

Bulldog Bubbles and Bulldog Blender

Two other businesses are operating in conjunction with Marla's Mall.

Bulldog Blender offers blended drinks and is open during lunch at Baker High School.

Bulldog Bubbles is in the same location as Marla's Mall. An industrial washer and dryer set was purchased with grant money. Bulldog Bubbles handles all the district laundry as well as six business accounts. The general public can also call to get on the schedule. Susan Myers, who oversees the program, said community members use Bulldog Bubbles to wash comforters and sleeping bags. For information, call 541-524-2309.

Bulldog Pride

Baker School District 5J
2090 Fourth St.
Baker City, OR 97814
541-524-2260
www.bakersj.org

Baker School District Staff: Editor

Lisa Jacoby: Writer,
photographer, designer

School board:

Chris Hawkins, Katie Lamb, Kevin Cassidy,
Andrew Bryan, Julie Huntington

It is the policy of the Baker Board of Education and School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and nondiscrimination should contact the Superintendent at the Baker School District Office at 2090 4th Street, Baker City, OR. 97814, Phone (541) 524-2260. All Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in this school district are open to all students. The District will take steps to assure that the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in CTE programs. -Section 504 Compliance Officer, Special Education Director, 2090 4th Street, Baker City, OR. (541) 524-2260. -Title II Coordinator, Director of Curriculum, 2090 4th Street, (541) 524-2260. -Title IX Coordinator, Special Education Director, 2090 4th Street, Baker City, OR 97814 (541) 524-2260

Marla's Mall

School-run thrift shop helps students learn work skills

Krishtion Cowdry has a lot of appreciation for retail stores now that he's spent time at Marla's Mall.

"It's good work experience," he said.

And he's learned that clothing will not stay organized.

"When we put them out, they look nice. Then people go through them..." he said. "Me in clothing stores? I take it, then I put it back."

Cowdry is gaining work experience as he spends one class period per day helping at Marla's Mall, a thrift store full of community donations that provides items free of charge to the public.

It began at Baker High School in honor of Marla Cavallo, who died from cancer in 2007. The store soon outgrew its space and moved to several classrooms at North Baker School. The entrance is on the south side of the building.

The work experience is open to district high school students. Grading is based on five criteria: Are they on time? Do they stay busy? Do they finish a task? Do they have a good attitude? Do they have good hygiene?

"The idea is to teach real life work skills," said Susan Myers, a district paraprofessional who oversees operations at Marla's Mall. "I



Michael Zemmer, right, and Krishtion Cowdry organize clothes at Marla's Mall. Work experience at the shop is open to district students. Job duties mimic a retail business atmosphere with emphasis on greeting customers, organizing inventory, cleaning, and bookkeeping.

try to get them as involved as possible."

In the summer, students can apply for paid positions. This requires a resume, job application, and interview.

The youth learn how to greet customers, how to build a display, and help keep the shop clean through custodial duties.

"It's really important to keep it shining," Michael Zemmer said.

Marla's Mall welcomes donations of clean, gently used clothing, as well as new hygiene items. Other needs include backpacks,

towels, blankets, and small appliances.

The store's inventory is boosted throughout the year by clothing drives by the Rotary Club and Baker High School, as well as monetary donations from local organizations. When coats have languished in a school's lost and found for many months, those items are transferred to Marla's Mall.

Hours

Marla's Mall is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30

a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Hours are subject to change depending on the high school's schedule.

Updates are posted on the Marla's Mall Facebook page Marla's Mall Community.

Shoppers are allowed to fill one large bag per month. Hygiene items are limited to one per family per month. The merchandise is free. Only the hangers, tables, fans, mannequins and items marked "display only" are to be left at the store.

For more information about Marla's Mall, or to inquire about giving a donation, call 541-524-2309.