

Local

— COMMUNITY CALENDAR —

CHRISTMAS!

December 25, 2016. Merry Christmas, everyone!

CREATE YOUR OWN COMIC WORKSHOP

December 29. Author/illustrator Nancy Coffelt will help budding comics artists bring their own stories to life in a one hour-long workshop at Baker County Public Library, Thursday, December 29 2016 at 11 a.m. Learn how to create action with simple lines, show emotion, mood AND a story in just four panels—while using simple stick figures. The event is free and suitable for all ages. Art supplies will be provided. Pre-registration is not required so get a seat early! First come, first-served. This event is made possible Libraries of Eastern Oregon with funding from Artplace America.

NEW YEARS DAY

January 1, 2017. Happy New Year!

FREE DAY AT THE INTERPRETIVE CENTER

January 15, 2017, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 22267 Highway 86, Baker City, Oregon, Exit 302 from Interstate 84.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

January 21, 2017, 5-9 p.m. The Annual Awards Banquet is the premier event of the year for the Baker County Chamber of Commerce and its members. Every year highlights a new theme with enjoyable ways attendees can interact, network and relax. The evening will consist of an entertaining fund raising activity, a delectable dinner and an outstanding awards ceremony. We have shaken things up a bit this year and have no doubt you'll be pleased with the results. Please join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our business and community leaders and pay tribute to the outstanding citizens who have made a difference in Baker County. Awards: Woman of the Year, Man of the Year, Legacy Woman of the Year, Legacy Man of the Year, Service Organization of the Year, Excellence in Agriculture, Business of the Year.

WAGONS HO! BEGINS

February 16 at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. The popular hand-on exhibit returns! Test your pioneering skills by packing a full-scale replica wagon and see what you look like in a pioneer's clothes. Spin the Wagon Wheel of Fortune and test your luck as you travel along the Oregon Trail. Compose some pioneer Poetry or find out what wildlife you might have seen along the way. An interactive experience for visitors of all ages. Exhibit last though June 14.



FREE DAY AT THE INTERPRETIVE CENTER

February 18, 2017, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 22267 Highway 86, Baker City, Oregon, Exit 302 from Interstate 84.

OLD AUBURN CASINO NIGHT AT THE HERITAGE MUSEUM

February 25, 2017, 6-10 p.m. "A Night at Old Auburn" Casino Style Fundraiser to benefit Baker Heritage Museum. 2480 Grove Street, Baker City, OR 97814, corner of Grove & Campbell Street in Baker City. Call 541-523-9308 for more information.

Merry Christmas!
From the Baker County Republican Party.

Baker County Veteran Services
Be sure to receive all the benefits you earned:
Health care, education, compensation and pension, much more
Rick Gloria, Veteran Services Coordinator
1995 3rd St. Baker County Courthouse
541-523-8223

JAIL ROSTER

WHITE, Alden
COONEY, Holly
MADER, Casey
PURKEY, Danielle
SPEELMAN, Beth
HAMM, Todd
EDISON, Marsan
CALDER, Douglas
URLACHER, John
BRITTON, Cheryl
GROVE, James
O'DONNELL, Michael
WINSTON, Brandy
CARPENTER, Anna
WATSON, Nickolas
BRASWELL, Edward
GAGNON, Roderick
BRESHEARS, Brent
FLORES, Robert

— NEWS OF RECORD —

DOYLE, James
WOLFE, Alan
WAGONER, Christopher
STEELE, Zachary
WONG, David
BAXTER, Benjamin
BROWN, Geoffrey
MCNAIR, Frank
CULBERTSON, Brandon
FURTNEY, Jeffery
GUZMAN, Miguel
LANNING, James
STEELE, Alan
MULDER, Antoine

POLICE LOG

Francis, Kellyanne. 12.20. Failure to Pay Fine.
Cooney, Holly Melinda. 12.13. Assault IV Domestic.

DEATH / FUNERAL NOTICES

Steve Smith, 64, of Baker City died early on Friday, December 16, 2016 at his residence. Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel is handling the arrangements. To light a candle for Steve or to offer condolences to his family, please visit www.grayswestco.com.

Wilma May Bishop, 80, of Baker City, Oregon passed away early in the evening of December 19, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City. Services will be held in the spring of 2017. Arrangements have been entrusted to Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel. To light a candle in memory of Wilma, please visit: www.grayswestco.com.

