

8/31/2011

NEWS RELEASE

BEO Bancorp
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[John Bailey, VP/Ag & Commercial Lender & Nancy Maasdam, Loan Processing Supervisor, accept the 2011 OSU Community Impact Award given to Bank of Eastern Oregon. John Williams, OSU Ag/Natural Resources Staff Chairperson, presented the award during the Powered by Orange: County Tour]

Bank of Eastern Oregon receives 2011 OSU Community Impact Award

Last year, OSU asked each county office to think about the businesses in our county and nominate one for the “*Powered by Orange: County Tour.*” They were asked to consider two qualifications:

1. A business that has an OSU connection. Is the business or organization operated by an OSU alum? Or, have they participated in an Extension program or partnered with one of OSU’s ag experiment stations? Maybe they hire OSU alumni or work

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with research developed at OSU. Any connection to Oregon State University or OSU Extension is relevant.

2. Does the business make a difference in their community, and beyond. Are they more mindful, more sustainable, more dedicated to creating a healthy economy? Do they give back through charitable contributions, volunteering, or community involvement?

OSU's office staff discussed businesses in the Wallowa County community and they all agreed that Bank of Eastern Oregon, because of what they do and who works there, would be OSU's choice for this nomination. The following information was included in the nomination that OSU submitted for Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Bank of Eastern Oregon is truly the small town bank. Its "commitment to our community" states in part--- "Bank of Eastern Oregon's reputation for leadership and community commitment just continues to grow. Whether we're pledging money for a new library, volunteering for city cleanup or joining a planning committee, giving time, money, and effort comes second nature to Bank of Eastern Oregon and staff -- we invest in the communities we serve and that's because we live and work in these communities, too!"

The local employees of Bank of Eastern Oregon are very supportive of the Wallowa County Extension Service. They contribute to the 4-H Radio Auction, purchase animals at the annual 4-H/FFA Livestock Auction and encourage their employees to be involved in the community. In fact, four of their employees have very strong ties to our programs. **Bob Williams**, Vice President/Ag & Commercial Loan Officer, is a pillar in our community and is very supportive of OSU and the 4-H Program. He is a proud OSU graduate, and has had two daughters who participated in the Wallowa County 4-H traditional program, the 4-H Interstate Exchange Program, and the 4-H Urban-Rural Exchange Program. In Bob's role as a volunteer for the Oregon Community Foundation, he was the site investigator when the 4-H Leaders Association applied for a \$7,200 grant to renovate the swine barn. His experiences with the 4-H program, although not in the animal sciences, showed him how valuable this investment was in the development of young people in Wallowa County.

Nancy Maasdam, loan processor, has been the leader of the Golden Arrow 4-H Livestock Club for the past 21 years, where both of her children have been members. This year, she has 40 youth in her club, where she teaches livestock skills and emphasizes the importance of responsibility and dedication. She has served as the Wallowa County

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Fair sheep superintendent and has been the secretary of the Livestock Leaders Committee for over 20 years. Her continued dedication to the 4-H program is admirable.

John Bailey, Vice President/Ag & Commercial Loan Officer, is a Wallowa County 4-H Alumni and is the parent of a 10-year 4-H member. His daughter, Paige, is currently attending Oregon State University. He has served as the clerk for the auctioneer during the Wallowa County (4-H & FFA) Fat Stock Sale for more than 20 years.

Sara Kassahn, teller, is from a multi-generational family in the county that has always been very supportive of the 4-H and Extension programs.

“We are honored to be awarded this 2011 Community Impact award by OSU. I am proud of our employees’ commitment to local programs and activities. It is our honor and privilege to serve the financial needs of eastern Oregon for over 66 years. We realize and appreciate the economic importance that agriculture has on all of our communities,” said Bank of Eastern Oregon president and CEO, Jeff Bailey.

About BEO Bancorp

BEO Bancorp is the holding company for Bank of Eastern Oregon, which operates 12 branches and two loan production offices in nine eastern Oregon counties. Branches are located in Arlington, Ione, Heppner, Condon, Irrigon, Boardman, Burns, John Day, Prairie City, Fossil, Moro, and Enterprise; loan production offices are located in Hermiston and Ontario. Bank of Eastern Oregon also operates a mortgage division and offers brokerage services through BEO Financial Services. The bank’s website is www.beobank.com.