little," followed by a reflective pause.

- **Downtown Trick or Treat Event:** BCD is excited for this years annual Trick or Treat Event hosted by the Baker Kiwanis Club. This years event will take place from 4 to 6 pm. All businesses on Main Street are urged to participate! If you choose not to, please contact the Kiwanis and let them know if you are willing to allow a different business or organization set up tables outside your storefront. Some changes this year include road closings at Broadway down to Church St for the safety of the trick or treaters. Street closing begins about 3:30 pm and opens back up by 6:30 pm.
- **Christmas Time Cookie Crawl:** The second annual Cookie Crawl is happening this holiday season!! Businesses are encouraged to participate in this fun, family friendly event. The Crawl will happen the afternoon before the annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade adding to the vibrant holiday cheer and frivolity.
- **Events:** If you are planning on hosting an event please let Baker City Downtown know so that we can help make the most out of it! Also think about including some music to bring in some more folks.
- **Membership Packets:** Remember to fill out your membership packet for 2019. If you haven't received your packet please get in touch with us.

Promotions

- **Taste of Baker:** Come downtown to try all the wonderful food offerings we have in Baker City. This year we have over 30 vendors so there is so much to taste and try. Bring the whole family down for a fantastic night of food and fun! Tokens are \$1 each and available at banks outside US Bank, Ryder Brothers, and Sycamore Tree! There are some tokens for pre-sale at Charley's Deli and Ice Cream, Bella's Main Street Market, and Crossroads Art Center.
- **Promotional Flyer:** BCD is currently working on a promotional flyer targeted towards those visiting Baker City Downtown. The flyer will include events, attractions, and will have opportunities to advertise your business.
- **UnWINEd Downtown (every Third Thursday from 5pm-8pm):** On the Third Thursday of each month, BCD will be hosting "UnWINEd Downtown", a

fun event that will benefit a different local charity. The next wine walk will be on October 17th and a portion of the proceeds will be donated. If you would like to sign up for the next Wine Walk, please contact Tori Thatchter @ tori@barleybrowns.com.

Economic Vitality

- **New Business Welcome Packet:** Efforts are continuing to create a helpful guide for those new and expanding businesses located in downtown Baker City. ***Is there information that you believe should be included? Reach out!!***
- **Vacant & Underutilized Buildings:** the committee is currently reviewing other policies and ordinances from throughout the nation to find a solution to the long standing concern of vacant and underutilized buildings within the district. It's important for the health of the downtown business community to have every building "active". Having a building vacant or underutilized for years, sometimes decades, has a negative impact not only on the building itself, but the neighbors' as well. The committee hopes to propose a policy in the near future for consideration by the Baker City Council.

Design

- **Design Review:** The Baker City Downtown district lies entirely within the Historic Preservation District and proposals for major exterior building alterations are subject to review. Follow the link provided for full detail of chapter 153 Historic Preservation District or contact the Historic District Design Review Commissions City Staff support, Dawn Kitzmiller in the building department (541) 524-2054.
- **Snow Removal:** As the season is starting to change please remember that it is the responsibility of the business owner to keep storefronts clear of debris (leaves) and snow.
- **NEW!** A municipal code will occasionally be called to mind in the BCD Newsletter: This Newsletter Municipal Code is 153.21:

No person, firm or corporation shall construct any new or reconstruct, alter, remodel, paint, sandblast, repair or demolish any existing structures within the Historic District or otherwise on the National Register of Historic Places prior to design review as hereinafter provided. For structures and sites listed on the City of Baker City Inventory of Historic Sites, but not in the Historic District or otherwise listed on the National Register, the design review process shall only be necessary in instances of proposed major exterior alteration or demolition.

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- **Planning some Beautification:** Contact The Historic District Design Review Committee, commonly known as HDDRC. This committee is appointed by the City Council for their expertise and interest in historic rehabilitation. For additional information, please contact the Permit Technician in the Building Department at 541-524-2054.

Exciting Updates

- We would like to give a shout out to all the businesses who made this years Shriners game a success by supporting the players and their family's with window displays. A special thanks goes to **Tech Copier** who came in clutch for the win and completed a large order of copies in time for the celebration!
- Beloved Tattoo will be moving to the old Prospectors building, 1917 Court Avenue, and hopes to have a grand opening October 31st! Come out and see the new space.
- It is exciting to see the changes happening to the old Stockman's Building and new location for Sweet Wife Baking! Stay tuned for more developments.
- If there are any new businesses, change of ownership, or location changes. Please email bakercitydowntown@gmail.com to share the exciting news!!

BCD Website: [Baker City Downtown](http://BakerCityDowntown)

Board of Directors: Carol Phillips, President

Jenny Mowe-Joseph, Vice President

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Tori Thatcher, Treasure

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