

# Local

## More teacher photos from China



Submitted Photos.

Last week, *The Baker County Press* ran a story about two local teachers who returned to China for visits to classrooms there, among other things. After the story ran, we received two more photos of interest. To the left is Tom Joseph and at right is David Laws.

## Matched saving program seeks younger savers

More than 125 people in Baker, Union, and Wallowa counties have helped finance their higher education or small business using the Individual Development Account (IDA) program, offered by Northeast Oregon Economic Development District (NEOEDD).

IDAs provide a 3-to-1 savings match—someone who saves \$1,000 and completes the program will receive an additional \$3,000. Up to \$12,000 total! Most savers are adults, but children 12 years or older who live in households with low-to-moderate incomes are also eligible to enroll.

For example, a 15-year-old saving for college could enroll in the pro-

gram, save money for three years and graduate high school with a funds for tuition and fees at any accredited education program. Youth can also save to start or improve a business.

“The IDA program is not a grant, it’s an earned incentive coupled with goal-setting, education and practical experience saving over a period of 6 to 36 months,” says NEOEDD’s executive director, Lisa Dawson.

“It’s essentially a financial-responsibility program. The matched funds can put a good dent into a north-east Oregonian’s higher education bill, or pay for the equipment, signage, computer, or other investments needed to launch or

improve a business.”

NEOEDD has leveraged more than a half-million dollars that have circulated into our region via the IDA program. Once accepted, program participants receive free education or business-planning and money-management classes, helping them build fiscal responsibility and saving habits that can last a lifetime.

The 2017 income limits for eligibility are as follows; households must be under the limit listed to qualify. There are also limits on net worth.

Persons in Household Yearly Income for Oregon IDA Eligibility  
 1—\$36,200  
 2—\$41,350  
 3—\$46,500

4—\$51,700  
 5—\$57,560  
 6—\$65,920  
 7—\$74,280  
 8—\$82,640

Anyone who is interested in learning more about this program and how to apply can visit NEOEDD’s website (<http://neoedd.org/content/individual-development-accounts>), or call the office at 541-426-3598.

The Northeast Oregon Economic Development District’s mission is to provide resources and facilitate quality decision-making for the benefit of entrepreneurs, businesses and communities in Baker, Union, and Wallowa counties. Learn more about our programs and business support at [www.neoedd.org](http://www.neoedd.org).

### Wicked Ways

## MASQUERADE BALL

OCTOBER 28, 2017  
 AT THE HISTORIC GEISER GRAND

**Tickets are just \$25 each.**  
 Buy yours today at the front desk of The Geiser Grand Hotel or online at [www.theBakerCountyPress.com](http://www.theBakerCountyPress.com)

With Jason Drew from 100.3 the X Rocks • Carriage rides  
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## SEACT and NEACT meet Sept. 28 in Baker City

Members of the North East Area Commissions on Transportation (NEACT) and the South East Area Commissions on Transportation (SEACT) will be meeting September 28 in Baker City from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Pacific Time at the Community Connections office located at 2810 Cedar Street, Baker City, Oregon. The meeting is open to the public and time has been set aside for comments.

- Meeting topics include:
- Update on recent Transportation Bill - Keep Oregon Moving (HB2017)
  - Overview of key eastern Oregon projects funded through HB2017
  - Port of Morrow Project
  - Malheur Co. Intermodal

- Freight Facility
- US20 Freight Improvement Project
  - Connect Oregon program update

- Status of the Oregon Freight Plan
- ADA Program Update
- Updates on local city/county transportation

- projects
- Oregon Transportation Commission and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

We are excited to announce that **Kim Zinn, DPT** is joining our team!

Kim will bring her passion for sports medicine and orthopedic rehabilitation including the McKenzie Method.

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Please call 541.523.9664 today to schedule an appointment.

Kim Zinn, DPT

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### Baker County Veteran Services

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Rick Gloria, Veteran Services Coordinator  
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## The Talk of Eastern Oregon

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**BUY • SELL • TRADE**  
**TRADEO**  
 Weekday Mornings at 7AM

**THE MORNING BUZZ**  
 Local news with interviews and fun!  
 Weekdays at 8AM

**iSpy Radio**  
 Keeping an eye on Big Government  
 with Mark Anderson  
**SATURDAY 11AM**

**THE LARS LARSON SHOW**  
 NORTHWEST SHOW 12P-3P  
**866-HEY-LARS**

**world gone CRAZY radio**  
 Leo Castillo talks with guests here at home, and from around the world, about how to keep it sane.  
 sunday night at 8

**LIVE & LOCAL SPORTS TALK**  
**MON-FRI 3-6**  
 THE Johnny Ballgame SHOW

**portland trail blazers**