Home for Christmas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Butchers in both stores cut up locally harvested meat, and Toby has learned to walk downtown to get himself a treat bone, so at first Castleton thought that was where he had disappeared.

However, several hours passed with no sign of the dog.

She called neighbors and other friends to ask if anyone had seen Toby, to no avail.

Being a close-knit community, friends in Halfway began calling other friends, sharing word of the missing dog.

A checker at Old Pine Market began asking customers as they came in if anyone had spotted Toby.

Soon, most people in town knew there was a dog missing but not necessarily to whom the dog belonged.

Then the notifications began on Facebook: People were spotting a dog running on Halfway Hill, on the way to Richland.

Many drivers stopped, but the dog wouldn't come to them.

Several committed community members dedicated hours, over the next two weeks, driving and searching for Toby.

There were many days when nobody spotted him, then a sighting would be

published and the efforts would renew.

Then the weather dipped into the minus numbers for several days, and the sightings had stopped.

Hope was fading.

Suddenly, early Monday morning, this post appeared on Facebook from Darla Helmstreet, a Halfway resident:

"So my husband Steve who works at the Richland Feed & Seed picked Toby up on the way to work. He called him by name and asked him if he wanted a puppy treat and he was able to get him in his truck. He is going to get him returned today. A Christmas miracle."

Congratulations and

celebratory posts poured into the Facebook site. The entire community rejoiced in the unexpected happy ending.

Toby was soon returned home, hungry and tired but otherwise none the worse for wear.

He and his very happy owner are, once again, able to enjoy their snuggles.

In an interview, Castleton stated she can never repay the caring, the diligence and the commitment to searching that the community of Halfway showed her and Toby.

"I just want to tell them all a million thanks!" she said.

Inmates donate money to kids

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
Samantha@TheBakerCountyPress.com

For the second year, adults in custody at the Powder River Correctional Facility (PRCF) donated money for needy children for the Gift Bag Give Back Project.

The project began last year with the therapeutic community, which includes adults in custody who are in the Alternative Incarceration Program.

They had decided that they wanted to raise funds to do gift bags and they raised \$178 and were able to put together around 20 or 30 bags.

Amanda Bork, Office Support Specialist at the PRCF, explained that the adults in custody only had three weeks to raise money for the program this year. She explained that they decided to make it more inmate-driven this year.

She asked two volunteers from each of their two therapeutic units and those volunteers organized the facility wide program.

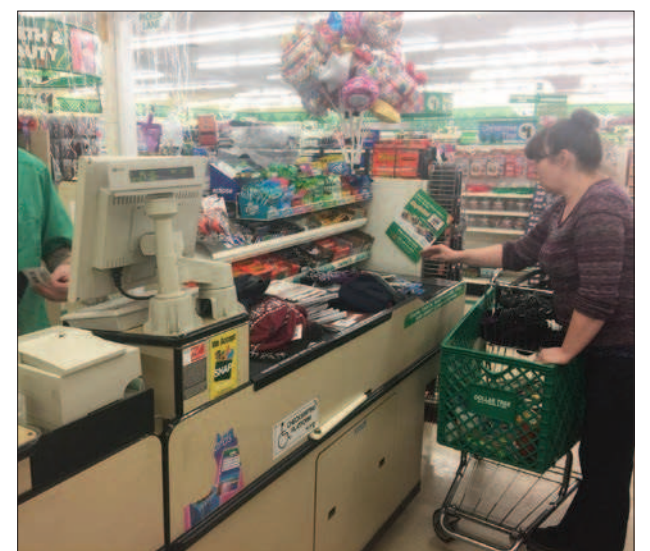
Within PRCF, they have two housing units that are

involved in the New Directions Northwest Alternative Incarceration Program, which has a total of 128 adults in custody.

It was organized by adults in custody in treatment with the Alternative Incarceration Program, but the general population in the facility, over 200 adults in custody, was also able to donate funds and this year they raised \$783.77 for the program.

"It was a lot more than I had anticipated especially with last year's results," said Bork. "They really took it on and they were very enthusiastic and encouraging to each other. They also decided—it was completely their decision—where they wanted the bags to go and they decided, after quite a bit of discussing and polling each other, that they wanted to give bags to the Juvenile Department because a lot of them remember being teenagers that were involved in that system and they really wanted to reach out to that population and support them."

SEE INMATES PAGE 5



Submitted Photos.

Amanda Bork, a Councilor at New Directions, helps funnel inmate purchased through checkout at The Dollar Store.



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