

Business & Ag

Taste of Baker fills Main Street

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
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Saturday, October 8, Baker County locals and visitors celebrated the annual Taste of Baker. Restaurant and business owners and workers offered samples of their menus or specialties for participants to enjoy.

"I've been here for twelve years," said Bob Bixler, who attended the event. "This is one of the coolest things in Baker."

The Taste of Baker is an annual event that has grown over the years. Many restaurants and businesses have participated in the past, including Bella's, Sweet Wife Bakery, and the Sycamore Tree.

"This is its twentieth year and my business is nineteen years old and we've always done food in the past but this year I decided I was going to do something different and I went to Tunisia this year, so I brought back all this beautiful pottery and we're having a big huge sale on Tunisian Pottery," explained Beverly Calder, owner of Bella's. "It's a fabulous event and this event is really one of the most fun things that happen all year. Everybody comes down town and there are a lot of people in Baker County who aren't downtown all the time and this is kind of our best night out and I think it's incredibly fun."

"I think we've done it for the past six years, we used to set up when I had my whole sale bakery on the corner, we used to set up in front of Earth and Vine," said Jenny Mowe, owner of Sweet Wife Bakery. "I think it's a fun event, anything that draws people down town and gets to get them out and see all



Samantha O'Conner / The Baker County Press

Foodies walked down Main Street sampling the wares of various restaurants.

the different things that people offer and all the different businesses that are downtown always helps."

"I've been here almost three years and we've done it every year, so I assume we've done it since the beginning," explained Rhonda Hillman with the Sycamore Tree. "We love Taste of Baker because we get to see all the locals coming out and we get to just interact with everybody, so we'll definitely keep doing it as long as they have it."

Other businesses were new to the event, such as Lefty's Taphouse, Earth and Vine, Copper Belt, and the Main Event.

"This is our first year to do it," said Lisa Raffety, owner of the Main Event. "We decided to give it a try and it's been awesome. An hour in and we're almost sold out. We don't serve this on our menu, this is a special but it gives people the opportunity to see what our specials are besides our regular menu. And we did one thing that's on the regular menu. It's fun, we will do it again and we'll probably up it and maybe do three things next year. We just wanted to see how

it went."

"This is our second year," said Rick Stout, owner of Lefty's Taphouse.

"We've been open for a year and a half now and so we did it last year and this is our second. I think it's a good event for Baker and it's growing well and the weather has always been nice so that helps. I will definitely continue. I'm hoping to expand our menu next year to put a little more on there to offer to people."

"As a sole entity business, this is our first year," said Travis Cook, owner of Copper Belt. "We've always participated in conjunction with Bella down the street since we started in 2010-11 is when we started having wine available, so four or five years now. I enjoy it, it's fun, it brings out people, it gets names out, it allows people to try lots of fun stuff and kinda just a good excuse to get out on the town and when the weather's good, it's great, people get out and have fun."

"My anniversary is Black Friday and it will be eight years here at this location" explained Mary Stevenson, owner of Earth

and Vine. "It gets people out that normally don't come in and they can come just taste what we have."

Stevenson plans to continue participating in the Taste of Baker.

Historic Baker City president Larry Abell and secretary Rosemary Abell, have helped with the Taste of Baker for three years.

Larry Abell explained they made three times the amount of money this year than they had in the beginning, making it a successful event.

"We want to thank all the vendors who participated, the Historic Baker City Board of Directors who participated, all the volunteers who sold tokens, and all the people who visited intentionally or unintentionally. We want to thank everyone who made it successful," said Larry Abell.

Larry Abell explained the people's choice scarecrow went to Lefty's Hop Fairy on Valley and Main. He also explained the downtown Halloween Trick-or-Treating will be held on Halloween from 4-6 p.m.

— WEEKLY HAY REPORT —

Friday, October 14, 2016 — Eastern Oregon

Prices trended generally steady compared to week ago prices. Most demand lays with the retail/stable hay. According to some producers, horse owners are starting to prefer lower sugar, higher protein hay.

