



WALLOWA COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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Buying Local: Boosts the Economy Buy Local—Buckskin Buck’s Campaign Registration Open, Sept 1st - October 15th

The Chamber is entering its fourth year with the Buckskin Bucks “Buy Local Campaign”. If you are a member of the Wallowa County Chamber you may want to check-in and see if you qualify to participate in this campaign. This program is now open for new business registrations.

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August 2012

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The Buckskin Bucks program was hijacked from the historic account of Wallowa County in 1932 when the Chieftain reported in their headlines “No cash is left for County’s General Fund”. Stranger than fiction, it is true — Wallowa County started printing its own money. The setting for this true story occurred after the stock market crash of 1929. The great depression impact reached Wallowa County in 1932 and it hit hard. Times were tough and a few business men of the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce came up with a temporary solution. This story is insightful as to the true nature of Wallowa County and how local people worked together to overcome a serious challenge.

(Reprinted sections taken from: Grace Bartlett, *From the Wallowas*)

In March of 1933 the business men of Enterprise proclaimed their ideas and the newspaper headlines announced: “Buckskin Scrip Proposed here: Money Backed by County Warrants Endorsed by Chamber.” The following appeared in the Wallowa County Chieftain:

Buckskin scrip in units of “one buck” and “one half-buck” will be issued by the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce soon, if plans discussed at the meeting Tuesday night are carried out. Plenty of deer hides are on hand, in custody of Game Warden George M. Rogers, and the idea is to tan these to a fine, nearly white color, cut them up into pieces a little smaller than regular money, and print them with especially made plates indicating their origin and value.

They will be as good as any money in the country, for they will be backed by Wallowa County warrants. The scrip will be prepared by trustees in charge of the business, and they will give it in exchange for an equal sum in county funds warrants, which pay enough interest to cover the expense of the operation. When the county takes up the warrants to back up the scrip, the trustees will take up an equal amount of scrip and cancel it. There will always be full value in warrants behind every penny of scrip.

The scrip’s “Void after July 1, 1935” was not necessary since the financial pick-up was rapid, after 1934 there soon was no need for the scrip. Profits from the scrip, obsolete by 1936, funded the tennis courts at the Enterprise city park, with the tennis courts still in use today. What a story!



Read More:
Buying Local: How it
Boosts the Economy
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Pioneer Workshops Mesh to Backup FSEC Mission

Flora, Oregon — Quilting, earth ovens, spinning, weaving, strudel and more mesh together for the pioneer class schedule at Flora School Education Center this year.

Peggy Gelbrich, having never traveled to eastern Oregon in her life, agreed to the adventure in order to present "Stars in the Night." This 3-day quilt workshop involves curved piecing, paper piecing and strip piecing, three distinct piecing styles along with color gradation. Peggy has been teaching quilting for several years now; website is www.yellowhousequilter.com. Pre-registration is required for all FSEC classes, but in particular for this one since there is prior cutting and gathering to do. The workshop is Friday through Sunday, August 10-11-12 from 9am to 4pm each day. Potluck evenings are a possibility with this class.

Beginning sewers and other-than-beginners can all enjoy Darlene Isley's "Simple Fun Gift Class" stitched into Saturday, October 13, from 9am to 4pm. Darlene will present as many inexpensive gifts as she can within the allotted time frame, complete with patterns to do repeats from home. Savio's, quilting and crafts shop in Enterprise (Oregon), will be sending supplies out with Darlene just incase someone needs something extra. Some of the projects will be a pillowcase with no seams showing, table runners, placemats, slippers for all sizes and many more projects that she has developed and collected over the years. Gifts for all occasions will come forth from this class.

Ferdinand, the earth oven at Flora School, was the result of last year's cob oven workshop taught by Amalesh Parajuli. The two-day workshop, scheduled at this time for Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19, 9am to 4pm, will be held at a location to be announced. Six students stomped straw, clay and sand and stacked rocks for two days to create Ferdinand. Amalesh's students from last year agree, "It was great fun! Make sure you wear your worst duds!"

