

The Baker Bite

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News of Baker City

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Baker City Downtown (BCD)

BCD and SBDC are organizing **Baker City Business Bingo** and raffle for the holiday season! Folks who go to any participating business will get to play; once they get a "bingo" they can turn in the card for a raffle entry. Folks can play as many times as they'd like during the holiday season (Nov. 29-Jan. 1). Bingo cards may be turned in at the BCD office in City Hall, Blue Mountain Community College offices on 10th Street, and Crossroads Carnegie Art Center in their mailbox out front.

Wine Walk: Last of the Season **Toddy Trot** November 20th 5-7pm start is at Legacy Ford.

Stress Reduction:

First Friday: Take a break from stress! First Friday art walk is free to go see all the amazing art made by local artists. You might just stumble on a perfect Christmas present that avoids tariffs, helps a local business and artist. If you miss the walk today, most of the businesses keep the art up all month. There is free music at Ison House, North 7 and Corner Brick. So "relax".

Churchill School has a fun and varied lineup for November and December. Music on 11/13, 19 and 12/14. A KBZR fundraiser on 11/28: "The Nightmare Before Christmas" film screening and SANTA pictures. Feel free to dress up and make this an EVENT! Did you enjoy the Haunted Studios or perhaps missed it? For one night and one night only there is a Krampus Christmas Haunted Tour on December 13th!

Baker High School presents "The Outsiders" a play. 11/7, 8, 9 and 11/14,15,16 with 2 casts. 7pm Friday and Saturday and 3 pm on Sundays.

With cold weather don't forget to see a movie at the Eltrym or go bowling at Elkhorn Lanes.

Food

Big Shout Out to Rohner Farms for the HUGE potato donations. Many people in Baker are having food drives, including: D&J Tacos, Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, Goodfellas, Saint Alphonsus, May Day, Community Connections, Baker County Democrats.

Food can also be taken to the Baker City Compassion Center, May Day, Blue Mountain Food Pantry.

Help at restaurants: The Mother Lode is having a pay what you can meal daily. If you can help them feed people stop by and have lunch, maybe pay for someone's meal. D&J Tacos is offering special meal deals and discounts.

While SNAP benefits have been loaded for November, we still have Federal employees without paychecks and heating assistance/ HUD payments are on hold.

Cash Donations can be huge at Oregon Food Bank Network. Our local Community Connections buys from the network. Typical pricing that they can get items for:

Frozen ground beef 30 lbs. for \$5.70

Canned vegetables 50 lbs. for 7.50

Pork steaks 76 lbs. for \$11.40

A little money goes a long ways. An entire truckload might be \$124.00.

You can donate here and get more information: <https://ccno.org/food-pantries/>



Food Bank

Humana

Saint Alphonsus has signed a new contract with Humana Health Insurance. Saint Alphonsus's providers and facilities will be in-network.

Health Care

One of the hurdles in negotiations to end the shutdown is healthcare. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) also nicknamed Obamacare had tax credits for eligible people. These credits applied to individuals as well as small businesses. Examples of possible changes in 2026:

- Single person making \$28,000: \$325/month increasing to \$1562/month
- A 59 year old widow making \$63,000: \$5355/year increasing to \$14,213/year
- A family of 4 making \$60,000 (2 adults working full time above federal minimum wage): \$250/month to \$600/month



Calculator

A calculator is available at <https://www.kff.org/> if you would like to try some examples.

The cuts to Medicaid that will start in 2025 are expected to cost Oregon \$1.4 billion per year with up to \$16 billion over 10 years. An estimate of 200,000 people will eventually lose coverage in Oregon.

These cuts and difficulties surrounding them like potential hospital closures and cuts to services lead to a discussion about healthcare. **On November 22nd there will be a community meeting on healthcare at 11 am at Community Connections.** Another place to go to learn about a possible solution is HealthCare for All Oregon. Learn more at <https://www.hcao.org/> .



Healthcare

Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

Sadly the center remains closed during the federal shutdown. The art show by Terri Axness is on hold. Lone Pine Mercantile will have updates on their Facebook page as the shutdown continues.

Home Sports:

11/12 BMS basketball 4 pm

11/13 BMS Basketball 4 pm

Calendar Highlights: <https://hikingbaker.com/event-calendar>

11/7 First Friday!

11/7, 8,9,14, 15,16 "The Outsiders" at the high school

11/8 Passenger Train Talk 9:30am at the library

11/8 Veterans Day Parade at 11 am

11/8 Surf and Turf Backpack Program Fundraiser 5pm

11/11 Veterans Dinner at the Elks 5pm

11/11 Ping Pong at the High School 5:30pm

11/11 History talk at the Baker Heritage Museum 6pm

11/13 Tinsley Ellis at Churchill School 6pm



Calendar