



# NEWSLETTER

July-September 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.

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## Events

### July

- 5th- First Friday Art Walk
- 11th-14th Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally
- 18th- Wine Walk:
- 19th-21st Sidewalk Fair
- Baker City Farmers Market every Wednesday Court Street Plaza
- Movies in the Park every Thursday evening Central Park Downtown.

### August

- 3rd- First Friday Art Walk
- 3rd-Shriners Parade
- 15th- Wine Walk:
- Baker City Farmers Market every Wednesday Court Street Plaza
- Movies in the Park every Thursday evening Central Park Downtown.

### September

- 6th- First Friday Art Walk
- 19th- Wine Walk:
- Baker City Farmers Market every Wednesday Court Street Plaza
- Movies in the Park every Thursday evening Central Park Downtown.

## Committee Updates

### *Organization*

- **2018 Mainstreet Award Nominations:** Come one come all!! Bring your nominations for the 2018 Mainstreet award nominations. If you have a business in mind that deserves an award please submit an award nomination. For further details please contact BCD.
- **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*

- **UnWINEd Downtown (every Third Thursday from 5pm-8pm):** On the Third Thursday of each month, BCD will be hosting "UnWINEd Downtown", a

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fun event that will benefit a different local charity. The next wine walk will be on July 18th and a portion of the proceeds will be donated. If you would like to sign up for the next Wine Walk, please contact Tori Thatcher @ tori@barleybrowns.com.

In 2018, the Community raised \$4,400 for local non-profits through the Unwined Walk!

### ***Economic Vitality***

- **New Business Welcome Packet:** Efforts are underway to create a helpful guide for those new and expanding business locating in downtown Baker City. Is there information that you believe should be included? Reach out and let us know what you think would be helpful for those just starting 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.
  - ***UPDATE: At least one vacant storefront has begun cleanup.***

### ***Design***

- **Court Street Plaza:** The Design Committee is beginning to draft ideas for renovation of Court Street Plaza. They have had their first meeting discussing this topic and will continue to work with downtown members and community interests in developing a design.
- **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. This committee is tasked with reviewing proposed changes to buildings within the Historic District (whether they are historic buildings or not). The Historic District is a 14 square block section of downtown Baker City generally bounded by Baker Street to the North, Resort Street on the East, Auburn Street on the South and the alley between First and Second on the West. If you plan on making changes to your building, for example, paint, signage, etc. you must contact the Historic District Design Review Committee. For additional information, please contact the Permit Technician in the Building Department at 541-524-2054.

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## Exciting Updates

- A new shop in the downtown district is Hen House Cafe, a speciality coffee shop and cafe located at 1935 1st St (old Wine Bar location) opened Tuesday through Saturday 6:00am to 2:00pm. Stop by the shop and welcome owner Dawn Morse to the district and wish her well on this new venture.
- AP Management, LLC of Vancouver Washington are new owners of the Baker Towers at 1705 Main St and is being managed locally by Sunfire Realty. Patrick Rhea, who grew up in Baker City, is listed as agent and we welcome him and his hometown investment in the downtown district.
- Get to know your new BCD Director:



Hi I'm Rob Dennis. I'm the new director of Baker City Downtown. If you don't know me yet, don't worry you will. I was a board member of BCD for about a year and I have loved working to help make BCD everything it can be. I have lived in Baker for about 12 years and I LOVE this community. I have seen what a vibrant downtown can do for a community and I believe that our Downtown area is the heartbeat of our community. I know that when

we all work together amazing things can happen. I look forward to serving you and your businesses and helping make Baker City Downtown the jewel of Eastern Oregon!

- Applications to revitalize eight buildings in downtown Baker City were submitted for the 2019 Main Street Revitalization Grant opportunity. The grant was awarded for structural work upstairs in the Haskell Building at 1908 Main St. The building is owned by Carol Phillips and Gyllenberg Construction will begin work soon that begins the revitalization of the second floor space.
- If there are any new businesses, change of ownership, or location changes. Please email [bakercitydowntown@gmail.com](mailto:bakercitydowntown@gmail.com) to share the exciting news!!

BCD Website: [Baker City Downtown](http://Baker City Downtown)  
Board of Directors: Carol Phillips, President  
Jenny Mowe-Joseph, Vice President  
Amy Briels, Secretary  
Tori Thatcher, Treasure  
Jay Wilson, board member  
Kari Bachman, board member  
Chelsea Mitchell, board member  
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