"Old Time Strudel," as depicted in the Elm Creek Quilters book series, will be stretched over the Labor Day weekend along with "Old Time Cookies:" cookie class Saturday, September 1 with strudel class, Sunday, September 2, both classes from 9am to 4pm. Strudel is stretched and stretched in order to perfect the dough and fill it with— well, instructor Leah Ott from Gervais (Oregon), will suggest several different fillings and methods of making. The cookies class, taught by Vanessa Thew Thompson (Flora, Oregon) will teach you the pioneer way of making cookies from grinding the flour, to making raisins, right up to milking the cow. Edna is ready to help you with that chore. More classes are on the schedule and there is always a chance of a class being added if four people sign up and find a date.

"Pioneer skills education at the old school continues to be an important part of the education center's mission," explains Nickie Sanchez, currently residing in Italy and coordinating the classes from there. "Therefore, the FSEC is always looking for people to teach pioneer skills, folk arts and historical ag, such as plowing with horses or blacksmith work, both of which are possible future classes once again." (In fact, a beginning blacksmith class is in the works once again.)

Students need to pre-register for classes at least one week in advance— call 541.828.7010, or email info@floraschool.org or register online at www.floraschool.org. For a class brochure or more information on teaching or classes or the school itself, use the above contact information or write FSEC, 80974 College Lane, Enterprise, Oregon 97828-5111. (Payments for classes maybe mailed or paid at time of class.)

Where did visitors get their information:

Other/Friend	9
Sunset	0
Triple A Via Magazine	5
Oregon Travel Guide	6
Oregonian	0
NW Travel	0
Brochures	6
EOVA	9
Travel Articles	0
Telephone Directory	75
Internet/ Letters	102
Conference/Reunion/wed	0
Other Chambers	28
Oregon Business	0
Other, Visitor Guides	5

Announcements

Chamber Businesses interested in registering for the 2012-2013 Buy Local Campaign please contact the Wallowa County Chamber Office and speak with Vicki Searles.

Registration open September 1st through October 15th

Info. Requests	July 2012	June 2012	YTD	July 2011
Walk-In's Visitors/Business	539	331	1970	541
Visitor Packets (includes EOVA)	22	74	520	54
Incoming phone/email contacts	608	521	3059	653
Relocation packets	2	2	13	0
Total Contacts	1171	928	5605	1248
Website Visits (not hits)	26,991	23,683	1867,761	23,379
Member Referrals Made	2588	1645	8011	1975
JOSEPH BOOTH	2407	1650	4057	2569

*WC Chamber Youth Ambassadors
Chief Joseph Days Parade*

A special thank you to the Stangel Family for their participation with the Chamber of Commerce!
Restored 1937 Convertible Sedan Cord
Driver: Joe Stangel



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Who are these adorable ambassadors?

Abbie Straight, age 6 years
Parents: Brandi & Ty Straight of Wallowa

Lane Botts, age 6 years
Parents: Beau & Kristin Botts

Accompanied by:
WCC President Adrian Harguess



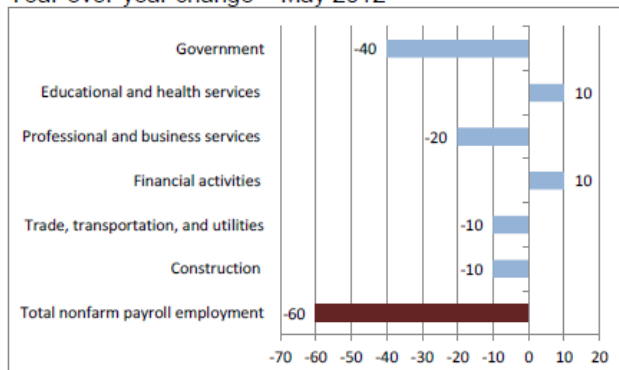
Quality Information, Informed Choices
Labor Market Information