Tons	Price Range	Wtd Avg
This week:		
Alfalfa — Large Square Supreme	113 140.00-140.00	140.00
Alfalfa — Large Square Good / Premium	500 150.00-150.00	150.00
Alfalfa — Large Square Good	400 115.00-115.00	115.00

USDA Market News Service—AMS.USDA.gov

— CATTLE MARKET REPORT —

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Vale, Oregon

Cattle sold through the auction: 2355

Steer Calves

300-400#	Bulk 133.00 - 151.00	Top 154.00
400-500#	Bulk 106.00 - 132.50	Top 134.00
500-600#	Bulk 101.00 - 121.50	Top 122.50

Heifer Calves

300-400#	Bulk 114.00 - 129.00	Top 131.00
400-500#	Bulk 98.00 - 128.00	Top 131.00
500-600#	Bulk 96.00 - 113.50	Top 114.00

Yearling Steers

600-700#	Bulk 94.00 - 117.50	Top 121.00
700-800#	Bulk 94.00 - 109.50	Top 111.00
800-900#	Bulk 93.00 - 105.00	Top 108.50
900-1,000#	Bulk N/A	Top N/A

Yearling Heifers

600-700#	Bulk 89.00 - 102.00	Top 107.00
700-800#	Bulk 87.00 - 97.50	Top 98.00
800-900#	Bulk 84.00 - 91.00	Top 93.00
900-1,000#	Bulk 76.00 - 84.00	Top 85.00

Thin Shelly Cows	42.00 - 53.00
Butcher Cows	54.00 - 62.00
Butcher Bulls	49.00 - 64.00
Pairs Young	N/A
Hfretts.	68.00 - 83.00
Stock Cows Young	- N/A

ProducersLivestock.com
541-473-3136

— LOG PRICE REPORT —

Price per 1,000 board feet: Northeast Oregon

Currently the local log market is flooded with fire salvage logs. The log buyer for Malheur Lumber Co. stated they have all the logs they need under contract and are not accepting any new purchases. BCC/LLC of La Grande has receive so many burned fire salvage logs they are no longer accepting logs at the La Grande log yard. Any additional pine logs have to be delivered to the Elgin Log yard cut in plywood lengths and to a 8 inch top. For these pine logs cut in plywood lengths, BCC is offering \$280.00/mbf. They are also paying \$420.00/mbf for Doug Fir & Western Larch. For White Fir they are offering \$325.00/mbf. At the Pilot Rock Saw Mill BCC is offering \$360.00/mbf for a 12 to 15 inch top, for 16 to 19 inch top \$400.00/mbf & offering \$425.00/mbf for 20 inch plus top

Courtesy of Arvid Andersen,
Andersen Forestry Consulting

— PRECIOUS METALS REPORT —

Price per ounce, USD

Gold: \$1,256.40

Silver: \$17.48

Platinum: \$937.55

Palladium: \$639.17

Bloomberg.com

— AG COMMODITIES —

Corn: \$354.00/bu/USD

Wheat: \$423.75/bu/USD

Soybeans: \$978.25/bu/USD

Oats: \$200.00 bu/USD

Rough Rice: \$10.41/cwt/USD

Canola: \$496.10 CAD/mwt

Live Cattle: \$99.00/lb./USD

Feeder Cattle: \$117.23/lb./USD

Lean Hogs: \$41.60/lb./USD

Bloomberg.com

OTEC gets new manager

The Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative's board of directors is pleased to announce Les Penning has been selected for the position of General Manager.

A South Dakota native with formal education in Industrial Technology and Business, Penning will arrive in early December to replace Werner Buehler, who after nine years serving as General Manager of OTEC and 46 years in the electrical utility industry, announced his plans for retirement beginning January 2017.

"We are happy to welcome Les into his new role

with OTEC," said Board President George Galoway. "It's been a long, competitive vetting process and Les brings 22 years of leadership experience with 16 years of senior utility leadership to the table."

Penning most recently served as the Chief Operations Officer and Deputy General Manager for Powder River Energy Corporation (PRECorp), a transmission and distribution cooperative with 140 employees, serving 28,000 meters, in Wyoming and Montana.

"I am excited for the opportunity to serve as

OTEC's General Manager," said Penning. "It is a great privilege and honor to be given the responsibility of taking the reins and continuing to build on the success OTEC members, employees and leadership have been able to accomplish over the past 28 years. My family and I are looking forward to our new adventures in Eastern Oregon and joining the OTEC community."

"With his broad spectrum of experience ... the board of directors was



Photo courtesy of OTEC.

Les Penning

excited to be able to offer Les this opportunity," said Galloway. "We look forward to working with him in the coming months to ensure a smooth transition of leadership."




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The doctor speaks Spanish— El doctor habla Español.