



NEWSLETTER

January- March 2018



Welcome to the New 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

January

- 5th - First Friday Art Walk
- 18th- Wine Walk Benefiting Best Friends of Baker

February

- 2nd- First Friday Art Walk
- 15th- Wine Walk Benefiting Baker Valley Education Foundation

March

- 2nd-First Friday Art Walk
- 15th- Wine Walk Benefiting Crossroads Art Center

Committee Updates

Organization

- Received Leo Adler for \$12,500 to go towards the hiring Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) Intern.
- Baker City Downtown Organization Committee is looking to help host a FUN Drive in February to match the Leo Adler grant. Stay tuned for further details.
- The Policies and Procedures Sub-Committee is working hard to craft Policy and Procedures that will strengthen our organization. Thanks to the December Wine Walk, we now have insurance for our Baker City Downtown Board and can sign Board Contracts.
- Our Financial Sub-Committee is busy identifying and creating a spreadsheet of available grants that our downtown area may be eligible for.
- A big thank you to our third sub-committee's efforts! This newsletter!

Promotions

- **2017 Taste of Baker**: There were 32 downtown vendors, creating the largest 'menu' ever. In addition to the cafes and restaurants, several retailers participated offering tastes as well as coupons, demonstrations and in-store specials. Thanks to the downtown merchants that volunteered to offer early token sales the week prior to TASTE. Almost 3300 tokens were sold before Saturday making it possible for participants to start tasting at 4pm instead of waiting in line! We hope to have even more locations for early sales next year!

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- **UnWINEd Downtown:** On the Third Thursday of each month, BCD will be hosting “UnWINEd Downtown”, a fun new event that will benefit a different local charity. Our first wine walk was held in November; we had 24 businesses that participated and close to 70 “wine-walkers” allowing us to donate \$335 from glass sales to the chosen non-profit, St. Francis de Sales Food Bank. In December we had upwards of 80 “wine-walkers” and Baker City Downtown was the beneficiary; the funds raised were used to purchase event insurance for UnWINEd for the upcoming year. The next wine walk will be on January 18th and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to this month’s chosen charity, Best Friends of Baker. So, grab some friends - let’s raise a glass and raise some funds!

Economic Development

- Working on downtown parking surveys to better serve the needs of the businesses and community.
- Baker City Downtown welcomes new businesses in the last quarter: [Carpet One Floor and Home](#), [Rice & Beans](#), [Classy Lass Boutique](#), [Chillz Frozen Yogurt](#), and [Appliances and More!](#)

Design

- Discussing options for flowering baskets or planters downtown.
- Review previous plans for the Court Street Plaza and present some ideas of what we would like to see happen to the City.
- We are working with BCSCC and LCAC to get a sign in Central Park and looking into a self-guided walking tour app for the downtown district.

Exciting Updates

- Congratulations to Carol Phillips who received the *Diamond in the Rough* Grant that helped restore the Haskell Building facade of *Delicioso’s* and the adjacent storefront.
- BTI received a *Brownfield* Grant that enabled them to clean up the Odd Fellows Building as well as the former Record Courier.
- Baker City Downtown was highlighted in a recent HGTV episode. Watch the Episode [HERE!!!](#)
- Bicycle Rides Northwest has chosen Baker City as one of it’s layover cities along their Oregon route. Over 300 riders will be in Baker City and riding throughout the County on July 24th, 25th and 26th. Visit their website for more information <http://bicycleridesnw.org/>
- As an Exploring Main Street Program participant, Baker City was eligible to apply for a new grant, the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant, in 2017. We are thrilled to report that the grant was awarded for renovations to the Crabill Building and that this grant will be available again in 2019. For additional information on the Revitalization Grant, please visit [Oregon Main Street](#)
- Local Baker City downtown revitalization efforts received four Oregon Main Street “Excellence in Downtown Revitalization” awards. Congratulations to: The Birdcage public art installation

by Tom Novak, Robert Anders' mix used redevelopment of the Mann block, and Baker Technical Institute's Brownfield Study.

BCD Website: [Baker City Downtown](#)