State of Oregon • Employment Department • www.QualityInfo.org

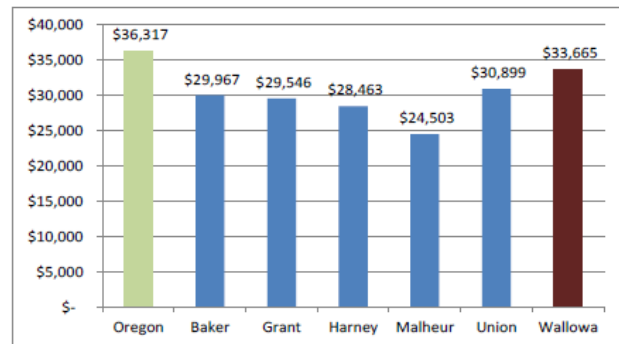
WALLOWA COUNTY – Economic Indicators

	May 2012	May 2011	Year-over-year change
Civilian Labor Force	3,606	3,732	-126
-- Employed	3,243	3,311	-68
-- Unemployed	363	421	-58
County Non-seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate	10.1%	11.3%	-1.2%
State Non-seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate	8.2%	9.1%	-0.9%

Employment Growth by Industry
Year-over-year change – May 2012



Per Capita Personal Income



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

4th • annual • 2012
MAXVILLE GATHERING

AUGUST 18 - 10AM - 4PM

**Join us for a fun-filled day
for the whole family**

- Guided tours of the Maxville site
- Mule skid demo's in the morning
- Guest speaker Dr. Melissa Stuckey
Dr. Stuckey is an assistant professor of African American studies at University of Oregon
- Live music by Darrell Brann and family!
- Great local food - BBQ by Kirk Skovlin, local fare!
- Kids Activities booth
Watermelon eating, seed spitting contest, and more!
- Historical logging activities, booths, and more!
- Jack & Jill Logging Competitions
- Audio interviews - **SHARE your CONNECTION**

Tours
Speakers
Demonstrations
Food & Treats
Kids Activities
Adult Activities
Live Music
Silent Auction

Thank you to our sponsors!

A partial list of our local sponsors:

Scrapbooks of Willows County - City of Willows - Gene Hayes - T.W. Brown - Bloods Strawberry - Old Pottery - Chamber of Commerce - The Bookloft - Dollar Stretcher - Historic Enterprise House - Kirk Skovlin - Beechrow Inn - Paul's Charren - Joseph Hardware - 1917 Lumber Company - Rain's Sanitary Service - Lions Clubs of Willows - Flora School Education Center - Cody & Dennis Miller - Bennett Insurance - D. Rahn Hazzard - and more

Thank you for your generous support!



www.maxvilleheritage.org
info@maxvilleheritage.org
(541) 436-3545

Willows County
Chamber of Commerce
(800) 583-4121

**Admit 1 - \$3 • Admit 2 - \$5
Family - \$7 • Students - \$2 • Over 65 - \$2**

We ask a small donation at the gate that goes to the development of planning educational events and preservation of oral history. Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center is an Oregon 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Directions to Maxville – 12 miles North of Highway 82.
When you reach Promise road just West of Willows, follow the signs.
Carpool – Pull over just after getting onto Promise road at the sign
CARPOOL, meet your friends and drive up together!

For your comfort bring your own chairs

Our **Willows** visitor center is **OPEN** • 211 E 2nd St. Willows, OR. 97886

Buying Local: How it Boosts the Economy

TIME Business

Reprint: Judith D. Schwartz

Buy Local"—you see the decal in the store window, the sign at the farmer's market, the bright, cheerful logos for Local First Arizona, Think Boise First, Our Milwaukee, and homegrown versions across the states. The apparent message is "let's-support-local-business", a kind of community boosterism. But buying close to home may be more than a feel-good, it's-worth-paying-more-for-local matter. A number of researchers and organizations are taking a closer look at how money flows, and what they're finding shows the profound economic impact of keeping money in town—and how the fate of many communities around the nation and the world increasingly depend on it.

