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**Baker Methodists
Hold Lenten
Studies**

Lenten Bible Studies titled, "Mosiacs" will be offered Friday mornings at 11 a.m. in Pastor Elke Sharma's office followed by Sign Language at 2 p.m. Activity Club meets each Tuesday after school at the church. Scripture, games, and snacks are provided with adult supervision. Boy Scouts meet each Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Congregational Leadership Meeting and Potluck is scheduled Sunday March 1, at noon. Discussion from members will provide direction for ongoing mission, priorities, and action of Baker church in the community. Worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. at 1919 Second Street in Baker City.

**Baker County
Lists Board and
Committee
Vacancies**

Baker County has vacancies on the following boards and committees:

- Baker County Planning Commission
- Baker County Parks Board
- Northeast Oregon Economic Development District (Small Cities Representative)
- Natural Resource Advisory Committee
- Transient Lodging Tax Marketing Committee
- Baker County Fair Board

For more information or to volunteer, please contact the Commissioners' Office located at 1995 Third Street, Baker City, OR prior to March 10, 2015. Or you may call 541-523-8200 or

email Heidi Martin at hmartin@bakercounty.org.

**Runaway Teen
Reunited with
Family**

Baker County Sheriff's Deputies have confirmed that Logan Handy has been reunited with his family in Baker County. The Baker County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the media, involved citizens, along with friends and family of Logan in his recovery. The cooperation of everyone involved was a huge asset during this investigation.

**Third Annual 'Eat
Your Art Out'
Fundraiser**

This special event benefits

the Baker County YMCA Preschool and is March 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Baker County Events Center located at 2600 East Street, in Baker City. It will feature an Art Show, a live auction of collaborative art projects, a silent auction of Sweet Read Desserts, and a \$5 all-you-can-eat potato feed (ages 12 and under free).

Come Eat Your Art Out and raise funds for art, programs, and curriculum upgrades!

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**Blue Mountain
Forest Revision
Plan Remains a
Focus for
Commissioners**

By Emily Braswell

Although there were several important topics at last week's commission session, the current events regarding the Forest Service's Blue Mountain Forest Plan Revision never seem too far from the minds of Baker County residents. Citizen participation at this meeting began with Cynthia Long giving an update on the Forest Service's re-engagement meeting that was held two weeks ago. The take home message she brought to the board was that the Forest Service has expressed an interest in working more closely with current county plans but they are also looking for the user groups to come to them to initiate a meeting.

Commissioner Mark Bennett followed up her conversation by commenting on the unanimous decision made by the Commissioner to opt out of the MoU.

"I am not against talking to the Forest Service and I was really pleased to hear that Tom Montoya recognized that the counties had plans and he wants to participate in those plans. I'm open to sitting down and discussing that, but we won't be signing the same MoU. When we said we're not signing the MoU, it kinda' sounded like we didn't want to participate. Well, we want to represent our people. Bill [Harvey] is our lead in handling all of the important aspects of this topic. I feel that the Forest Service needs to come to us and say, look, we realize you spent thousands of dollars and we realize you spent hours and hours of staff time and we want to work with you. We are willing to sit down for discussion, but it has to be a new discussion," Bennett said.

Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

Jeff Nelson reported as a representative for the downtown businesses, as a member of Historic Baker City (HBC) and the Chamber of Commerce regarding business licenses and medical marijuana. Nelson met with Mayor Mosier regarding the possibility of Baker City issuing a license to regulate medical marijuana dispensary businesses and there was the question of whether or not Baker County was interested in doing so as well.

Commissioner Bill Harvey responded stating that he was at the City Council meeting where the issue was discussed and he felt that he had answered that question in the best possible way he could, considering he had not formally discussed it previously with the other commissioners while in session. He also mentioned that the city had not notified the commissioners this topic was going to be discussed, so they really had no reason to discuss it as of yet.

Harvey stated the County did not want a dispensary and continued, "A dispensary is a commercial entity that needs to be controlled and regulated and it needs to be located where it is secure and safe as well. These present so many more problems for law enforcement and anybody else that has to be around it. It's just not a safe atmosphere and it's not something that we would like to foster in our communities."

Discussion continued as Harvey contended that the only reason why



My name is **Riley**. I am a poodle mix and I don't think I've ever had a haircut before. My fur was extremely matted so they had to shave it all off. My forever home is out there and I am patiently waiting to go to it. I dream that it will have a fenced yard to keep me safe and to play in. Maybe there would be another little dog for me to pal around with and children would be nice if they were respectful of me. I use to wander off to a school in my neighborhood and once the school called my caregivers to come and get me out of the cafeteria. Well, of course that didn't go over very well and that's why I need a fenced yard. I am wormed, vaccinated and neutered. I'm working on my potty training and I'm doing very well. Laps are my most favorite thing and I could live there all day given the opportunity. If you would like to get acquainted I'm available most anytime. Please call Best Friends.

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See **COMMISSIONERS**
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