At the most basic level, when you buy local more money stays in the community. The New Economics Foundation (NEF) compared what happens when people buy produce at a supermarket vs. a local farmer's market or community supported agriculture (CSA) program and found that twice the money stayed in the community when folks bought locally. "That means those purchases are twice as efficient in terms of keeping the local economy alive," says author and NEF researcher David Boyle.

Indeed, says Boyle, many local economies are languishing not because too little cash comes in, but as a result of what happens to that money. "Money is like blood. It needs to keep moving around to keep the economy going," he says, noting that when money is spent elsewhere—at big supermarkets, non-locally owned utilities and other services such as on-line retailers—"it flows out, like a wound." By shopping at the corner store instead of the big box, consumers keep their communities from becoming what the NEF calls "ghost towns" (areas devoid of neighborhood shops and services) or "clone towns", where Main Street now looks like every other Main Street with the same fast-food and retail chains.

According to Susan Witt, Executive Director of the E.F. Schumacher Society, "buy local" campaigns serve another function: alerting a community about gaps in the local market. For instance, if consumers keep turning to on-line or big-box stores for a particular product—say, socks—this signals an opportunity for someone local to make and sell socks. This is the way product innovations get made, says Witt. "The local producer adds creative elements that make either the product or materials used more appropriate to the place." For example, an area where sheep are raised might make lambs wool socks and other goods.

The point is not that communities should suddenly seek to be self-sufficient in all ways, but rather, says Boyle, "to shift the balance. Can you produce more locally? Of course you can if the raw materials are there, and the raw materials are often human beings."

And what about that higher cost of local goods? After all, big-box stores got to be big because their prices are low. Susan Witt says that the difference falls away once you consider the increase in local employment as well as the relationships that grow when people buy from people they know. (Plus, one could argue, lower transportation, and therefore environmental, costs, and you know what you're getting—which as we've recently seen with suspected contamination in toys and other products from China, can be a concern.)

There's also the matter of local/regional resilience. Says Witt: "While now we're largely a service-providing nation, we're still just a generation away from being a nation of producers. The question is: what economic framework will help us reclaim those skills and that potential." Say, for example, the exchange rates change or the price of oil rises (and it has started to creep up, if not at last summer's pace) so that foreign-made goods are no longer cheap to import. We could find ourselves doubly stuck because domestic manufacturing is no longer set up to make all these products. While no community functions in isolation, supporting local trade helps "recreate the diversity of small businesses that are flexible and can adjust" to changing needs and market conditions, says Witt.

Another argument for buying local is that it enhances the "velocity" of money, or circulation speed, in the area. The idea is that if currency circulates more quickly, the money passes through more hands—and more people have had the benefit of the money and what it has purchased for them. "If you're buying local and not at a chain or branch store, chances are that store is not making a huge profit," says David Morris, Vice President of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, a nonprofit economic research and development organization based in Minneapolis and Washington, D.C. "That means more goes into input costs—supplies and upkeep, printing, advertising, paying employees—which puts that money right back in the community."



PO Box 427
Enterprise, OR 97828

www.wallowacountychamber.com

Wallowa County Fair Week

16th Annual Bronze, Blue, & Brews
August 10-11th

Maxville Gathering
August 18th

6th Annual Bronze Bike Motorcycle Rendezvous
August 17-19th



Wallowa County
—Business Facilitation—

**Free and Confidential
Business Coaching!**

Every new business idea, no matter how good, faces serious challenges.

The mission of Business Facilitation is to support Wallowa County citizens in bringing their business dreams to reality.

- ◆ If you have a good idea for a new business, but don't know where to begin or
- ◆ If you have an existing business that you would like to expand or fine tune, but don't know how to find the right resources or
- ◆ If your existing business is struggling?

Wallowa County Business Facilitation may be your answer. The service is free. Business Facilitator Catherine Matthias helps businesses thrive through sound principles, creativity, and innovation.

Contact WCBF for free and confidential business assistance:
Catherine Matthias, Business Facilitator, PO Box 995, Joseph, OR 97846

www.wallowacountybusiness.org

Phone: 541 426-5858 or

Email: facilitator@wallowacountybusiness.org

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